

Dear Parishioners,

November is a month that is dedicated to remember and pray for the departed souls. Death will always remain a mystery and a pain. Yet as Christians we live in faith and hope. If we had enough faith, we would face death without fear and welcome it as a homecoming in the house of the Father. In our faith, there is no place for the doubt that in death God will abandon his people, the work of his hands, his image and likeness, for whom Christ died and rose from the dead. God will not let us perish for ever. In Christ, we have God's promise that we will rise from the dead for glory and eternal joy. In this hope, we commend all the dead into the hands of the living God.

The following prayers help us to pray for them.

PRAYERS FOR SOULS IN PURGATORY

God our Father,
Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives,
and by Your command we return to dust.

Lord, those who die still live in Your presence,
their lives change but do not end.
I pray in hope for my family,
relatives and friends,
and for all the dead known to You alone.

In company with Christ,
Who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family,
to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord;
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.

Fr. George Thomas, Parish Priest.

There will be Holy Mass on 2nd November, (ALL SOULS DAY), Monday at 10.00 a.m. at Mother of God church Leicester .
You are welcome.

	<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</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>31st Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>1st – 8th November 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)	(Sunday)
Monday – No service		10:00 am English Mass	10:30 am English Mass
Tuesday – 10:00 am English Mass		05:45 pm Malayalam Mass	04:00 pm Malayalam Mass
Wednesday – 06:00 pm English 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 1st November.

1st Reading - Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14

I, John, saw another angel come up from the East, holding the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were given power to damage the land and the sea, "Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand marked from every tribe of the children of Israel. After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb." All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They prostrated themselves before the throne, worshiped God, and exclaimed: "Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen." Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me, "Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?" I said to him, "My lord, you are the one who knows." He said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb."

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 24:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it. For He founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. **R.**

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain. **R.**

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

2nd Reading - 1 John 3:1-3

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

Gospel - Matthew 5:1-12A

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

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

Jesus manifests God's desire to lead men and women to happiness. This message was already present in the preaching of the prophets: God is close to the poor and the oppressed, and delivers them from those who oppress them. But Jesus's preaching, He follows a particular path. The poor, in this evangelical sense, appear to be those who keep alive the objective of the Kingdom of Heaven, offering a glimpse of it revealed as a seed in the fraternal community which favours sharing over ownership. (Angelus 29 January 2017)

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

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. Requiem Mass on Monday 9th November at 10am, followed by cremation at Gilroes Cemetery at 11am approx. Numbers are restricted to 30 people, but the mass will be streamed on Facebook.

Mother of God First Holy Communion Programme 2020-2021

Application forms are now available at the back of the church. Children who are in school year 3 or older are invited to enrol. All children must be baptised, if they **do not** attend a Catholic school we will need to see their baptismal certificate. As of yet we are not sure how our programme is going to be organised this year, due to the measures we will have to put in place because of Covid 19... but we will do our best. Would you please return your completed application forms either to Father George, Margaret or the box placed at the back of the church. Looking forward to meeting you all soon. Thank you.

West Leicester Catholic 300 Club:

Many thanks to all 300 Club members for their support over the last year, especially those who have maintained payments even through these difficult times. The parish dividend of £2700 from the scheme was particularly welcome this year. For those who pay monthly we propose to issue envelopes again for collection from homes in early December.

The Grand Prize Draw took place on Sunday 25th October 2020.

1st Prize - £1,000 Sr S Perks (187).
2nd prize - £500 P Cusack (214),
3rd prize - £100 B Hickinbotham (39).
£50 S Pinto (273).
£25 prizes S Riley (168), Mr T Knott (13).

Only fully-paid up members were eligible for the draw.

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

Not a member?

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

Pope Francis November Intentions: Artificial Intelligence. We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.



Please bring your Missio Box to church to be emptied and collect your free magazine. If you would like to contribute with a red box to this very worthy cause, please contact Maila Taylor.

LIFE CHARITY SHOP, 100, Granby Street, LE1 1DJ. (Charity No. 1128355). Due to the current restrictions we are experiencing a shortage of donated items to sell in the shop. A number of our supporters have asked for a home collection. We can do this on a Wednesday by request. If you think you might help us in this way please contact the shop. More information is available on our Facebook page. [https:// www.facebook.com/LifeLeicester/](https://www.facebook.com/LifeLeicester/) Thank you for your support. Tel. 01162542328, email: lizharris@lifecharity.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.

Pope appoints Bishop Patrick a member to the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue. Pope Francis recently named Bishop Patrick a member of the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue. The Pontifical Council is the central office of the Church for the promotion of interreligious dialogue in accordance with the spirit of the Second Vatican Council, in particular the declaration *Nostra Aetate*. It is responsible for promoting mutual understanding, respect, and collaboration between Catholics and followers of other religious traditions; encouraging the study of religions; and promoting the formation of persons dedicated to dialogue. Bishop Patrick told *The Catholic News*, 'The appointment was a huge surprise to me, but I welcome the opportunity to play a small part in helping Catholics in England and Wales to recognise the importance of the necessary relationship between 'dialogue' and 'proclamation of the Catholic faith'. As Catholics we are called upon both to proclaim our faith and be open to the workings of the Holy Spirit in the other religions around us'.

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](#)

'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!

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](#)

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.

CAFOD - Faith into Action: Join us on Saturday 14th November. As the world looks at ways to rebuild from the pandemic, we must use this moment to tackle poverty, inequality and the climate emergency. Inspired by Pope Francis' latest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, we will be joined by theologian Sam Ewell and climate campaigners from across the world to discuss how to build a better world post-pandemic. Join our online event from 11am to 4pm to find

how you can play a part. [Register now](#)

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,
recognising 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.

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.