

CAFOD Lent Appeal

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or by using a CAFOD envelope.

This Lent in lockdown, you and your parish can help transform lives! Abdella has to walk ten hours a day to find water to keep his family alive. By sharing [Abdella's story](#) with your parish at livestream Masses, in the e-bulletin and via social media, you can raise life-changing funds.

You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10*. *Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice

Every Friday during Lent -11am -[Stations of the Cross](#)

This Lent, we will walk through the Stations of the Cross online in a prayerful journey of transformation in solidarity with people living in poverty around the world. Join us as we meditate on Christ's journey to the cross, following themes of justice, poverty, mercy, friendship and hope. [Register to join us.](#)

CAFOD <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-for-Water>

National Novena to St. Joseph - Mill Hill Missionaries

10 - 18 March 2021 Novena News Year of St. Joseph Warmest greetings, There can be few, if any, of us who have not been in some way impacted by the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic over the last 12 months. Many of us will have endured the double grief of not being present when a loved one...

<https://millhillmissionaries.com/novena/>

LENTEN PRAYER

**Almighty and Everlasting God, You have given the human race
Jesus Christ our Saviour as a model of humility.
He fulfilled Your will by becoming man and giving His life on the Cross.
Help us to bear witness to You
by following His example of suffering and make us worthy
to share in His Resurrection.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.
Amen.**

	<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 style="text-align: center;"><i>NRCDT- Registered Charity</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
--	--	--

Our Schools:
Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctlk.org/p_Home.ikml
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/

 <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">LENT</p>	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 18px;">Second Sunday of Lent</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 18px;">28th February – 7th March 2021</p> <p style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">Word for the Week: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.</p>
---	--

Sunday 28.02	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass
Monday 1.03	No Service	
Tuesday 2.03	10am	Holy Mass
Wednesday 3.03	6pm	Holy Mass
Thursday 4.03	10am	Holy Mass
Friday 5.03	10am	Holy Mass
Saturday 6.03	10am 5.45pm	Holy Mass Malayalam Mass
Sunday 7.03	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass

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 - Second Sunday of Lent

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother John, and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Mark 9:2-10 and Matthew 17:1-9

Pope Francis March Intention- Sacrament of reconciliation. Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

Gospel Readings for Sunday 28th February 2021.

1st Reading - Genesis 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing - all this because you obeyed my command."

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted." Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. **R.**

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD. **R.**

My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people, In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

2nd Reading - Romans 8:31B-34

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died - or, rather, was raised - who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Verse Before The Gospel - Matthew 17:5

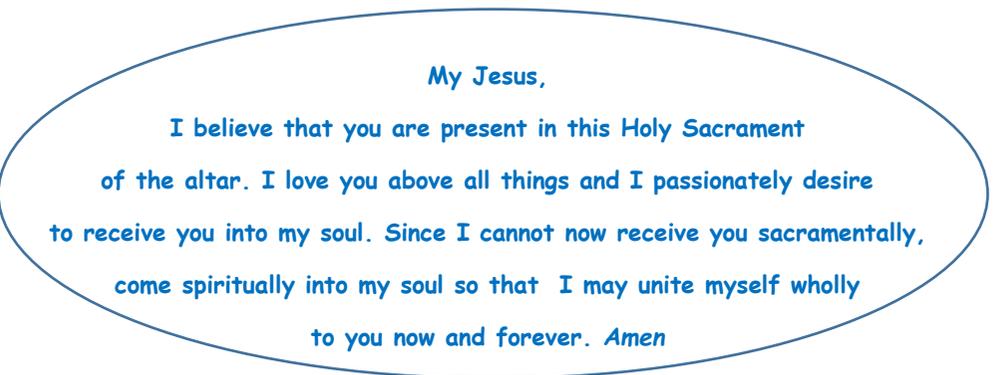
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

Gospel - Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

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.



Words of the Holy Father

The Transfiguration of Christ shows us the Christian perspective of suffering. Suffering is not sadomasochism: it is a necessary but transitory passage. The point of arrival to which we are called is luminous like the face of Christ transfigured: in Him is salvation, beatitude, light and the boundless love of God. By revealing His glory in this way, Jesus ensures that the cross, trials, the difficulties with which we struggle, are resolved and overcome in Easter. Thus this Lent, let us also go up the mountain with Jesus! But in what way? With prayer. Let us climb the mountain with prayer: silent prayer, the prayer of the heart, a prayer that always seeks the Lord. Let us pause for some time in reflection a little each day, let us fix our inner gaze on His countenance and allow His light to permeate us and shine in our life. must continually direct our minds and our hearts towards Him.

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.

The Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer) this year will be different from any we have ever known. All over the world, on 5th March 2021, people will be worshipping as usual but in unusual ways. A Service has been prepared by the women of Vanatu and will be available on You Tube. Resources, Order of Service and a background feature on Vanatu are available at <https://www.wwdp.org.uk/>

300 Club 21st February: £50 B Prowse (281). £25 M Green (181), J Feeney-McKay (241).



Watching for dawn

With a vaccine and a roadmap, we can begin to take responsibility for the future again. We don't know what it will be like, but here are a few things we do know.

Many will be poorer, and a few will be richer. The pandemic's shadow will fall longest on the young, and those in the poorest health. And we have opportunity to create a society that reflects God's Kingdom that will probably not come again in our lifetime. Everyone can play a part in taking up this invitation.

Our parishes will have lost members - some to Covid, some for reasons we may never know. Newcomers will stumble in to our churches, looking for welcome, healing and hope. As a community of faith, we have been changed, and we'll need to find out how, and who we are now.

This edition of Grapevine highlights a number of ways to awaken to this Gospel moment, and reach out with healing to a wounded world.

Jesus says 'stay awake, because you do not know the day or the hour' when the bridegroom will come (Matthew 25.13). Actually this is one of those rare occasions when we do have a clue - so let's get ready!

Paul (Programme Leader for Social Action)

In this issue

Support for a telephone befriending scheme in your parish
Prepare the Future: workshop on 18 March
Protect vulnerable families on Universal Credit - petition
Here: Now: Us - catch up on the Open Evening
Make your parish a beacon for young people

Sign up to receive Grapevine direct to your inbox: [click here](#)

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.

Useful website addresses

St Barnabas Cathedral is live streaming Mass at 1 pm Monday-Friday and Sunday at 10 am. 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.

Saint Thomas More Leicester

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrZu39_vJOmfp5OcVR4INiQ/
Press the "Subscribe" button.

Heaven's Road Catholic Online Radio www.heavensroadfm.com is an online radio broadcasting features like prayers, interviews and music to appeal to a Catholic audience - they also have many podcasts and broadcast over 40 daily live Masses from 15 churches in England and Ireland from their website www.heavensroadfm.com.