

Useful website addresses

St Barnabas Cathedral is live streaming Mass at 1 pm Monday-Friday and Sunday at 10 am. These services are also recorded.
A retreat service is attached for individual prayer for parishioners, which can be forwarded by email to those already on your list - downloadable at: <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/Flu/index.shtml> along with other prayer services.

Mass is streamed at 9.00am every Sunday on YouTube from **St. Thomas More Church**, Knighton. You can use either of the following ways to join the Mass - Go to YouTube and search for "Saint Thomas More Leicester" and the page will appear.

Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>.

The TV channel EWTN also has a daily Mass as well as a large number of resources to keep us spiritually nourished over the coming weeks www.ewtn.com

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html> listen to podcast Sunday gospel truth.

www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/news/ www.heavensroadfm.com/listen-now/

Father George is offering Holy Mass from Mother of God Church Presbytery chapel through live stream during lockdown days. Available at <http://Facebook.com/gchelackal> <http://motherofgodleicester.co.uk>

Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God.

Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.
Amen

	<p>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> <p><i>NRCDT- Registered Charity</i></p>	<p>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com .com</p> 
Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctlk.org/p_Home.ikml English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/		
	<p><i>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></p> <p><i>26th July – 2nd August 2020</i></p>	

MONTH OF JULY - AUGUST 2020

Monday to Saturday: 9am Holy Mass (Malayalam)
5.30pm Holy Mass (English)
Sunday: 10.30am Holy Mass (English)
4pm Holy Mass (Malayalam)

Pope Francis July Intentions: Our Families. We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

Feasts of the week: Thursday, St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop. Friday, St, Ignatius of Loyola, Priest. Saturday, St, Alphonsus Mary Liguori, Bishop.

All liturgies, parish activities and meetings are postponed until further notice. Leicester Churches previously opened for private prayer only, have been closed in line with the local lockdown.

Diocese of Nottingham

We have received some instructions from the Diocese of Nottingham on how to assist the Parish Priest in the safe reopening of the Church for those who wish to enter for private prayers. At least two stewards must be present and social distancing must be observed. We will need some volunteers; application forms and full instructions about the job will be available from Father George or from the website. Please email Fr. George gchelackal@gmail.com if you are interested.

Readings and Gospel for Sunday 26th July

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people whom thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered or counted for multitude. Give thy servant therefore an understanding mind to govern thy people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to govern this thy great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130

Lord, how I love your law!

+Have I not said, Lord, that my task is to observe your words? I put the Law you have given before all the gold and silver of the world. **R**

+Now, please let your love comfort me, as you have promised your servant. Treat me tenderly, and I shall live, since your Law is my delight. **R**

+Yes I love your commandments more than gold, than purest gold. Yes, I rule myself by all precepts; I hate all deceptive paths. **R**

+Your decrees are so wonderful my soul cannot but respect them. As your word unfolds, it gives light, and the simple understand. **R**

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30

We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind; when it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous, and throw them into the furnace of fire; there men will weep and gnash their teeth. "Have you understood all this?"

They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

An Act of Spiritual Communion can help us and the priests we see online celebrating Mass in empty Churches frequently encourage us to ask for Our Lord's guidance by offering prayers like this one written by St. Alphonsus Liguori in the 18th century. It seems particularly appropriate at this time.

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament
of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire
to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you
now and forever. Amen.

Churches Together in Leicestershire

**A PRAYER FOR THOSE WITHIN THE LEICESTER LOCKDOWN ZONE
offered by the Church Leaders of Churches Together
in Leicester and Leicestershire**

Loving God, ever-present with your people
through the highs and lows of life, we cry out to you for Leicester
in the face of prolonged suffering and hardship as a result of lockdown.
Grant us peace in our frustration; strength to our NHS
and all who are called to care and help; wisdom to our city leaders;
and discernment for our churches in offering the medicine of your gospel.
Bless all caught in the grip of Covid-19 and comfort the grieving.
In the name of the One who gives us hope, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let's stay connected to each other! Community Help: Apologies, but we are not allowed to do anything collectively as a parish. It has been suggested by the diocese that anyone wanting to help should contact the government led initiatives in their area. Leicester City Council - Contact and Response Team if needed. Telephone 0116 454 1004 or email: contact-response@leicester.gov.uk. VAL (Voluntary Action Leicestershire) - visit <https://www.volunteerleicestershire.org.uk/> 0116 257 5050.

Coronavirus Information for Leicestershire:

<https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/coronavirusinformation.html>

Betty McGlinchey RIP passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family on Thursday, 23rd July at 10pm. She received the Last Rites from Father John Cahill. Funeral details to follow at a later date. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

This week we pray especially for all the people of Leicester, for all the sick and housebound people of the parish. We also pray for our NHS Staff, the cleaners, the supermarket workers and all the people who are supplying us with food during this period. All the people who are keeping the country going during this lockdown. Let also pray for each other. Please also remember in your prayers Father John Daly while he is in hospital. We hope that he will recover soon.

300 Club Results: 12th July **300 Club Results:** 12th July £50 J Jarvis (193). £25 C Cusack (208), Mr S Varghese (73).

The Briars & NDCYS. We are thrilled to say that applications for Team 20-21 remain open! Based in Derbyshire at our retreat centre (The Briars), successful applicants will live together in community for 11 months, working across the Diocese of Nottingham with young people in Schools and Parishes and providing Digital Ministry and content via our YouTube channel, thus carrying out the mission of NDCYS. Applicants should be ages 18-25. August 2020 - July 2021. For more information or for an application pack, please email director@ndcys.com.

LACY Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth: will be celebrating the feast of The Assumption on line, via Zoom, on Sunday 16th August at 4pm. We warmly invite all young people, their families, friends and parishioners to share this exciting liturgy with us. We will be remembering especially in our prayers those young people receiving their exam results in August. Fr. Simon Gillespie will be leading us in our prayer and reflection. We are also looking for people to share in the liturgy and this could be YOU! We will enjoy to hear from you as we are looking forward to another AMAZING celebration! Contact us via e mail at paulinepayne@hotmail.com. Please ensure that all under 18 years of age do ask parents/guardians to make the contact and when sharing the celebration should be on line with the young person. On the Solemnity of the Assumption, let us remember our Mother Mary who is in Heaven and who loves us very much.

Lockdown in UK parishes: CAFOD's support: Through our network of volunteers, young CAFOD leaders and our staff, we are keen to support, in whatever way possible, the opening up of churches. We are offering various online resources to help your parishioners and schools to pray and to engage: our online [children's liturgy](#), our programme of [online talks, prayer and Masses](#) our [Summer of Hope](#) ideas for families and parishioners to transform lockdown and cancelled summer events or things they've been missing into some fun fundraising and easy ways to brighten up lockdown www.cafod.org.uk/coronavirus

Help people return to Mass

We're building a small team of computer-using volunteers to help people who don't have internet access book for Mass in their parish church. Could you help?

As we ease out of lockdown, our churches are gradually opening up again for Mass. For some time the capacity will be reduced so that we can keep each other safe. In most cases parishes will need to take bookings in advance. Thanks to the generosity and expertise of a parishioner in the diocese, an [online booking system](#) is now available for parishes to use.

Of course not every parishioner has access to a computer, particularly our most socially-isolated and elderly parishioners. Indeed a few parishes may themselves need help, at least for a while.

If you can spare a little regular time each week, could you join, or indeed help to co-ordinate, a rota of volunteers? Volunteers would take calls from parishioners who have no other means of contact, and log them on the system, particularly for parishes without the means take computer bookings for themselves. We're setting up a single phone number which can be routed to your phone for a morning or afternoon each week.

Whether you're the volunteer co-ordinator, or are taking calls yourself, full training will be given. The Safeguarding office can help with gaining any necessary clearance for working with vulnerable people. For either role, [please email us](#) if you'd like to find out more, without obligation.

Grapevine 5 - What is mine to do?

This edition of Grapevine offers a menu of ministries - just a selection of the opportunities coming to our notice as we develop Caritas in the diocese. If you're in Derby, volunteer with Padley, the city's homelessness charity. In Nottingham, could you host a refugee? If you're in Leicestershire, why not join an ecumenical group responding to the ecological crisis? Or you could sign up to the Lincoln-based Active Faith Network.

'I am a mission', says Pope Francis in *Evangelii Gaudium*, speaking not just for himself but for all of us. But amid all the world's needs and opportunities it's not always clear what that mission is. For this in-between time we can do worse than pray with St Francis: 'I have done what was mine to do', he said, 'May Christ teach you what is yours'.

And we're delighted that Joe Hopkins has been appointed to accompany us on that journey as the diocesan Director of Adult Formation for Mission. Welcome, Joe!

Featured in this issue: New Director for Adult Formation and Mission announced

Help people return to Mass - booking volunteers sought
Derby charity seeks a Catholic trustee - could it be you?
Nottingham Hosts sought for refugees and asylum seekers
European citizens: Time to apply for Settled Status

Parish Finances

A letter from the Diocesan Finance Secretary has been received by all parishes in the Diocese. The letter has been sensitively written, aware and empathising with many Parishioners, whose jobs may not be there for them, and the resulting consequences for many in the future. He also writes about Parish income at this time, with our Church doors closed and no public services, no Masses on Sundays, no Parish income.

He is fully aware that Churches and Church property has to be maintained, that bills will have to be paid etc. etc., and all this despite no regular parish income at this time. He realises that many parishes may struggle.

He has suggested that perhaps Parishioners, who are regular givers to the Church plate, either by weekly envelope or by cash directly into the Collection basket, might consider, if they are in a position to do so, of paying by direct debit from their bank account. This would ensure a continuous income for the parish on a weekly basis, and would help to alleviate the current financial income for the Parish. For those who might like to do so, or to consider that possibility.

**Our Account Name: MOTHER OF GOD LEICESTER RCP -
Account number: 01538822 - Sort code: 30-94-97.**

Please include your name as a reference so that we know where the funds have come from and what they are for. Thank you for your attention and consideration to this possibility.