



"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, which won't take much of your time at (<https://forms.rcaos.org.uk/covid-19-survey-form/>).

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.

Prayer for our parish community.

Almighty God,
we pray for your blessing on all who share
in the life and work of our church and parish:
in the ministry of word, prayer and sacrament;
in teaching, learning together and pastoral care;
in service to our Diocese, the community and those in need;
in ecumenical fellowship, sharing and co-operation.
We pray for all members of the congregation,
that in their life and work they may advance your
kingdom and bear witness to your love,
shown in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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



Fourth Sunday of Easter

25th April - 2nd May 2021

Words for the Week: The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Sunday 25.04	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass
Monday 26.04	No Service	
Tuesday 27.04	10am	Holy Mass
Wednesday 28.04	6pm	Holy Mass
Thursday 29.04	10am	Holy Mass
Friday 30.04	10am	Holy Mass
Saturday 01.05	10am 5.45pm	Holy Mass Malayalam Mass
Sunday 02.05	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>

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Plans are afoot for a joint parish celebration of Confirmation to take place in summer / autumn 2022. Before we ask the Bishop for a date, we will need to see how many candidates we have for the Sacrament. Anyone currently in secondary school or of an older age group is eligible to apply. Please email the parish office for an application form. mogparish@gmail.com

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

Gospel Readings Sunday 25th April

1st Reading - Acts 4:8-12

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said: "Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29

The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. **R.**

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. **R.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever. **R.**

2nd Reading - 1 John 3:1-2

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Gospel - John 10:11-18

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father."

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

Bible Verse of the Day - Fourth Sunday of Easter

The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice.

John 10:1-30

Words of the Holy Father: The coming of Jesus into the world leads to a choice: whoever chooses darkness will face a judgment of condemnation; whoever chooses light will have a judgment of salvation. The judgement is always the consequence of each person's free choice: whoever practices evil seeks the darkness; evil always hides, it covers itself. Whoever seeks the truth, that is, whoever practices what is good, comes to the light, illuminates the paths of life. Whoever walks in the light, whoever approaches the light, cannot but do good works.

300 Club 11th April: £50 Mrs J Feeney- McKay. £25 A Turner (151), A Hall (271).

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.

During the month of May, we invite you to join with churches across the country to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. Our work is built on the power of prayer, and as a result we continually see the providence of God in incredible ways. Mary's Meals is now providing life-giving and life-changing school meals to more than 1.8 million of the world's poorest children. You will find inspirational resources for our Pray In May campaign, including our prayer card, on [our website](#) or do [get in touch](#) if you would like to arrange a talk for your church about our work.

Thank you for remembering Mary's Meals in your prayers. God bless you all.

Prayer

We ask you, Lord, to pour out your blessings on those who are outcast in their own societies. We pray especially at this time for the people of Tigray, Ethiopia and Myanmar as fighting and unrest force so many to flee their homes.

Canon Owen O'Neill RIP. Mass with Reception of the mortal remains of Canon Owen O'Neill RIP into church will take place at Our lady of Victories, Market Harborough, on Sunday 25th April at 6pm. The Funeral Mass will take place in Our Lady of Victories, Market Harborough on Monday, 26th April at 11am. The Principal Celebrant will be Bishop Patrick. At present, due to the Covid restrictions currently in place for Funerals, numbers are restricted to just 30 people at both Liturgies. Both Liturgies will therefore be by invitation only. Please see below a link, to the Livestreaming 'Viewing Room' for both the Funeral Liturgies. In addition to the livestreaming, you will see that the page contains some lovely photos, a link to the online donations page for CAFOD and a Tribute from Fr. John Joe Maloney. Link for the Livestream Viewing Room: <https://www.funeralstreaming.co.uk/viewing-room/11260/>. After his Funeral, it is hoped that the mortal remains of Canon Owen O'Neill will be repatriated back to Ireland, where a Funeral Mass and the Burial will take place in Cappawhite, Co. Tipperary on Saturday 1st May.



News from Justice & Peace and Caritas 22nd Edition of the Diocesan Grapevine - Go to <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/grapevine-e-bulletin>

Revolution of Tenderness: As we emerge from lockdown into the 'new normal', God is calling each of us afresh. The diocese is offering a series of initiatives and events inspired by Pope Francis called Revolution of Tenderness, to help us answer that call. The invitation comes from Caritas, the new diocesan network supporting social action, and includes:

- Prepare the Future: Practical workshops on 21 April and 2 June and regularly thereafter, to help parish activities and outreach start up again
- Kindle the Fire: Online prayer for the eve of Pentecost to mark the launch of Caritas
- Lend an Ear: A diocesan listening campaign to rebuild social friendship and understanding after the pandemic

The Word and the Common Good: Workshops on Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching on Monday evenings in June and July. Everyone is welcome visit [dioceseofnottingham.uk/revolution-of-tenderness](https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/revolution-of-tenderness) for ways to join in.

'Being a Missionary Disciple' - After the great success of Bishop Patrick's Lent Talks on Discipleship, the Formation for Mission Team are offering two talks on Zoom in May. The first talk *'The Ascension & the Great Commission'* will be given by Canon Christopher Thomas (General Secretary of the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales) on Thursday 13th May at 7pm. This talk will explore the importance of the Ascension and how we can live Jesus final instructions to us. The second talk *'Pentecost & Mission'* will be given by Pippa Baker (A Catholic Missionary, Speaker & Musician) on Wednesday 19th May at 7pm. This talk will examine the significance of Pentecost for us and how the Holy Spirit equips us for mission in our everyday lives. To register visit: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk

A Father's Heart - A Podcast for Catholic Dads. The Diocese of Nottingham has launched a new Podcast to celebrate the Year of St Joseph. A Father's Heart takes its name from *Patris Corde* (Pope Francis' letter that launched this special year). This letter is split into 7 sections, each highlighting a different characteristic of St Joseph's fatherhood. Each month the podcast will pick a section for 2 dads, from around the diocese, to reflect on and discuss. Find out how to listen (and subscribe) by going to: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/podcasts

VACANCY: The Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service is looking for a highly skilled and ideally qualified Youth Worker to work as part of the leadership team of NDCYS, be responsible for the leadership, supervision and management of the Volunteer Team and to lead young people in retreat programmes at The Briars. You will have responsibility for the management of the site when on programme and be required to undertake training and CPD as part of your role. This is a full time post / 37.5 Hours a week equivalent - Week on / Week off. This post has an ideal start date of June 7th 2021 but this is negotiable. The post will require residential work with equivalent time off given for overnight stays. You will need to be resident only for the duration of your programmes and working hours. Full time accommodation is not provided. Application deadline: Friday 30 April 2021 [REQUEST AN APPLICATION PACK](#)

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.