

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_vJOfmp50cVR4INiQ/
 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.

	<p>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> <p><i>NRCTD- Registered Charity</i></p>	<p>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com</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;">5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 7th – 14th February 2021</p> <p style="text-align: center;">‘Word for the Week: Praise the Lord, who heals the broken hearted.</p>	
<p>Sunday 7.02</p>	<p>10.30am 4pm</p>	<p>English Mass Malayalam Mass</p>
<p>Monday 8.02</p>	<p>No Service</p>	
<p>Tuesday 9.02</p>	<p>10am</p>	<p>Holy Mass</p>
<p>Wednesday 10.02</p>	<p>6pm</p>	<p>Holy Mass</p>
<p>Thursday 11.02</p>	<p>10am</p>	<p>Holy Mass</p>
<p>Friday 12.02</p>	<p>10am</p>	<p>Holy Mass</p>
<p>Saturday 13.02</p>	<p>10am 5.45pm</p>	<p>Holy Mass Malayalam Mass</p>
<p>Sunday 14.02</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 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Why Did Jesus Come to Earth? Many people ask why Jesus Christ came to earth. They get different explanations from different people, but mostly they do not get the real reason that made God to send His only begotten Son to the world as the last resort.

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.

Gospel Readings for Sunday 7th February 2021.

1st Reading - Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Job spoke, saying: Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings? He is a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages. So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me. If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?" then the night drags on; I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope. Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.

Praise the LORD, for he is good; sing praise to our God, for he is gracious; it is fitting to praise him. The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; the dispersed of Israel he gathers. **R.**

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He tells the number of the stars; he calls each by name. **R.**

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; to his wisdom there is no limit. The LORD sustains the lowly; the wicked he casts to the ground. **R.**

2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Brothers and sisters: If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

Gospel - Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole 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

Marked by physical suffering and by spiritual wretchedness, the crowd comprises, so to speak, "the living environment" in which Jesus's mission, made up of healing and comforting words and actions, takes place. Jesus did not come to bring salvation in a laboratory; he did not preach from a laboratory, detached from people. He was in the midst of the crowd! In the midst of the people! To think that the greater part of Jesus's public life took place on the streets, among the people, to preach the Gospel, to heal physical and spiritual wounds.

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: 24th January: £100 A Fox (264). £50 M Green (185). £25 A Hunt (36), S Wagstaff (211).

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/tJApceqoqTorGtBD5q3F-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.

Environment: As Christians we are inspired to be good stewards of the earth, to conserve and protect God's creation and the earth's resources. By our actions, we can mitigate the effects of climate change stop the destruction of habitats and reverse the decline of species worldwide. The way we treat the earth today is already affecting the poorest and most vulnerable in the world and, in time, will affect us all.

"I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all." Pope Francis, *Laudato 'si*

Laudato Si Animators UK are a group of like-minded people, mainly Catholics, who have graduated from the Global Catholic Climate Movement's 'Laudato Si Animators' course. The course was set up to educate and enable people to inspire others - in parishes, schools and in the world at large - to engage in dialogue and action on the current environmental crisis. The *Laudato Si* Animators do this by promoting the messages in Pope Francis' Encyclical '*Laudato Si*'. **Loss of Biodiversity** An article from the *Laudato Si* Animators UK on how our eco-systems are being destroyed in the main by human activity.

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.

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.