

Useful website addresses

St Barnabas Cathedral is live streaming Mass at 1 pm Monday-Friday and Sunday at 10 am. A retreat service is attached for individual prayer for parishioners, wat: <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. Go to YouTube and search for "Saint Thomas More Leicester" and the page will appear.

Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham 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 through live stream during lockdown days. Available at <http://Facebook.com/gchelackal>
<http://motherofgodleicester.co.uk>

Coronavirus Information for Leicestershire:

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

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>NRCDT- Registered Charity</p>	<p>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com</p> 
<p>Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctk.ik.org/p_Home.ikml English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/</p>		
	<p>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>20th – 27th September 2020</p>	

Mother of God Church, Leicester
LE3 6NZ, UK

In church public worship now available on all days,
Live-streaming of all liturgical celebrations everyday
Kindly note the Mass timings for ordinary days:

Weekdays	(Saturday)
Monday – No service	10:00 am English Mass 05:45 pm Malayalam Mass
Tuesday – 10:00 am English Mass	
Wednesday – 06:00 pm English Mass	(Sunday)
Thursday – 10:00 am English Mass	10:30 am English Mass 04:00 pm Malayalam Mass
Friday – 10:00 am English Mass	

Live <http://Facebook.com/gchelackal>
<http://motherofgodleicester.co.uk>

Confessions are available after Mass

Please book online and reserve your seats for Masses
<https://massbooking.uk/parish.php?p=868>
20 family pews and 15 individual seats are available.

Fr. George Thomas,
Parish Priest,
Mother of God Church

Holy Mass live streaming available at <http://facebook.com/gchelackal>

Pope Francis September Intentions: Respect for the Planet's Resources
We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

Feasts of the week:

Monday, St. Matthew, Apostle.

Thursday, Our Lady of Ransom. Our Lady of Walsingham.

Readings and Gospel for Sunday 20th August.

1st Reading - Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD and highly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. **R.**

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works. **R.**

The LORD is just in all his ways and holy in all his works. The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth. **R.**

2nd Reading - Philippians 1:20C-24, 27A

Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel - Matthew 20:1-16A

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage.

So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go.'

What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

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.

Words of the Holy Father

This "injustice" of the owner serves to provoke in those listening to the parable a qualitative leap because here Jesus does not want to speak about the issue of work or of a fair wage, but about the Kingdom of God! And this is the message: there are no unemployed people in the Kingdom of God. Everyone is called to do their part; and there will be a reward from divine justice for everyone in the end – not from human [justice], luckily! –, but the salvation that Jesus Christ acquired for us with his death and Resurrection, a salvation which is not deserved, but donated – salvation is free. He uses mercy, he forgives broadly.

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.

This week we pray especially for all the people of Leicester, and for all the places that are in lockdown, 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 and everyone who is keeping the country going during the lockdown. Let also pray for each other.

Admissions for first time children starting school in September 2021 is now open and applications have to be made directly to the school and to the local authority. The closing date is the 15th January 2021. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions there will be no open days or tours. However, there will be a virtual tour on our website along with all Admission policy information: <http://www.ckleicester.co.uk/Admissions/>

300 Club Results: 13th September. £50 Mrs A Fern (6). £25 E Grocock (240), M Robinsons (174).

Mother of God First Holy Communion English mass, this will take place for four children from our parish on Saturday 3rd October at our 10am mass. Our very best wishes to these children and their families.

Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth (LACY) liturgy “A Moment with Mary” will take place via Zoom on Sunday 4th October at 4pm. We will be spending time with Mary through The Holy Rosary led by Fr. Simon Gillespie, reflections and prayers. We will be remembering too all the young people of our Diocese who are looking for our Mother Mary’s guidance, recognising that she is with us at each stage of our life, gently pointing us towards Jesus. If you would like to be involved in the liturgy by reading or offering any special messages for our young people, then contact us. For full information for Zoom, the ID and password email paulinepayne@hotmail.com. (All under 18 years of age should ask parents/guardians to be in touch and should be online with them during the celebration).

Grapevine 9

Mwari rudo - God is love God speaks in every human language - and in many other ways. In this edition of *Grapevine* we report how a parishioner in Leicester reached out to minority communities in the city, with their traditional foods to sustain body and soul. If you have any stories to tell of lockdown faith and action, let us know. It's the Season of Creation, and we have a suggestion for you: a virtual parish film night, exploring how our faith calls us to care for the Earth. If you fix a date at our end, we can provide the Zoom account so you can watch it together. We've an opportunity to listen to the Church's witness through history, as a volunteer in the diocesan Archive. And we've got the latest on the Year of the Word, with opportunities to hear God here and now, and in new and unexpected ways.

In this issue

Global Caring: host a parish film night for the Season of Creation
Interested in Archives? Join the team!
Distributing ethnic food parcels during Leicester lockdown
The God Who Speaks: September update
An opportunity to help parishioners in fuel poverty

Caritas is coming: 7 November - advance notice
Sign up to receive Grapevine direct to your inbox: [click here](#)

First Online Catechists' Network-Tuesday 13th October, 7pm – Zoom

This one hour online networking session for catechists in the Diocese of Nottingham will have brief inputs from **Bishop Patrick McKinney** and Joe Hopkins, the new Director of Adult Formation for Mission, as well as time for small group discussion. The inputs from Bishop Patrick and Joe will look at **the new Directory for Catechesis** and the Diocesan Vision for Catechesis and Evangelisation. The **small group sessions** will allow opportunity to reflect on the inputs, share good practice in catechesis, as well as discussing how we carry on growing in faith with the current social restrictions. This meeting will be on zoom so is limited to 100 participants. Once you have registered for your free ticket you will be sent a link to the zoom meeting. Please **click here** to sign up or if you are reading the paper version please search ‘Catechist Network’ on www.eventbrite.co.uk

Volunteers needed in the Archive team

The Diocesan Archive Team are looking to recruit some volunteers. The Diocesan Archives are currently based in the centre of Nottingham, and the collection contains a wealth of material covering the history of the Catholic Church in the East Midlands.

The current team, Archivist Canon Anthony Dolan and Assistant John Boland-Lee, are looking for volunteers with an interest in history and with some IT skills to assist with the Archives. As part of the Archives Team, you will be undertaking general office duties including labelling, filing, sorting and cataloguing documents. Full training and support will be provided.

If you are interested, please contact [Joanna Matthews](#) for further details.

The following Churches in Leicestershire are now celebrating public Mass. However, places are limited and booking is essential either online via the Diocesan website (preferred) or by telephoning the relevant parish office.

Blessed Sacrament, Leicester	Holy Cross, Leicester*
Mother of God, New Parks	Our Lady of Good Counsel, Rushey Mead
Our Lady of Victories, Lutterworth	Our Lady of Victories, Market Harborough
Rosmini Centre, Ratcliffe	St Patrick, Leicester
St Peter, Leicester	St Pius, Narborough
St Theresa, Birstall	Sacred Heart, Leicester
Sacred Heart, Rothley	

This article first appeared on [Vatican News](#).

The lead Bishop on the Environment for the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, Bishop John Arnold speaks about the Season of Creation and the work his own diocese of Salford is doing to care for our common home.

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The Season of Creation is now well underway, with faith communities praying and organising events that are aimed at contributing to the protection of our common home. Writing about the season Pope Francis said, “this is the season for letting our prayer be inspired anew,” a season “to reflect on our lifestyles,” and a season “for undertaking prophetic actions... calling for courageous decisions... directing the planet towards life, not death.”

Ecological awareness

Only last week, during an audience with a group of ecological experts, the Pope welcomed the fact that “the issue of ecology is increasingly permeating the ways of thinking at all levels and is beginning to influence political and economic choices, even if much remains to be done and even if we are still witnessing too slow and even backward steps.”

Situated in the north west of England is the Diocese of Salford, which is headed by Bishop John Arnold, who is also the spokesman on the Environment for the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales.

Over the past two years Bishop Arnold has written Pastoral Letters calling on schools and parishes in his diocese to take the environmental crisis more seriously and to make small changes in their day to day lives.

He has also responded to the challenge of Pope Francis’ encyclical on the care for creation, by launching a project in his diocese aimed at encouraging environmental sustainability.

Asked if he thinks people are becoming increasingly aware of the damage being wrought on the planet and the importance of caring for the earth, Bishop Arnold says people are becoming more conscious.

“People hear about it a lot more, certainly the media in the United Kingdom very frequently have much more news, not only about the weather, but the impact of the weather in terms of climate change: the storms, the droughts, the wildfires.”

Conversion and connectedness

Over the course of his pontificate, Pope Francis has said the world is in need of an ecological ‘conversion’ in order to manifest the Church’s vision of an integral human ecology. He has also said that “one thing about ecological conversion is that it makes us see the general harmony, the correlation of everything: everything is connected, everything is related.” Bishop Arnold notes that Pope Francis has “done us a great favour by saying that everything is connected, and he’s done that in his encyclicals all the way through. Everybody and everything is connected and when we do something in one place it has repercussions in so many other different spheres of our society.”

He adds that the pandemic “has caused great difficulties for many people but I think it has placed before us some very important questions about our care for one another, our priorities as we emerge from the pandemic...”

The people who are suffering most in this pandemic, Bishop Arnold says, are those in the poorest nations and “we’ve got to be much more aware of them and their poverty and their need for basic care; healthcare.”

Importance of education

One of the most rewarding aspects of pursuing the question of the environment, the Bishop says, has been the reaction in schools and in particular primary schools.

“Every school I go into seems to be very much aware of the environment; very much enthused about it, not in sense of all getting very scared about damage but actually being educated in a very positive way about how we must care for creation.”

“It’s quite extraordinary, you know, seven-and eight- year- olds being really quite articulate about these things and enjoying the subject.”

Laudato Si’ project

Five years ago Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’: On the Care for Our Common Home, was published.

The document called on the entire global community to recognize how every person is connected and dependent on one another, as well as on the world in which we all live.

Marking this fifth anniversary, the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development has launched the celebration of a Special “Laudato Si’ Anniversary Year” which runs until 24 May 2021.

“I think Pope Francis has been the global voice really with Laudato Si’”, says Bishop Arnold, who has created an environmental project named after the encyclical, which includes a walled garden, vegetable patches and beehives.

The project, he explains is aimed at education of schools and parishes coming to visit to talk about the environment and about issues such as bio diversity.

“At the moment we are promoting a project aimed at measuring our carbon footprint so that we can hopefully help other dioceses in England and Wales to follow a policy of reducing our carbon emissions,” he says.

Stressing the urgency of dealing with the climate crisis, Bishop Arnold expresses the hope that current awareness of the problem will lead to a turn around, and repair the damage that has been inflicted on our planet.

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.