

THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH PRAYER

To you, O blessed Joseph (Ad te, beate Ioseph)
To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions,
and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the
Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal
love with which you embraced the Child Jesus,
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance
which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,
and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.
O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;

O most loving father,
ward off from us every contagion of error and
corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector,
be kind to us and from heaven assist us in
our struggle with the power of darkness.
As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,
so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy
and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant
protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid,
we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal
happiness in heaven. **Amen.**

Pope Francis February Intention- Universal intention - Violence against women . We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis declared a Year of St Joseph from the 8th December 2020 to 8th December 2021, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St Joseph being declared the Patron Saint of the Universal Church. More information here:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/year-of-st-joseph/>

I will be sharing with you shortly how we will be celebrating this as a Diocese through our Diocesan themes of Encounter, Discipleship and Missionary Discipleship.

	<p><i>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</i></p> <p>(0116) 287 5232 mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> <p><i>NRCDT- Registered Charity</i></p>	<p><i>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com</i></p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">Our Schools:</p> <p>Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctk.ik.org/p_Home.ikml English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/</p>		
	<p style="text-align: center;">4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Racial Justice Sunday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">31st January – 7th February 2021</p> <p style="text-align: center;">‘Word for the Week: He is our God’</p>	
<p>Sunday 31.01</p>	<p>10.30am 4pm</p>	<p>English Mass Malayalam Mass</p>
<p>Monday 1.02</p>	<p>No Service</p>	
<p>Tuesday 2.02</p>	<p>10am 11.30am</p>	<p>Holy Mass Funeral Mass</p>
<p>Wednesday 3.02</p>	<p>6pm</p>	<p>Holy Mass</p>
<p>Thursday 4.02</p>	<p>10am</p>	<p>Holy Mass</p>
<p>Friday 5.02</p>	<p>10am</p>	<p>Holy Mass</p>
<p>Saturday 6.02</p>	<p>10am 5.45pm</p>	<p>Holy Mass Malayalam Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 7.02</p>	<p>10.30am 4pm</p>	<p>English Mass Malayalam Mass</p>

Father George is offering Holy Mass from Mother of God Church. Available at <http://Facebook.com/gchelackal> <http://motherofgodleicester.co.uk>

Bible Verse of the day - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are the Holy One of God!” Jesus rebuked him and said, “Be quiet! Come out of him!” Then the demon threw the man down in front of them and came out of him without doing him any harm. They were all amazed and said to one another, “What is there about his word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.”

Luke 4:34-36, Mark 1:21-28

Readings and Gospel for Sunday 31st January 2021

1st Reading – Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses spoke to all the people, saying: “A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you from among your own kin; to him you shall listen. This is exactly what you requested of the LORD, your God, at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let us not again hear the voice of the LORD, our God, nor see this great fire any more, lest we die.’ And the LORD said to me, ‘This was well said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin, and will put my words into his mouth; he shall tell them all that I command him. Whoever will not listen to my words which he speaks in my name, I myself will make him answer for it. But if a prophet presumes to speak in my name an oracle that I have not commanded him to speak, or speaks in the name of other gods, he shall die.’”

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him. **R.**

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides. **R.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: “Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert. Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works.” **R.**

2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties. An unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord. But a married man is anxious about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and he is divided. An unmarried woman or a virgin is anxious about the things of the Lord, so that she may be holy in both body and spirit. A married woman, on the other hand, is anxious about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. I am telling you this for your own benefit, not to impose a restraint upon you, but for the sake of propriety and adherence to the Lord without distraction.

Gospel - Mark 1:21-28

Then they came to Capernaum, and on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are the Holy One of God!” Jesus rebuked him and said, “Quiet! Come out of him!” The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, “What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him.” His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

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

The power of Jesus confirms the authority of His teaching. He does not just speak with words, but he takes action. In this way, He manifests God’s plan with words and with the power of His deeds. In the Gospel in fact, we see that in His earthly mission, Jesus reveals the love of God both through preaching and through countless gestures of attention and aid to the sick, the needy, children and sinners. Jesus is our Teacher, powerful in word and deed. Jesus imparts to us all the light that illuminates the sometimes dark paths of our lives. He also transmits to us the necessary strength to overcome difficulties, trials and temptations. Let us consider what a great grace it is for us to have known this God who is so powerful and so good! A teacher and a friend who shows us the path and takes care of us especially when we are in need.

This year’s Racial Justice Sunday is more important than ever. The effects of the Coronavirus pandemic, the killing of George Floyd, and the powerful message on fraternity and equality by Pope Francis in *Fratelli Tutti* speak of the need to actively oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. **Theme:** The theme is ‘*A Time to Act*’. Racial issues and inequalities were identified nationally and internationally in 2020 generating awareness, emotion and outrage. In light of this Racial Justice Sunday 2021 is particularly significant. Action is needed to further the cause of racial justice but what can we do? Read a [reflection on the theme](#). **Resources:** As well as a thought-provoking [reflection on the theme](#), we have a [message from Bishop Paul McAleenan](#), the Lead Bishop for Racial Justice, and, over the coming days, we’ll upload a series of videos. We also have a prayer to bring this important work to the Lord.

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.

Anne Feeney-McGarr RIP. Funeral on Tuesday 2nd February at 11.30am. Burial at Gilroes at 1pm. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

300 Club: 24th January: £50 K Fowkes (116). £25 P Hickey (80), S Pritchard (77).

300 Club Dividend - A big thank you to all members of the 300 Club for their generosity, especially at this particular time. The 300 Club committee is pleased to announce the year ending October 2020 dividend totals £7,800 - to be split equally between our parishes of Mother of God, Blessed Sacrament and St Peter's - and cheques are now being prepared for £2,600 for each parish. For the current year, subscriptions remain at £5 per month per membership and numbers are available at the moment. Prizes are £50 x 1 and £25 x 2 per week, £100 x 1 per quarter, and £1,000 x 1 plus £surprise bonus at each year ending October. If you would like to join this valuable fund-raising for our parishes, please contact the Parish Office. The Mother of God Representatives are Ted Cook and John Gray.

On behalf of NDCYS (our youth service based at the Briars). NDCYS have created an online **7 session confirmation course called INSPIRE**, that brings parishes from across the diocese together while also maintaining the parish identity of a confirmation group. This is to assist parishes who wanted to run a programme last year, or hope to run one this year. After the meeting on Tuesday, parishes will have one month to register their group in time to begin the first session on 23rd February. Throughout February parishes will be able to have the opportunity to explore the online platform and receive support from NDCYS on how to use it. Please see the attached course information and register for the network meeting here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJApceqqTorGtBD5q3F-n-ejtvGj4rOtDOW>

VACANCY: St Francis' Catholic Voluntary Academy, Melton Mowbray (part of the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust) has a vacancy for a part time non-teaching Deputy Head Teacher. Please visit www.aquinas-cmat.org/vacancies for further information. Closing date is 12 February 2021.

2021: a year for solidarity

After the hopeful news last month about vaccinations, it seems the start of 2021 will get more difficult for a while. Let us pray often for those in medicine and other front line services, as well as those they care for. The world needs people who are here for each other. Catholic social teaching has a word for that: solidarity. It can seem an abstract word, but Pope Francis puts it in a nutshell: 'No-one is saved alone'. Solidarity is what happens when we know

that's true. Without it there is no evangelisation. In this edition of *Grapevine* we'd like to share with you an opportunity coming your way in 2021 to grow in 'gospel solidarity', and grow our mission in a post-pandemic world. We've teamed up with a national charity and three other dioceses for a programme called *Here: Now: Us*. You're invited to an 'open evening' on 22 February to find out more. **Paul** (Programme Leader for Social Action)

In this issue

Book now for:
Care for Earth, our common home - from 18 February for six weeks
Introducing Here: Now: Us:
Open Evening, 22 February
The Word and the Common Good study groups
Post-pandemic parish workshops

In *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis says: Moved by [Jesus'] example, we want to enter fully into the fabric of society, sharing the lives of all, listening to their concerns, helping them materially and spiritually in their needs, rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep; arm in arm with others, we are committed to building a new world.

Here: Now: Us

Missionary disciples for a post-Covid world: a three-part programme

In 2021 here in the Diocese of Nottingham, we're launching a new scheme to help you put your faith into action, bring Catholic social teaching to life in your neighbourhood, and build your parish into a confident, outward-looking community when the pandemic subsides. We have teamed up with the national charity Together for the Common Good (T4CG). *Here: Now: Us* is a three part programme which fosters lay leadership for Catholic social action. *Here: Now: Us* will lay foundations for our Caritas network, in your parish and in the diocese as a whole. [Find out more about Here: Now: Us coming to Nottingham Diocese](#) Scroll down, and we'll introduce you to three opportunities to get involved in *Here: Now: Us*. We'll let you know more in *Grapevine* as details develop.

Put the Gospel into practice! Now you'll be ready for mission. Caritas is being launched this year to support your endeavours. After the parish workshop, *Here: Now: Us* offers an optional follow-up programme to help you and your parish take the next steps.

Year of the Word & Biblical Resources

Bible in a Year Podcast - the very charismatic and engaging YouTube evangelist Fr Mike Schmitz has launched a podcast reading the whole Bible in a year. It is currently the number one podcast in America. It can be found through your usual Podcast service by searching 'The Bible in a Year'. Alternatively you can listen online here:

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>

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

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.

St JOSEPH'S MASS: on YOUTUBE St Joseph Leicester live Weekdays @10am Sunday Mass @10.30 by Father John Daly.

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/

Saint Thomas More Leicester

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrZu39_vJ0mfp50cVR4INiQ/
Press the "Subscribe" button. If you also click on the little Bell Symbol you will receive notifications from the page that will let them know when a new video or stream is happening.

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.