

LOVE CHRISTMAS

Bishop Richard Moth, Bishop of Arundel and Brighton and Chair of the Bishops' Conference Department of Social Justice, has offered his support to a community initiative called '**Love Christmas**' that aims to share a million "Christmas boxes of hope and love" this season.

Advent and Christmas are a sacred time for Christians as we celebrate the Word made flesh and reflect on the gift of Jesus Christ at the heart of our lives. But for the most vulnerable and isolated, it can be a very difficult and lonely season.

"As Chair of the Department of Social Justice at the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, I am very pleased to offer my support to the national, ecumenical initiative 'Love Christmas.' Its aim is to spread love, hope and kindness this Christmas through collecting and sharing boxes of gifts and Christmas food to those most in need in our community.

"It is both timely and much needed given the adverse impact the Covid pandemic continues to have on many people in terms of health, finances, isolation, loneliness and mental health. "**Divine Renovation, Catholic Voices and YMT**, are working together to engage Catholic parishes in this excellent initiative. Pope Francis reminds us that at Christmas, 'God came among us in poverty and need, to tell us that in serving the poor, we will show our love for him.' '**Love Christmas**' is a very simple, practical way for parishes to share in this call and to show their neighbourhoods they care this Christmas.

Please help by donating a box this Christmas. Thank you

As the United Nations climate conference, COP26, begins in Glasgow, let us bring our prayers to God, who created the earth and all within it.

We pray for Pope Francis as he visits COP26 that his call for the care for our common home may illuminate the hearts and minds of all his fellow participants, and that God may grant them wisdom to make decisions which respect the earth and all that live in it.

We pray for the Church: may we speak and act together as we urgently work towards good stewardship of your creation and your presence in all living things.

We pray for the world; the interdependence of all living things; the beauty and flourishing of the planet plundered and misused for generations by human activity; may we all, through our actions, help repair the harm we have caused.

We pray for the peoples already facing droughts, floods and storms: that God may grant them strength and hope for the future as they work to adapt to the changing climate.

We pray for our parish and our local community: that through the grace of God we may examine our environmental impact and make choices for the common good. O God, who calls all people to justice and care for the earth, hear and grant these prayers.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

A message from CAFOD

Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal for our recent Family Fast Day. Every donation helps us in our work and is gratefully received. cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis
Please pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31 October to 12 November. There are prayer cards at the back of church; please do take one and pray that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world, those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see cafod.org.uk/COP26

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.

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<p style="text-align: center;">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>																										
	<p style="text-align: center;">29th Sunday in Ordinary Time 24th – 31st October 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">October – Month of the Holy Rosary</p> 																								
<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 568 1352 639">Sunday 24.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 568 1525 639">10.30am 3.30pm 4pm</td> <td data-bbox="1525 568 1749 639">English Mass Rosary Malayalam Mass</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 639 1352 687">Monday 25.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 639 1525 687">No service</td> <td data-bbox="1525 639 1749 687"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 687 1352 735">Tuesday 26.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 687 1525 735">No service</td> <td data-bbox="1525 687 1749 735"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 735 1352 783">Wednesday 27.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 735 1525 783">No service</td> <td data-bbox="1525 735 1749 783"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 783 1352 831">Thursday 28.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 783 1525 831">No service</td> <td data-bbox="1525 783 1749 831"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 831 1352 879">Friday 29.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 831 1525 879">No service</td> <td data-bbox="1525 831 1749 879"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 879 1352 927">Saturday 30.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 879 1525 927">No service</td> <td data-bbox="1525 879 1749 927"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1128 927 1352 1034">Sunday 31.10</td> <td data-bbox="1352 927 1525 1034">10.30am 4pm</td> <td data-bbox="1525 927 1749 1034">English Mass Malayalam Mass</td> </tr> </table>	Sunday 24.10	10.30am 3.30pm 4pm	English Mass Rosary Malayalam Mass	Monday 25.10	No service		Tuesday 26.10	No service		Wednesday 27.10	No service		Thursday 28.10	No service		Friday 29.10	No service		Saturday 30.10	No service		Sunday 31.10	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass		<p style="text-align: center;">Updated Guidance:</p> <p>Hand Sanitiser will be available at the entrance. Wearing of face-coverings is highly recommended. During Mass, you can remain seated or stand, but please do not kneel. Congregational singing is again permitted. Holy Communion can be distributed with distancing. Some of our people will be very anxious at the sudden rise of Covid cases. We can be patient and caring towards each other, as we take this next big step towards normality.</p>
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First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass today.

Pope Francis October Intentions - Intention for evangelization - Missionary disciples.

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

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.

Today is Mission Sunday. There will be a **SECOND COLLECTION.**

Next Sunday: the Clocks will go back - All Saints (Solemnity).

Gospel background for Sunday 24th October 2021 - Mark 10:46-52.

Today we continue to read from Mark's Gospel. In this Gospel, we find evidence of Jesus' fame in the sizable crowd that accompanies him as he journeys to Jerusalem. Jesus' reputation as a healer has preceded him. When the blind man, Bartimaeus, hears that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by, he calls out to him, asking for his pity.

When Bartimaeus calls out to Jesus, the crowd around him tries to silence him. Yet Bartimaeus persists, calling out more loudly and with greater urgency. He will not be silenced or deterred from getting Jesus' attention. We notice how quickly the crowd's reaction changes when Jesus calls for Bartimaeus. Those who sought to quiet him now encourage him.

When Jesus restores Bartimaeus's sight, no elaborate action is required. (In other healing stories in Mark's Gospel, actions accompany Jesus' words). In this instance, Jesus simply says that Bartimaeus's faith has saved him. Throughout Mark's Gospel, the success of Jesus' healing power has often been correlated with the faith of the person requesting Jesus' help. For example, it is because of her faith that the woman with the hemorrhage is healed. When faith is absent, Jesus is unable to heal; we see this after his rejection in Nazareth.

Once his sight has been restored, Bartimaeus follows Jesus on his way to Jerusalem. In Mark's Gospel, Bartimaeus is the last disciple called by Jesus before he enters Jerusalem. Bartimaeus hears that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by, but he calls out to Jesus using words of faith—"Son of David." Many in Jesus' time believed that the anticipated Jewish Messiah would be a descendent of King David. Bartimaeus's words prepare us for the final episodes of Mark's Gospel, which begin with Jesus' preparation for the Passover and his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. As Mark has shown us in our readings over the past few Sundays, however, Jesus will be the Messiah in a way that will be difficult for many to accept. Jesus will show himself to be the Messiah through his suffering and death.

An Act of Spiritual Communion: 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

Here: Now: Us comes to Nottingham on Saturday 30 October. After 18 months of social distancing, join fellow Catholics to help the city's parishes grow as confident, outward-looking missionary communities. *Here: Now: Us* will help you put Catholic Social Teaching into action, grow in confidence and leadership, and reach out to the community. Parishioners from across Greater Nottingham are welcome. The day will stimulate not only imagination about what your parish can do, but also how we can work together across the conurbation. If you're at St Teresa's Aspley, St Hugh's Bilborough or St Thomas More's Wollaton, you get a special day of your own on 27 November. It will be at St Thomas More's Parish Social Centre, by invitation of the parishes in the west of Nottingham. If you're in those parishes you can now [book for that](#) as well.

Mother of God Children's Liturgy Group.

We are pleased to announce that we will be restarting our Children's Liturgy group for all young children of the parish on **Sunday 31st October**. Parents of very young children are also very welcome to join our sessions. We are looking forward to meeting up with you all again.

Mother of God Confirmation Programme.

Application forms for the Sacrament of Confirmation are now available at the back of the church or from Father George. Could the completed forms please be returned as soon as possible to Father George or to the box at the back of the church. Thank you.

West Leicester Catholic 300 Club

Thank you to all members for their continued support for the 300 Club's valuable fundraising for our parishes of Mother of God, Blessed Sacrament and St Peter's.

Grand Prize Draw:

The Grand Prize Draw will take place on Sunday 31st October 2021 with committee members only in attendance. The 1st Prize is £1,000, 2nd prize is £400, 3rd prize is £300, 4th prize is £200 and the usual quarterly £100 and weekly £50 and two £25 prizes. A reminder that only fully-paid up members are eligible for the draw.

300 Club 17th October: £50 M Pepler (216). £25 S O'Brien (228), P Sullivan (24).

Opening of World Wide Synodal 2021-2023

Pope Francis is calling the Church to rediscover its deeply synodal nature, which will involve a process of humbly discerning together, how God is calling us to be Church, in the third millennium. Please pray for the guidance and inspiration of God's Holy Spirit throughout this process.

Addressing the faithful of the Diocese of Rome, Pope Francis described the upcoming Synod – with the theme "For a synodal Church: communion, participation, mission" – as a journey in which the whole Church is engaged. He noted that the Synod will take place between October 2021 and October 2023, and that the itinerary has been conceived as "a dynamism of mutual listening, conducted at all levels of the Church, involving the whole the people of God".

The first stage of the process (October 2021 - April 2022) is the one concerning the individual diocesan Churches. "That is why I am here, as your bishop, to share, because it is very important that the Diocese of Rome commits itself with conviction to this journey", said the Pope. He explained that "synodality expresses the nature of the Church, its form, its style, its mission". The word "synod", in fact, contains everything we need to understand: "walking together".

See the full text and other reporting of the Synod at <https://www.vaticannews.va/>

Synod Prayer

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together
to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

We need more readers.

If you can help, please see Sharon Pritchard after mass.