

Pope Francis is doing well after surgery

The scheduled surgery for a diverticular stenosis of the colon concluded Sunday evening. The surgical operation Pope Francis underwent on Sunday evening is over, announced the director of the Holy See Press Office.

Pope Francis sent a tweet at 1.30 pm Rome time on Wednesday thanking people around the world for their kind messages and care regarding his health, as he continues his recovery at Rome's Gemelli Hospital following the surgery.

The Pope writes in his tweet: "I am touched by the many caring messages received in these days. I thank everyone for their closeness and prayer." @Pontifex

Piracy on the High Seas - Seafarers need protection and prayer

Caritas works locally in the Diocese of Nottingham, but keeps a global perspective through the wider Caritas network. This year, with Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea), we celebrate Sea Sunday on the 11th July, and we ask that you particularly remember all those key workers at sea, who provide us with goods and food, in your prayers. In 2020, 135 crew were kidnapped from their ships globally, with the Gulf of Guinea accounting for over 95% of the crew numbers kidnapped. This has happened in international waters in an area less than 20% of the size of the sea area dominated by Somali pirates a few years ago. The pirates launch their attacks from the Niger Delta, where they also subsequently hold their hostages. The attacks on merchant ships in the Gulf of Guinea by Nigerian pirates must end. So far, 99 maritime companies, organisations and flag states, including Stella Maris, have signed the [Gulf of Guinea Declaration on Suppression of Piracy](#), which was launched in May.

Martin Foley, Chief Executive of Stella Maris, has written an interesting article in [The Tablet](#) concerning the piracy issue, and the Declaration.

Please pray that seafarers are protected from danger and the threat of piracy, and if you can, please support the [Sea Sunday Appeal](#) that will be taking place in Parishes around the country.

Stella Maris Prayer

*O Mary, Star of the Sea,
light of every ocean, guide seafarers across all dark and stormy seas
that they may reach the haven of peace and light prepared in Him
who calmed the sea. As we set forth upon the oceans of the world
and cross the deserts of our time, show us, O Mary,
the fruit of your womb, for without your Son we are lost.*

*Pray that we will never fail on life's journey,
that in heart and mind, in word and deed,
in days of turmoil and in days of calm,
we will always look to Christ and say,
"Who is this that even wind and sea obey him?"
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Pray for us. Amen*

Pope John Paul II

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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11th – 18th July 2021

Words for the Week: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Sunday 11.07	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass
Monday 12.07	No Service	
Tuesday 13.07	10am	Holy Mass
Wednesday 14.07	6pm	Holy Mass
Thursday 15.07	10am	Holy Mass
Friday 16.07	10am	Holy Mass
Saturday 17.07	10am 5.45pm	Holy Mass Malayalam Mass
Sunday 18.07	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>

Sea Sunday - 11th JULY 2021

Please note that Sea Sunday will be on 11th July this year. It is when we are asked to encourage prayer and financial contributions to support the work of Stella Maris (the Apostleship of the Sea), the official maritime charity of the Catholic Church. This mandatory second collection is vital for the future of Stella Maris and its support of seafarers and fishermen in the UK and around the world. I kindly ask that you observe this Sunday with prayer and a second collections.

Second Collection today for Apostleship of the Sea.

Please donate online to [Sea Sunday Appeal](#)

Gospel Readings Sunday 11th July 2021

1st Reading – From the Book of the Prophet Amos Am 7:12-15

Amaziah, priest of Bethel, said to Amos, “Off with you, visionary, flee to the land of Judah! There earn your bread by prophesying, but never again prophesy in Bethel; for it is the king’s sanctuary and a royal temple.” Amos answered Amaziah, “I was no prophet, nor have I belonged to a company of prophets; I was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores. The LORD took me from following the flock, and said to me, Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”

Responsorial Psalm – Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims; the LORD –for he proclaims peace. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land. R.

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven. R.

The LORD himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps. R.

2nd Reading—from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favour of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved. In him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us the mystery of his will in accord with his favour that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth. In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first instalment of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s possession, to the praise of his glory.

Gospel – Mark 6:7-13

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick— no food, no sack, no money in their belts. They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave. Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them.” So they went off and preached repentance. The Twelve drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

God’s great freedom in giving himself to us represents a challenge and an exhortation to modify our behaviours and our relationships. It is the invitation which Jesus addresses to us today. He calls us not to think according to the categories of ‘friend/enemy’, ‘us/them’, ‘those who are in/those who are out’, ‘mine/yours’, but rather to go beyond, to open our heart in order to be able to recognize God’s presence and action, even in unusual and unpredictable environments that are not part of our circle. May the Virgin Mary, an example of docile openness to God’s surprises, help us to recognize the signs of the Lord’s presence in our midst.

Pope Francis July Intentions - Social friendship. We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

300 Club 4th July: £50 Mrs M Hickey (79). £25 M Fox (260), Mrs M Treacy (202).



Please remember in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish.

News from Justice & Peace and Caritas 27th Edition of the Diocesan Grapevine - Go to <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/grapevine-e-bulletin>

Marriage Law Changes in England and Wales

You may be aware that from 1st July 2021 civil marriages will be permitted to be held outdoors on Approved Premises. This change is in respect of civil marriages only. The law in respect of religious marriages remains unchanged, they must take place in certified places of worship which are also registered for marriage. Furthermore, Canon Law states: "A marriage between Catholics or between a Catholic Party and a non-Catholic baptised party is to be celebrated in a parish church. It can be celebrated in another church or oratory with the permission of the local ordinary or parish priest. The local ordinary can permit a marriage to be celebrated in another suitable place. A marriage between a Catholic party and a non-baptised party can be celebrated in a church or in another suitable place". Diocesan Ordinaries have the faculty to permit the celebration of marriages, in limited circumstances, to take place "in another suitable place" but these are always in other Christian buildings.

The Holy Father's Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - 25th July 2021

At the end of January, the Holy Father announced a 'World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly' to be held annually on the Fourth Sunday in July (25th July 2021). The announcement formed part of Pope Francis' Angelus address on 31st January, a copy of which can be found at: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2021/documents/papa-francesco_angelus_20210131.html In addition, there are many helpful resources provided by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life. See Annex 3a,3b,3c,3d.

Prayer for the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - 25 July 2021

I thank You, Lord, for the comfort of Your presence:
even in times of loneliness, You are my hope and my confidence,
You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!

I thank You for having given me a family
and for having blessed me with a long life.
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,
for the dreams that have already come true in my life
and for those that are still ahead of me.

I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which You call me.
Increase, O Lord, my faith, make me a channel of your peace,
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,
to never stop dreaming and to tell of your wonders to new generations.
Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,
that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth.
Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,
the poor consoled and wars ended.

Sustain me in weakness
and help me to live life to the full in each moment that You give me,
in the certainty that you are with me every day,
even until the end of the age.
Amen.

Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' calls us all to an 'ecological conversion'. The coming Autumn months will be a valuable time for us to answer that call as a Church, in our parishes and as individuals. Here are some of the events coming up: The Season of Creation runs from 1 September to 4 October, St Francis' feastday Climate Sunday takes place on 5 September, or any other suitable Sunday 'Cry of the Earth', a workshop on Laudato Si, the latest science and the challenge before us is planned for 6 September - more on that below COP26 takes place in Glasgow in early November On 20 November we'll have a conference to launch the diocesan environmental policy. [Book here for the workshop on 6 July](#)

World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees - 26th September 2021

The 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR), will be celebrated on 26th September 2021. The theme chosen for this year is "Towards an ever wider we," which is a major theme of Pope Francis in both Fratelli Tutti and the Declaration on Human Fraternity. Further information will be provided closer to the date.

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.