

## Holy Week Schedule

Sat 27 March	17:45	Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Palm Sunday
Sun 28 March	10:30	Palm Sunday - Holy Mass (English)	Palm Sunday
Sun 28 March	16:00	Palm Sunday - Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Palm Sunday
Mon 29 March	10:00	Holy Mass (English)	
Tue 30 March	10:00	Mass (English)	
Wed 31 March	18:00	Mass (English)	
Thu 01 April	10:00	Maundy Thursday - Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Maundy Thursday
Thu 01 April	16:00	Maundy Thursday - Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Maundy Thursday
Thu 01 April	19:00	Maundy Thursday - Holy Mass(English)	Maundy Thursday
Fri 02 April	10:00	Good Friday - Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Good Friday
Fri 02 April	15:00	Good Friday - Holy Mass (English)	Good Friday
Sat 03 April	10:00	Holy Saturday - Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Holy Saturday
Sat 03 April	18:30	Holy Easter Vigil Mass - Holy Mass (English)	Vigil Mass for Easter Sunday
Sat 03 April	21:00	Holy Easter Vigil Mass - Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Vigil Mass for Easter Sunday
Sun 04 April	10:30	Holy Easter Sunday Mass - Holy Mass (English)	Easter Sunday Mass
Sun 04 April	16:00	Holy Easter Sunday Mass - Holy Qurbana (Malayalam)	Easter Sunday Mass

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

	<p><b>Mother of God</b> Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉<a href="mailto:mogparish@gmail.com">mogparish@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk">www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Parish Priest:</b> <b>Fr. George Thomas</b> <a href="mailto:gchelackal@gmail.com">gchelackal@gmail.com</a></p>  <p>NRCDT- Registered Charity</p>
<p>Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - <a href="http://www.ctk.ik.org/p_Home.ikml">www.ctk.ik.org/p_Home.ikml</a> English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - <a href="http://www.emschool.co.uk/">www.emschool.co.uk/</a></p>		



**PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD' PASSION Solemnity**

*28<sup>th</sup> March - 4<sup>th</sup> April*



**Palm Sunday: Jesus Enters Jerusalem in Jubilation for His Passion and Cross**  
**Bible Verse of the Day - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**  
*"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!"*

**Words for the Week:**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

**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.**

**Words of the Holy Father:** Jesus suffered betrayal by the disciple who sold him and by the disciple who denied him. He was betrayed by the people who sang hosanna to him and then shouted: "Crucify him!" (Mt 27:22). He was betrayed by the religious institution that unjustly condemned him and by the political institution that washed its hands of him. We can think of all the big or small betrayals we have suffered in life. It is terrible to discover that a well-founded trust has been betrayed. From deep within our heart a disappointment surges up that can even make life seem meaningless. This happens because we were born to be loved and to love, and the most painful thing is to be betrayed by someone who promised to be loyal and close to us. We cannot even imagine how painful it was for God who is love.

**We continue to pray for all the sick and housebound people of the parish.**

## Gospel Readings for Palm Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

### 1st Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

### Responsorial Psalm

#### My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads: "He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him."

**R.**

Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; they have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones. **R.**

They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots. But you, O LORD, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me. **R.**

I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who fear the LORD, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!" **R.**

### 2nd Reading - Philippians 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### Mark 15:1-39

As soon as morning came, the chief priests with the elders and the scribes, that is, the whole Sanhedrin held a council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He said to him in reply, "You say so." The chief priests accused him of many things. Again Pilate questioned him, "Have you no answer? See how many things they accuse you of." Jesus gave him no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now on the occasion of the feast he used to release to them one prisoner whom they requested. A man called Barabbas was then in prison along with the rebels who had committed murder in a rebellion. The crowd came forward and began to ask him to do for them as he was accustomed. Pilate answered, "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?"

For He knew, that it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate again said to them in reply, "Then what do you want me to do with the man you call the king of the Jews?" They shouted again, "Crucify him."

Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" They only shouted the louder, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away inside the palace, that is, the praetorium, and assembled the whole cohort. They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. They knelt before him in homage. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him out to crucify him. They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross.

They brought him to the place of Golgotha - which is translated Place of the Skull. They gave him wine drugged with myrrh, but he did not take it. Then they crucified him and divided his garments by casting lots for them to see what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews."

With him they crucified two revolutionaries, one on his right and one on his left. Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross." Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes, mocked him among themselves and said, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also kept abusing him.

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

**Here all kneel and pause for a short time.**

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

**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

**Pope Francis April Intentions - Fundamental rights.** We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

**300 Club 21<sup>st</sup> March:** £50 M Cooke (100). £25 S Vidanapatirana (179), J Dhonau (139).

**Leicester at the Cross:** will this year take place on Good Friday, 2nd April at 6.00pm on YouTube. This will be an inspiring evening of worship, readings, performance and prayer with the musicians and ministers of many churches from our city and county. Subscribe to “Praying for Leicestershire” on YouTube [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbYtDeBQ\\_TriMLgvr9Ym4A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbYtDeBQ_TriMLgvr9Ym4A)

*"It is now necessary that we reflect together as a diocese on our varying experiences. Share your story: How has Covid-19 Affected You and Your Faith?"*

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,  
This past year of the Coronavirus pandemic has been a tough and challenging time for Catholics across our diocese.

In our parishes, chaplaincies, schools, religious houses, as well as in our own homes, we have all had to learn to adapt to this new and uncharted situation. Some have managed fairly well, while others have struggled.

It is now necessary that we reflect together as a diocese on our varying experiences, positive and negative, of the living out our faith during this period. This will enable us to explore what can be learned for the immediate future. So, I invite you to complete this simple survey, (<https://forms.rcaos.org.uk/covid-19-survey-form/>) which won't take much of your time.

Your responses will help us to get a more informed overview of the strengths, lessons learnt, and weaknesses of our current situation as a diocese. They will, in turn, also help us to move forward more creatively and more realistically.

Thank you for taking part in this survey. I look forward to reading your responses.  
With prayer and good wishes  
+Patrick

When you do the survey click onto the Nottingham Diocese.  
Please encourage other parishioners to do so. The deadline for submissions is July 4th 2021.

**Holy Week at home:** [www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live](http://www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live).

We invite you to take time to join us online for each of the days leading up to Easter. All ceremonies will be online at [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie), on the Knock Shrine Facebook page and on the Knock Shrine YouTube channel. In order to make it more meaningful and to be more involved please try the following:

**Palm Sunday,** March 28 12 Noon & 7.30pm (with Rosary at 7pm) please have your palm ready and holy water to bless it at the same time we do so at Mass. For Good Friday 12pm: Stations of the Cross 3pm: The Passion of Our Lord have a cross at hand for veneration at the same time we do it at the ceremony. For the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night 10.40pm: (Time subject to change) and for Easter Sunday 12 Noon have a candle and Holy Water ready and keep the candle lighting for the Mass, we will renew our baptismal promises together.

Holy Saturday 10.30am: Blessing of Bread for the Polish community.

**VACANCY:** Senior Safeguarding Coordinator. The Catholic Diocese of Nottingham seeks to appoint an experienced Safeguarding Professional to lead and manage its Safeguarding Service. Working with the Bishop, the Diocesan Trustees, Safeguarding Commission and Clergy and Parishes of the Diocese, this person will lead and develop safeguarding strategy and practice to the highest levels, and implement national policies and procedures fully and consistently. For more information and an application pack email: [office@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:office@dioceseofnottingham.uk). Closing date 11th April 2021. Interviews expected to take place in person week commencing Monday 19th April 2021.

**Here: Now: Us** is a three-part programme to help you put your faith into action, bring Catholic social teaching to life, and build your parish into a confident, outward-looking community. For you, your faith, and your parish, it offers a three-stage journey out of lockdown with fellow Catholics from around the diocese. [Book here for the 'Here: Now: Us' Open Evening on 13 April](#)

### 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.

**CAFOD Lent Appeal** 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](http://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>