

PARISH FEAST: MOTHER OF GOD LEICESTER

Eight days fasting in connection with the Nativity of Our Lady (Ettu Noimpu), will be the main feast of the Mother of God Church (English and Malayalam Community).

Feast Days: 1st - 8th September 2021.

Person(s) and / or family members who are interested to take up ettu (Ettu Noimpu) celebrations in a special way (presenti or sponsors) are encouraged to come forward. There can be more than one presenties on each day. Each presenti has to contribute a minimum of £100.

Please see poster in church porch for full details of celebrations.

Words of the Holy Father

Before Jesus' invitation to nourish ourselves of his Body and of his Blood, we might feel the need to dispute and to resist, as did those listeners whom today's Gospel spoke of. This happens when we struggle to model our existence after that of Jesus, to act according to his criteria. By nourishing ourselves of this food we can enter into full harmony with Christ, with his sentiments, with his behaviour. This is so important: to go to Mass and partake in Communion, because receiving Communion is receiving this living Christ, who transforms us within and prepares us for heaven.

Updated Guidance

Hand Sanitiser will be available at the entrance. Wearing of face-coverings is highly recommended in Church. Social distancing is no longer mandatory, but please be respectful of others' needs at this time. During Mass, you can remain seated or stand as you wish, **but please do not kneel.**

Congregational singing is again permitted. Holy Communion can be distributed with distancing and allow some spacing, mindful of the needs of others. Father will continue to sanitise his hands and wear a face-covering before distributing Holy Communion. Some of our people will be very anxious at any sudden return to 'normality'. We can be patient and caring towards each other, as we take this next big step back towards normality, following the pandemic.



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



**Mother of God
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www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk**

**Parish Priest:
Fr. George Thomas
gchelackal@gmail.com**



NRCDT- Registered Charity

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



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th - 15th August 2021

Words for the Week: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Sunday 8.08	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass
Monday 9.08	No Service	
Tuesday 10.08	10am	Holy Mass
Wednesday 11.08	6pm	Holy Mass
Thursday 12.08	10am	Holy Mass
Friday 13.08	10am	Holy Mass
Saturday 14.08	10am 5.45pm	Holy Mass Malayalam Mass
Sunday 15.08	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass

Sunday 15th August: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Our Parish Prayer

Father God,
thank you for our church and its people.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our church may grow.
Help us to see you in everyone we meet and fill our lives with your praise.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pope Francis August Intentions - The Church. Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Gospel Background Sunday 1st August 2021 - John 6:41-51

On this Sunday, we continue to read from the “Bread of Life discourse” found in the sixth chapter of John’s Gospel. Recall that we have been reading from this chapter for the past two weeks and will continue to read from it for another two. Last week, the crowd asked for a sign that would show that Jesus came from God. Jesus replied by saying that he is the sign and the bread of life sent by God. At this point, our Lectionary omits six verses in which Jesus predicts the unbelief of the crowd and further develops his connection with God the Father. In these verses, Jesus says that he was sent by God to do the Father’s will. Jesus promises that those who look upon the Son with faith will find eternal life. Some of these themes are repeated in today’s Gospel reading.

Today’s Gospel begins with a report that the Jews complained about Jesus’ claims regarding his identity. They knew his family, and they knew he was the son of Joseph. They could not comprehend what Jesus meant when he said that he came down from heaven. Jesus responds to the complaints by saying that only those who are chosen by God will recognize him as the one that God sent. This is a recurring theme in John’s Gospel, that God has chosen those who will have faith in Jesus.

In the verses that follow, Jesus talks more about his unity with the Father. He is the one who has seen the Father and, therefore, knows the Father. Those who listen to God will recognize that Jesus is the one sent from God. Those who believe will have eternal life. Jesus concludes with the central element of our eucharistic theology. He promises that the bread of life will bring eternal life to those who partake of it, and he tells us that the bread of life will be his own flesh, given for the life of the world.

In today’s reading, we hear Jesus say again, as he did in last week’s Gospel, that he is the bread of life. We also hear Jesus add that he is the living bread. Both of these statements help us understand better the gift that Jesus gives us in the Eucharist. We celebrate this gift of Jesus each time we gather for Mass. We believe that receiving Jesus in the Eucharist will lead us to eternal life.

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

Mass Intentions. One of the great gifts we can give to someone is to have a Mass offered for their intention or for the repose of their soul. To request a Mass please use the envelopes found at the back of the church. Please state if the Mass is for a deceased person, birthday or any special intentions. **Thank you.**

300 Club 1st August: £50 T McAuley (104). £25 H Clarke (129), Mr P Hickey (80).

Exploring the Encyclical Laudato Si Study Day- Saturday 4th September 2021 11.00am to 12.30pm Live Stream As the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26), to be held in Glasgow in November, draws nearer, and at a time of unprecedented danger for the world, the 2015 encyclical of Pope Francis, Laudato si, on care for our ‘common home’, could not be more relevant. Fr Ashley Beck will explore its contents and explain its crucial relevance. Fr Ashley Beck is a priest of the Archdiocese of Southwark, based in the parish of Beckenham in South East London. For access to this free live stream event go to www.whatgoodnews.org and follow the instructions. No registration needed. Talks will be available subsequently on www.whatgoodnews.org. To join the www.whatgoodnews.org mailing list please email gideapark@dioceseofbrentwood.org

CAFOD- Faith in Action Day 2021 on Saturday 11 September, 11am-4pm. Join us for an online day of talk and prayer to learn more about this year’s climate talks, Pope Francis’s call to action and how people in the Amazon region are leading the fight to care for our common home. The countdown is on. In a few months, the UK will host the largest gathering of world leaders ever to take place on British soil: the ‘COP26’ climate talks. Our government has a vital role to play in leading global efforts to tackle the climate crisis. But as citizens of the host nation and as people of faith, we have an important role to play too. This is the time to come together,

build a community and act. [Register now](#)

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.