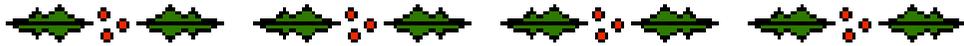


A huge thank you to everyone who, despite these difficult times, have kept the church going and contributed to clean, vacuum and polish the church.
A big thank you also to the Church Stewards and all our Supporters.

Father George would also like to thank you
For your Christmas greetings and gifts.

To all Parishioners and our Supporters
Best wishes for a wonderful and peaceful New Year 2022



Word of the Holy Father: Mary, Joseph, Jesus: the Holy Family of Nazareth which represents a choral response to the will of the Father: the three members of this family help each other reciprocally to discover God's plan. They prayed, worked, communicated. We must resume dialogue in the family: fathers, parents, sons, grandparents and siblings must communicate with one another ... This is today's homework, right on the day of the Holy Family. May the Holy Family be a model for our families, so that parents and children may support each other mutually in adherence to the Gospel, the basis of the holiness of the family.



New Year's Prayer

God, thank you for a new year.
May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate.
We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

Amen

Online Christmas Day Masses

<https://www.stjoseph-leicester.co.uk/> #ParishYouTube

Or St Thomas More
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrZu39_vJ0mfp50cVR4INiQ

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|  | <p><i>Mother of God</i> <i>Greencoat Road</i> <i>Leicester LE3 6NZ</i></p> | <p><i>Parish Priest:</i> <i>Fr. George Thomas</i> <i>gchelackal@gmail.com</i></p> |
| | <p>(0116) 287 5232 mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> |  <p>NRCDT- Registered Charity</p> |

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

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914

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|  | <p>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</p> | <p>26th December 2021 2nd January 2022</p> |
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|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 26.12 | 10.30am 4pm | English Mass Malayalam Mass | <p>Updated Omicron Guidance: Hand Sanitiser will be available at the entrance. Wearing of face coverings is obligatory. Congregational singing is permitted. Holy Communion can be distributed with distancing. Some people will be very anxious at the sudden rise of Covid cases. Please observe all the rules and keep a 2 metre distance, between each other, as we take next big step towards normality.</p> |
| Monday 27.12 | 10am | St John, Apostle and Evangelist | |
| Tuesday 28.12 | 10am | The Holy Innocents, Martyrs | |
| Wednesday 29.12 | 6pm | St Thomas of Canterbury (Becket) Bishop & Martyr | |
| Thursday 30.12 | 10am | | |
| Friday 31.12 | 10am 5.30pm | English Mass Malayalam Mass | |
| Saturday 1.01 | 10am | Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Solemnity) | |
| Sunday 2.01 | 10.30am 4pm | English Mass Malayalam Mass | |



Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for January 2022: For true human fraternity. We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Gospel background for Sunday 26th December – Luke 2:41-52

The boy Jesus is found in the Temple.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. This feast is part of the Christmas season, and we should place today's Gospel in the context of what Luke's Gospel tells us about the birth of Jesus. Luke has been answering the question "Who is Jesus?" through his stories of the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. Today's Gospel reading continues this theme. It has no parallel in the other Gospels and is the conclusion of Luke's Infancy Narrative.

Mary, Joseph, and Jesus are presented in this Gospel as a faithful Jewish family. They are participating in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, an event shared each year with family and friends. When Jesus is found, Luke describes him as seated in the Temple in the midst of the Jewish teachers. Although he is young, Jesus seems not to need teaching about his Jewish tradition. In his dialogue with these learned teachers, Jesus astounds them with his insight and understanding. Jesus is a child of Israel. His Father is God.

The dialogue between Mary and Jesus contains many references to family relationships. In fact, in this Gospel reading Mary and Joseph are never identified by name. Instead they are referred to by their relationship to Jesus. Ultimately, this emphasizes Luke's point about the identity of Jesus. When Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple, they question Jesus and express their anxiety. Jesus replies in words that many have thought to be disrespectful. Jesus says that he was never lost; he was at home. Jesus is God's Son, and he is in his Father's house. Luke will continue to suggest that faith in Jesus establishes new family relationships as he describes Jesus' public ministry.

In Luke's Gospel, Mary's importance is even greater than her role as Jesus' mother. Mary is the first disciple and will be present with Jesus' disciples after his Resurrection at Pentecost.

300 Club Results: 12th December £50 J Scott.

19th December: £50 N Tyrrell (173), £25 K Scott (1), L Mathew (146).

STOP PRESS! LATEST NEWS FROM LACY!!

Due to the rising number of infections with COVID at the present time, LACY have decided that instead of meeting at St. Patrick's Leicester for our event for young people entitled "HAVE YOUR SAY SYNOD '21 - '23", this will now take place online via Zoom on **9th January 2022 at 4pm**. A great opportunity for input about the SYNOD, discussion, fun time and a short liturgy will be shared together. **Save the date! Save the time!** We look forward to seeing all young people, families and friends. (Please note that all young people under the age of 18 should be present with an adult). Link in details for Zoom will be sent out at the beginning of January to schools and parishes and may also be found on our Facebook page @LACYcatholicyouthleics. Contact details: email paulinepayne@hotmail.com or claudiacoxon@googlemail.com.

Let's fan the flame and share our ideas with our Bishop, our Priests and each other!

Heaven's Road Catholic Online Radio www.heavensroadfm.com is an online radio broadcasting features like prayers, interviews and music to appeal to a Catholic audience - they also have many podcasts and broadcast over 40 daily live Masses from 15 churches in England and Ireland from their website www.heavensroadfm.com.

Ecological works of mercy. This month's edition of the Catholic News features a thought-provoking article by Fr Patrick Bassey (a priest at St Hugh's in Lincoln) about our new diocesan environmental journey. Following the COP26 climate summit, and the launch of our environmental policy framework last month, Fr. Patrick proposes 'seven ecological works of mercy'. The article comes in three instalments, with part two following in January's issue. Catholic News is independently published in the Diocese of Nottingham, and is available online or in parishes which have ordered hard copies. Download Fr Patrick's article. [Click for other editions of Catholic News](#)

Encountering God in your daily work - For four Wednesdays, starting on 12th January at 7pm, the diocese will be running an online course looking at how we can encounter Jesus in our daily work and how it can help us to grow in holiness too. We spend more hours in a week at work than doing most other activities (including going to church) so let's make an experience of daily glory rather than a daily grind. For more information visit: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/onlineevents [Click here to register](#)

Why does tax matter for people of faith? Early in the New Year, we invite you to this online presentation and workshop which we're organising in partnership with Church Action for Tax Justice and the National Justice and Peace Network. Recalling the mobilisation of the church community in the run up to the Millennium we will explore how a reformed and renewed tax system in the UK can contribute to the Common Good and build a more sustainable life for all. Join us on Monday 17 January at 7.30 p.m. to discover an increasingly important theme in Christian social witness. [Click here to book your place on Eventbrite](#)

Bishops' Statement: 'Honouring Sunday'

As your bishop, we recognise that prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the duty/obligation to attend Sunday Mass. We now encourage people to look again at the patterns which they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays. This would include consideration and reflection about what we might do on Sundays, such as sports or shopping, or other leisure and social activities. This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to all of us and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the Mass. The full statement from the Bishops of England and Wales is on www.cbcew.org.uk/bishopsstatement-honouring-sunday/

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.**

THANK
YOU!

We would like to thank all the people that offered food for the needy. We took the food to a hostel for homeless young people. They were very grateful and thankful for your generosity.