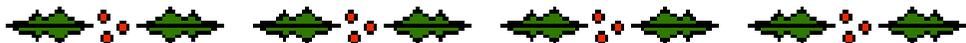


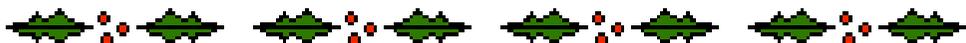
This week the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a perfect fulfilment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season.



The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated either on January 6 or, according to the decision of the episcopal conference, on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. The young Messiah is revealed as the light of the nations. Yet, as the antiphon for the *Magnificat* at Second Vespers reminds us, three mysteries are encompassed in this solemnity: the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the wedding feast at Cana. Extra candles and/or lamps may be placed around the sanctuary and in other parts of the church to honour Christ revealed as the Light of the Gentiles (*Ceremonial of Bishops*). It is customary to replace the images of the shepherds at the crib with the three Magi and their gifts.



Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.



Collect Prayer

**O God, who on this day revealed your
Only Begotten Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star,
grant in your mercy that we,
who know you already by faith,
may be brought to behold the beauty
of your sublime glory.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.**

Amen

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	(0116) 287 5232 mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk	 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/

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914

	Second Sunday after Nativity	2nd – 9th January 2022
	Epiphany of the Lord	

Sunday 2.01	10.30am 4pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass	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.
Monday 3.01	10am		
Tuesday 4.01	No service		
Wednesday 5.01	6pm		
Thursday 6.01 Epiphany of the Lord	10.30am		
Friday 7.01	10am 5.30pm	English Mass Malayalam Mass	
Saturday 8.01	10am		
Sunday 9.01	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.

Words of the Holy Father

It is the invitation of the Holy Mother Church to welcome this Word of salvation, this mystery of light. If we welcome him, if we welcome Jesus, we will grow in the knowledge and the love of the Lord, we will learn to be merciful like him.

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

Gospel background for Sunday 2nd January 2022 - John 1:1-18

The opening words of John's Gospel, and our Gospel today, is when the early Church made that huge, incredible leap of faith to be able to say, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God..."*

"In the beginning ...", not at his baptism or his birth or even his conception; even before the prophets and Moses and Abraham and Adam and Eve....

"In the beginning" - the beginning of time itself - *...was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....* and then the truly awesome part.... *"and the Word became flesh, and lived among us, and we saw his glory..."*

Suddenly, in these words, it all seems to come together and make sense. The death and resurrection of Jesus, his baptism, his healings and teachings, his birth and conception, all of the Old Testament ...everything, absolutely everything, goes back to who our God is, to the very life of God, and that life is LOVE... nothing more, nothing less, just Love - endless, patient, gentle, forgiving, tender, LOVE.

It is a love captured in Rublev's icon of the Trinity - that circular movement of unity in difference, humble, content, eternal.

It is a love that seeks nothing other than to share itself with us, and it does.... *"the Word became flesh, and lived among us..."* Love itself came to live with us.

Theology can be made very complicated and in some ways that is necessary to ensure that our relationship with God grows and develops in a truthful and reflective way.

But at its heart the message of the Gospel is wonderfully simple. It has been understood through the ages by those with no education or wealth or status in life. Everyone who has loved or been loved, everyone who is open to love or tries to love has encountered God, because God is LOVE!

300 Club Results: 12th December £50 H Patecka (210), £25 J Scott (99), C Fisher (117). 19th December: £50 N Tyrrell (173), £25 K Scott (1), L Mathew (146).

Latest new from LACY (Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth).

Due to the current COVID situation we have changed the venue to ON LINE VIA

ZOOM! We've changed the time to 4.00 P.M. A great opportunity for all young people, their families and friends to join us! All young people under the age of 18 should be present with an adult. Link information: Topic: **"Have Your Say Synod"**

with Young People Time: Jan 9, 2022 04:00 PM : Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82612564814?pwd=Y1JzbW1VbkYONXluZVg4d1FuSHNyUT09> : Meeting ID: 826 1256 4814: Passcode: 1guH1F

Bring your thoughts and ideas and tell us how you would like to share your Faith and become more engaged and involved in your parishes and in your area! We look forward to seeing you. Contact paulinepayne@hotmail.com for further information.

Exciting times with Exciting Young People!

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](#)

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.**

Online Masses

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

Or St Thomas More

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrZu39_vJ0mfp50cVR4INiQ

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.



~ Tea/coffee after the 10.30am Mass every Sunday in the hall.
Please join us!