

New lockdown restrictions.

The Government has now released [guidance](#) on how the new lockdown restrictions will operate. This reiterates the closure of places of worship for communal prayer and services, the activities that are still permitted in places of worship, as well as clarifying the exemptions to apply to weddings and civil partnerships whether in religious or other settings:

- Only wedding and civil partnership ceremonies where one party is seriously ill and is not expected to recover are permitted but are limited to 6 attendees
- Funerals of up to 30 attendees are permitted but related ceremonies such as stone setting or the scattering of ashes are limited to 15 attendees
- The maximum number of attendees in the wedding or funeral party does not include those conducting the service or ceremony
- Social distancing should be maintained by those not living together or outside of a support bubble

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

A prayer for our faithful departed

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord;
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.

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>33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>15th – 22nd November 2020</p>	

Mother of God Church, Leicester
LE3 6NZ

All public worship are **suspended** till further notice.
Live-streaming of all liturgical celebrations, everyday.

Kindly note the weekly Mass timings:

Monday – Friday	Saturday
10:00 am English Mass	10:00 am English Mass 05:45 pm Malayalam Mass
1 st Fridays	Sunday
10:00 am English Mass 05:30 pm Malayalam Mass	10:30 am English Mass 04:00 pm Malayalam Mass

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

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

For funeral services please contact the parish priest

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. 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 15th November.

1st Reading - Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and works with loving hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her a reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored. **R.**

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; Your children like olive plants around your table. **R.**

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. **R.**

2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Concerning times and seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need for anything to be written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night. When people are saying, "Peace and security," then sudden disaster comes upon them, like labor pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to overtake you like a thief. For all of you are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober. meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

Gospel - Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant.

Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, 'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.' His master said to him in reply, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'"

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

With these words the Lord reminds us that life is a journey towards eternity; therefore, we are called to employ all the talents that we have, without ever forgetting that "here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come" (Heb 13:14). In this perspective, every instant becomes precious, and thus we must live and act on this earth, while longing for heaven: our feet on the ground, walking on the ground, working on the ground, doing good on the ground and the heart longing for heaven. (Angelus, 11 August 2019)

Mother of God First Holy Communion Programme 2020-2021

Application forms will be available from Father George. 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. You can return your completed application forms to Father George. Thank you.

Mrs Henryka Bara RIP died on Monday 9th November. Funeral Service on Thursday 19th November at 11am, followed by burial at Cropston & Thurcaston Cemetery. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

This week we continue to pray 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 8th November: £50 P Jackson (266). £25 S Vidanapatirana (179), M Spedding (282).

Francis Caus Charity - Christmas Boxes for the Elderly: At this time of year, preparations for the Annual Christmas Lunch all usually well advanced. Obviously, this year this event will not be taking place. Likewise, the annual Christmas Lunch at Blessed Sacrament Church will have to be cancelled. We are very aware of the painful isolation being felt by many people at this time, especially our elderly parishioners. As a token of support, we would like to reach out to our elderly parishioners by providing a "Christmas Box". Please contact the St Peter's parish office, phone 0116 285 8795, if you would like to receive a box or would like to suggest somebody who might benefit from this initiative, no later than 26 November. We are likely also to need a number of volunteers to help deliver some of these Christmas Boxes. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help. The Francis Caus Charity was established by a former Parish Priest of St Peter's with a view to supporting elderly Catholics in need in the West Leicester area.

Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth (LACY) are planning to celebrate the Feast of Christ the Universal King on 22nd November at 6.30pm. National Youth Sunday. This year the theme is "TOGETHER" and it would be great if as many young people as possible would like to join us via Zoom for an uplifting Young People's Liturgy, supported by Fr. Simon Gillespie, hosted by LACY and led by young people. Our challenge for Christmas is to raise some funds for "Menphys" and all information regarding this will be given out at our Christ the King Celebration with suggestions for "fundraising from home". E mail LACY at paulinepayne@hotmail.com or claudiacoxon@googlemail.com for more information. See also our publicity poster attached and nearer the time an ID and password will be sent out to you for linking into our Zoom get together. **Please note that all people under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult when linking in.**

Alternative Christmas Presents for your loved ones. If you're looking for unusual Christmas presents, CAFOD World Gifts could be the answer! These special gifts will delight your friends and family, and are also a great way of rediscovering what it really means to share the love, peace and joy of Christmas giving. Each charity gift you buy will make a real difference to communities living in developing countries. Prices start from £4 A happy Queen Bee <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/World-Gifts> Or Ring 0808 14 000 14

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.

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.

FAITH IN FAMILIES

For the last 43 years, **Faith in Families** have provided struggling families across the East Midlands with hampers of toys and food for Christmas. **These** families have experienced difficult times and have been referred via the charity's School Social Work Service. Without such support these families will have nothing; children will have no presents to open on Christmas Day. The aim of Faith in Families' Christmas Appeal is to ensure that these families don't go without each year. This year their aim is to provide 100 families across the region with a £100 voucher for a local supermarket. [Visit their website](#) to find out ways in which you can help a family under pressure this Christmas. *Faith in Families is a member of the Caritas Social Action Network*



If you have a Missio Red Box that needs emptying, please take it to the Presbytery or contact Maila Taylor on 01162872150 and it will be collected. Thank you.

Unlocking compassion

Just as we enter the second lockdown of the Covid-19 pandemic, today's *Grapevine* shares something which has borne fruit in the first. We'd like to tell you about the **Catholic Partnership for Covid Emergency Relief**, here in the Diocese of Nottingham - and invite you to be part of it. Even when we are confined behind closed doors, we can reach out to others. In solidarity, no-one is alone. Please get in touch if you, your parish or your organisation would like to work with others to relieve poverty and distress as this pandemic goes on. Keep safe and well. In this issue: Partners in Covid-19 emergency relief

Could you help us make grant applications?

Greater Lincoln Active Faith Network - network gathering

Together, we are Caritas: still time to book

A charitable partnership for the pandemic. We all know the hardship which the Coronavirus is causing. Those who were already the most vulnerable in our diocese are the hardest-hit. So in May the diocese formed the Catholic Partnership for Covid Emergency Relief, with charities across the diocese. As we enter a second national lockdown, we can be sure the challenges will be with us for many more months to come. [Visit the partnership's page on the diocesan website](#) [Find out what we've achieved so far.](#)

Meet the founding partners. The partnership brings together organisations with which parishes and individual Catholics have long supported - because of their Catholic heritage, or because we pray, give, and volunteer for them. Parishes can be members too - two in Leicester are founder members. Currently the partnership includes:

Agencies which serve homeless or vulnerable people:

- [Emmanuel House](#), central Nottingham, [The Friary](#), West Bridgford and the [Padley Group](#), Derby.
- [Blessed Sacrament and St Peter's parishes](#) in Leicester, whose Justice and Peace Group supports three foodbanks, including [E2 Food Hub](#)
- Two further foodbanks in Derbyshire: [Hope for Belper](#) and the [Zink Project](#) (High Peak).

In June 2020 we raised a grant of £36,102 from the **Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation** to provide emergency relief over the summer of 2020. That enabled the Diocese to help over 5,000 people at risk of hunger and homelessness in the pandemic. **We've reached over 5,000 people so far** [Download our report to find out what we have achieved so far.](#)

As we are in the second lockdown, we're not going to stand by. We are ready to take the next step - and that is where you can help us. **Sign up your parish or organisation**

The ministry of charity is at the heart of who we are as the Church. We're looking to expand the partnership to meet the challenges of this next phase of the pandemic. Partners will be able to:

- Form joint projects and funding bids to Catholic donors and others
- Recruit volunteers and support in parishes around the diocese
- Harness the power of Catholic social teaching to 'heal the world'.

Can you help? Volunteers sought

We are particularly seeking volunteers with specific skills:

- writing funding bids to grant making trusts
- book-keeping, budgeting and monitoring expenditure of successful projects
- co-ordinating meetings by Zoom

For a chat about what help is needed, and how you might play a part, contact [Paul Bodenham](#), Programme Leader for Social Action. Or come to a partnership meeting planned for our volunteers on **Thursday 25 November** to be held by Zoom. Get in touch if you'd like the joining details.

VACANCY: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust is seeking to appoint a new Headteacher at Holy Cross Catholic Voluntary Academy, Leicester, (salary scale L15-21). To apply, please call HR on 0116 296 8164 or email pcooper@aquinas-cmat.org. To arrange a school visit please contact Elizabeth Routledge (school office) on 0116 283 3135 or email eroutledge@holy-cross.leicester.sch.uk **Closing date:** Monday 23 November 2020.

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.