

Dear Parishioners,
 We celebrated the Feast of St. John Paul II on 22nd October 2020. He was a great missionary and a man of action. Let us seek his intercession for our daily life. Let us see his concept of the need for Evangelization.

“[The] Third Millennium brings the urgent challenge of the new evangelization. True, it is not easy to proclaim the Gospel in a world which claims not to need God. Yet we are bound by the compelling words of St Paul: ‘Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel’ (1 Cor. 9:16).” -

From his message to participants in the Seventh International Meeting of the Catholic Fraternity of Covenant Communities and Fellowships (November, 1996).

Let us be aware of this great conviction of his life and follow him. Let us pray.

Lord our God,
 you have set us free in Christ, free from our selfishness,
 free from shame and fear, free for life and service.
 God, accept our thanks for this free gift.
 Give us the strength, day after day, to grow in this liberty
 and to help our little or large world to attain
 the same freedom from sin and its consequences:
 from injustice, suffering, and oppression. One day
 may we be completely free in your eternal home,
 through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Regards, Fr. George Thomas.

First Holy Communion at Mother of God Church, Leicester

03/10/2020	Daisy Beau Cooke Spencer Edward Rowley Natasha Tanatswa Shito Abigail Similoluwa Salako
10/10/2020	Isabel Joseph Elaine Sunil Noel Shiju Filippo Robince
24/10/2020	Alfred Mathew Toby Subin Aiden Carlos Dalia Daison

“The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace.” Pope Francis

Congratulations dear children. Fr. George Thomas.

	<p style="text-align: center;">Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>NRCDT- Registered Charity</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com</p> 
<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>		
	<p>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>25th October – 1st November 2020</p> <p>October is the month of Rosary.</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	(Sunday)
Wednesday – 06:00 pm English Mass	10:30 am English Mass 04:00 pm Malayalam Mass
Thursday – 10:00 am English 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>

November is the month of the Holy Souls ...

Traditionally during the month of November the names of our deceased family and friends are held especially in our thoughts and prayers and also in a basket on the sanctuary. Please place names in an envelope with your offering if you so wish and post through the letter box of the Presbytery clearly marked "Holy Souls".

Readings and Gospel for Sunday 25th October.

1st Reading - Exodus 22:20-26

Thus says the LORD: "You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans. "If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him. If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in? If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, O LORD, my strength, O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer. **R** My God, my rock of refuge, my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold! Praised be the LORD, I exclaim, and I am safe from my enemies. **R.** The LORD lives and blessed be my rock! Extolled be God my savior. You who gave great victories to your king and showed kindness to your anointed. **R.**

2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 1:5C-10

Brothers and sisters: You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

Gospel - Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

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

May the Lord grant us the grace, only this one: pray for our enemies; to pray for those who wish us ill, who do not love us; to pray for those who do us harm, who persecute us. And of us knows them by both names" I pray for this person, for that person, for this person, for that person... I assure that that this prayer will do two things: it will make the person better, because prayer is powerful and it will make us more as children of the Father.

Pope Francis October Intentions: The Laity's Mission in the Church

We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

Mr James Sweeney RIP, passed away on Wednesday, 21.10.20. Our deepest and sincere condolences to his wife Vera and children, to all his family and friends. Funeral details to follow. Mass will be said for him on Sunday.

Sunday 25 October 2020 - Thank you

Thank you very much for your donations to World Mission Sunday last week. Your prayers and contributions will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the work of Missio and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To continue supporting mission throughout the year, **please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible: missio.org.uk Thank you. If you have a box that needs emptying please see [Maila Taylor](mailto:Maila.Taylor@missio.org.uk).**

This week we continue to 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. Let also pray for each other.

300 Club Results: 19th October. £50 M Hickey (205). £25 S Vidanapatirana (179), A Fox (264).

West Leicester Catholic 300 Club:

Thank you to all members for their continued support for the 300 Club fundraising for our parishes of Mother of God, Blessed Sacrament and St Peter's.

Grand Prize Draw:

The Grand Prize Draw will take place on Sunday 25th October 2020 witnessed by committee members only on this occasion. The 1st Prize is £1,000, 2nd prize is £500, 3rd prize £100 and the usual weekly £50 and two £25 prizes. Only fully-paid up members are eligible for the draw.

Your Parish Representatives on the 300 Club Committee are John Gray Tel. 0116 2312862 and Ted Cook Tel. 07500470435.

Subscriptions for the new year commencing November 2020:

Could members currently subscribing monthly or yearly, please seriously consider the Standing Order option, as outlined in our July letter. If you have any queries or need help please call Ted or John. If you wish to continue paying by cash please call to arrange collection as payment may not be available in church due to Covid restrictions.

Not a member?

Please contact us for a membership form and a unique number will be allocated to you. Subscription is £5 per month.

Prize Money and Dividend from November 2020:

Please note the dividend for the current year will be advised once we have completed the accounts. Prize money for the year November 2020 to October 2021 will be: Weekly: £50 x 1, Weekly: £25 x 2, Quarterly: £100 (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) and the end of year next October 2021: 1st prize of £1000 and 2nd prize will be a surprise bonus, depending on the membership subscriptions.

Good luck with the draw from the 300 Club committee.

October is the month of Rosary.

“The Rosary is the most beautiful and the richest in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary.” Pope Saint Pius X
John Paul II said that as a young man, praying the Living Rosary helped him realize that not only does Our Mother Mary direct us towards Christ, but Christ also directs us towards His mother. Christ is saying 'look what marvels I have worked for my mother.' Devotion to the saints and especially to Our Lady, is so important because it marks out why our faith is so special. God's grace is not something superficial, but penetrates the core of our being. God has promised to make us like Himself. Our Lady is the first in whom this promise has been fulfilled, and so she is worthy of the highest of praise. “When you pray Holy Rosary, you have Our Lady's hand in your hand. When you pray the Holy Rosary, you have the power of God in your hands.” Pope Pius V. Let us seek her protection for all our needs.

Free e-book (with church imprimatur) for your computer/tablet/phone:

John Henry Newman on the Sense of God in the Conscience. This e-book may be downloaded free of charge to a computer / tablet / phone. It offers an account of the thought of Saint John Henry Newman on a topic central to his life, namely the Conscience as involving a sense of God. There is also available with it an accompanying free ebook, which is an appendix containing several of

Newman's early manuscript sermons. These e-books may be passed on for downloading to friends or acquaintances as desired. **John Henry Newman on the Sense of God in the Conscience** may be accessed at this

URL: www.catholic-thoughts.info/johnhenrynewman

'A heart open to the world'

Pope Francis issued his new encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* on 4 October. It's been said that where his previous encyclical *Laudato Si'* taught that 'everything is connected', the theme of *Fratelli Tutti* is 'everyone is connected'. This edition of *Grapevine* offers you ways to get a piece of it. As usual we've got some other opportunities for growing in missionary discipleship. Including a reminder to book for *Together, we are Caritas* on Saturday 7 November. We'll see you there!

In this issue: Introducing Fratelli Tutti

Still time to book for *Together, we are Caritas* on 7 November

Is your parish twinned with another overseas?

Domestic abuse - a new resource pack from NBCW

Fraternity and social friendship

In *Fratelli Tutti* Pope Francis maps out how to build a better, more just and peaceful world, with the contribution of all: individuals and institutions alike. He emphatically confirms the Church's 'no' to war and to globalised indifference.

Like every encyclical, it is a mirror in which each nation can see its true self reflected back. For us in the UK perhaps its most sobering messages are about the risk of polarisation between different groups, and the impact of social media in reinforcing the 'bubbles' we live in. Fittingly, therefore, there is a moving section on the 'art of encounter', in which 'no one is useless and no one is expendable'. Let *Fratelli Tutti* inspire each of us to play our part in the Gospel mission of 'envisaging and engendering an open world'.

[Read a summary of the encyclical](#)

[Download the whole encyclical](#)

May the Gospel inspire us to find ever more creative ways to exercise charity, grounded in faith and anchored in hope, which can heal our wounded world and promote the true welfare of our entire human family
- Pope Francis, 19 August

Have you booked yet? There is still time to register for *Together, we are Caritas*, a landmark event in our diocese's journey to joining Caritas, the Church's international humanitarian movement. Join Bishop Patrick, Caritas Social Action Network, the diocesan Justice & Peace Commission and Catholics from all round our diocese. In two 90-minute online sessions we'll take practical steps to bring the Gospel to life, locally and globally. **In the morning session, starting at 11.00**, find out how you can get involved in a renewal of mission in our diocese, from Bishop Patrick, and Catholics involved in practical and heartfelt social outreach. **In the afternoon, from 1.30**, hear testimonies from people whose faith has inspired them into action here in the East Midlands, and explore with others of how we can make a bigger impact together. Whether you are already involved or not, ***Together, we are Caritas*** is an opportunity to make connections so that together we can be signs of God's love - *caritas* - in the communities where we live.

[Find out more](#) about ***Together, we are Caritas*** on the diocesan website.

[Book a place now](#) and we'll send you details for joining us on both. And please send a photo if you can. When so much of our lives takes place behind closed doors, the NBCW has published timely resources to raise awareness within the Catholic community, of domestic abuse and the impact upon victims and their children. This abuse may be physical, emotional and psychological, economic or spiritual. Communities build a better future. Links like that are particularly valuable at this time, when state welfare systems are under pressure or even unable to cope.

Is your parish supporting others overseas? If your parish has a friendship link overseas, [get in touch](#) - we'd be delighted to share it with other readers of *Grapevine*. Tell us who your partner is and how the relationship benefits you. Many parishes in the Diocese have a link with a parish in another part of the world. It's a good way of building solidarity, and helping less privileged. May the Gospel inspire us to find ever more creative ways to exercise charity,

grounded in faith and anchored in hope, which can heal our wounded world and promote the true welfare of our entire human family. - *Pope Francis, 19 August.*

Closing prayer of Fratelli Tutti

O God, Trinity of love,

from the profound communion of your divine life, pour out upon us
a torrent of fraternal love. Grant us the love reflected
in the actions of Jesus, in his family of Nazareth, and in the early Christian
community. Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel, discovering Christ
in each human being, recognizing him crucified in the
sufferings of the abandoned and forgotten of our world,
and risen in each brother or sister who makes a new start.

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the
earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are
necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves.

Amen.

Raising awareness of domestic abuse aims to: (A Resource pack compiled by the National Board of Catholic Women). When so much of our lives takes place behind closed doors, the NBCW has published timely resources to raise awareness within the Catholic community, of domestic abuse and the impact upon victims and their children. This abuse may be physical, emotional and psychological, economic or spiritual. **Encourage** Catholic parishes to become places of safety for people seeking to escape domestic abuse, especially women, and women with children. **Provide** a resource for those who have survived abusive situations and need time and space to recover. **Provide** a resource for those offering pastoral care and guidance. [Download the booklet](#) from the Bishops' Conference website.

Prophetic living for a time of pandemic Sunday evenings from 1 November, 7.00 - 8.30 p.m. by Zoom

As the world wrestles with Covid-19, let's stay alert with faith, hope and love - and create a more sustainable, just and compassionate world than we knew before. The ecumenical charity [Green Christian](#) invites you to join an online series of purposeful conversations with new friends and fellow travellers. Seven sessions draw on the Bible, science and some of the best journalism and theological reflection on the pandemic. Each session includes liturgy and breakout conversations. An opportunity to be radically present to these world-changing times, and build a Gospel vision for the future that can follow.

[Find out more about Radical Presence](#) [Register to take part](#)

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.