

Mother of God First Holy Communion Programme 2021-2022

Applications forms for our First Holy communion Programme are now available at the back of church.

Children who are in school year 3 or older are invited to apply.

If the child **does not** attend a Catholic primary school or was **not baptised in this parish**, then baptismal certificates will be needed to be seen.

Please could the completed forms be returned no later than **Sunday 17th October** at the very latest, to Father George or returned to the box at the back of church. Thank you.

A reminder of our important dates-

Tuesday 19th October at 6.30pm in the church- meeting for parents to be introduced to the programme.

Sunday 24th October 9 till 10am in the hall - first session for the children.

Sunday 31st October at the 10 30 - our **First Holy Communion Enrolment mass**.

Looking forward to meeting you all.

Next year's Confirmation, will be celebrated jointly at St. Peter's Church.

The potential candidates, parents, sponsors from Mother of God Church who wishes to receive Confirmation, please attend a meeting at St. Peter's Parish Hall on Friday 8th October at 7.15pm.

The Refugee's Voice - Often Unheard

Supporting migrants and refugees has long been part of the Church's mission. In the national debate, one of the most important voices is also one of the quietest - that of the refugee. The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is an international Catholic organisation, at work in over 50 countries around the world with a mission to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons.

As we continue our series of interviews focusing on the World Day of Migrants and Refugees that will be celebrated on **Sunday, 26 September**, we hear from one of the JRS's refugee friends. It's an opportunity to hear a voice that often goes unheard.

Prayer


Holy, beloved Father, your Son Jesus taught us
that there is great rejoicing in heaven
whenever someone lost is found,
whenever someone excluded, rejected or discarded
is gathered into our "we", which thus becomes ever wider.

We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus,
and all people of good will, the grace to do your will on earth.

Bless each act of welcome and outreach
that draws those in exile into the "we" of community and of the Church,
so that our earth may truly become what you yourself created it to be:
the common home of all our brothers and sisters. **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><i>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com</i></p>  <p><i>NRCDT- Registered Charity</i></p>
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Our Schools:
Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctk.ik.org/p_Home.ikml
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/

	<p>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>26th September – 3rd October 2021</p>
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Sunday 26.09	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass	<p>CAFOD Family Fast Day</p> <p>Family Fast Day, this year will be on Friday 1st October.</p> <p>You can support people around the world who are dedicating their lives to protecting God's creation, and all the people who are on the frontline of the climate crisis.</p>
Monday 27.09	No Service		
Tuesday 28.09	10am	Holy Mass	
Wednesday 29.09	6pm	Holy Mass	
Thursday 30.09	10am	Holy Mass	
Friday 1.10	10am 5.45pm	Holy Mass Malayalam Mass	
Saturday 2.10	9.30am	Holy Mass	
Sunday 3.10	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass	

Words of the Holy Father: How many Christians, by their example, with their inconsistency, drive people away from the Faith: the incoherence of Christians is one of the readiest weapons the devil has to weaken the People of God and to divert the People of God from the Lord - to say one thing and do another.

Pope Francis September Intentions -Universal intention - An environmentally sustainable lifestyle. We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



CAFOD Envelopes will be available from the church porch. Please use one for your donations if you are a tax payer.

ACT: Stand with people working to protect our World.

Donate to Climate Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis

Gospel background for Sunday 26th September 2021 - Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

Today we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Recall that last week we heard Jesus chastise his disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. In today's Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark's Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus' words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus' name with others.

Today the demon possession described in the Gospels might be seen as a form of mental illness, but the need for healing these syndromes was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine. Some people had the power to heal the symptoms of possession. One of the strategies used was to invoke the name of a person or figure who was believed to have the power to heal.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus' name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In his reply to his disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He also teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others.

Later in this Gospel, Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are just beginning to have faith but to encourage even the smallest signs of faith. The Greek word used here for sin also connotes "stumbling" or "causing scandal." In vivid terms Jesus teaches his disciples the consequences to those who would put obstacles before people who are on the road to faith.

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

300 Club 19th September: £50 Mrs V Sweeney (124). £25 D Gomes (221), Mr A Hunt (36).

Open Evening for Year 6 students at English Martyrs' Catholic School on Thursday 7th October 2021, 5.00 - 6.30pm. Formal address by Mr Carney, Principal at 5.00pm, 5.25pm and 5.45pm in the Auditorium followed by the opportunity to tour the school and meet students and staff.

Thanksgiving Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, 11th October 2021. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes return flight, 4 nights in Knock House Hotel with Full Board. All entertainment and excursions. Wheelchair accessible rooms. Single supplement £100.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

LEICESTERSHIRE ACTIVE CATHOLIC YOUTH (LACY) are sending out a warm invitation to all young people, their families and friends to an amazing "First Physical Event" since the beginning of COVID. "What Do You Know About Angels?" **SUNDAY 3RD OCTOBER**. Lots of interesting activities, sharing Faith, Fun and Food! Fr. Simon Gillespie will be leading us in thoughts, ideas and the Celebration of an uplifting Mass especially for young people. Come and share the time with the LACY Team at St. Thomas More, Catholic Parish Rooms and Field, Knighton, Leicester, LE2 3HN. **2pm - 5pm**. See poster on LACY's Facebook page, your own parish media and newsletter. For further information or booking for the day

contact paulinepayne@hotmail.com or claudiacoxon@googlemail.com.

Season of Creation: Preparing for COP26 World governments meet in Glasgow in November for the COP26 Climate Summit. Pope Francis is attending and calls us, as people of faith, to speak out and use our collective voice to urge national and community leaders to take urgent action now. Please sign the Healthy Planet Healthy people Petition: <https://thecatholicpetition.org/> Get involved in events in Leicester over this weekend: <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/> Search out green events for families: <https://cafod.org.uk>. Pray - Think what you can do - Act - Inspire.

Creator God, giver of life, you sustain the earth and direct the nations.

In this time of climate crisis, grant us the clarity to hear the groaning of creation and the cries of the poor. Challenge us to change our lifestyles.

Guide our leaders to take courageous action. Enable your church to be a beacon of hope, and foster within us a renewal vision of your purposes for your world, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom all things were made. Amen.

Here: Now: Us: Leicester: After 18 months of social distancing, join fellow Catholics in Leicester for a day to help our parishes grow as confident, outward-looking missionary communities. On Saturday 13 November 2021 at St Joseph's, Goodwood Road, LE5, 10am. - 4pm.

Here: Now: Us is facilitated by Caritas Diocese of Nottingham. The workshop helps lay people put Catholic Social Teaching into action, grow in confidence and leadership, and reach out to the community. During the course of the day we will:

- * discover how Catholic Social Teaching equips us to build the Common Good
- * imagine how it can enable us to transform your parish, neighbourhood and world
- * help each other to discover and claim your unique vocational responsibility
- * begin to develop an action plan for mission alongside others in the city.

To find out more and book your place

visit [dioceseofnottingham.uk/here-now-us](https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/information/diocesan-commissions/justiceandpeace/here-now-us-autumn-2021)<<https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/information/diocesan-commissions/justiceandpeace/here-now-us-autumn-2021>>

or call 0115 648 1509.



Please bring your red MISSIO box to church to be emptied and collect your free magazine.

The Red Box is a vital source of support for countless people in need around the world. In fact, last year, our supporters in England and Wales raised £2.9 million for Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries through the Red Box. Thank you
If you would like a Red Box, please speak to Maila Taylor.