

World Day of the Sick 2022

Each year on **February 11 World Day of the Sick** is celebrated, and was established by **Pope John Paul II**, as a way for followers to pray fervently for all those struggling from illnesses. It is a real potential for all those who work in Christian ministry of health to perceive trying to think about someone who is ill and those who provide treatment to them. The commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes falls on this day.

Pope John Paul II was stricken with Alzheimer's disease in 1991, an illness that was only recently discovered, and he chose to establish the World Day of the Sick only a year after his diagnosis. In 1992, Pope John Paul II established the day to encourage people to pray for those who are suffering from the disease's consequences as well as their caretakers.

"Come to me, all you who labour and are oppressed and I will give you rest," Jesus said on World Day of the Sick in 2021. (Mt 11:28). The concept refers to a spiritual path of beauty that is revealed to the simplest and empowers those who might be exhausted and weary. On this day, people all around the world make a special effort to pray to God for the sick and for those who work to alleviate their suffering. Faith groups commemorate this day by providing drugs, food, and religious counselling to the ill.

Pope Francis' Message for the 30th World Day of the Sick

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for February 2022: For religious sisters and consecrated women. We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

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.**

A Prayer for our Parish Community

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on all who share
in the life and work of our Church and Parish:
In the ministry of word and sacrament, in teaching and pastoral care,
in service to the Diocese and Deanery. The community and those in need,
in ecumenical fellowship and co-operation.
We pray for all members of the congregation, that in their life and work
they may advance your kingdom and bear witness to your love,
shown in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



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

	<p>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉mogparish@gmail.com <u>www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</u></p>	<p>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas <u>gchelackal@gmail.com</u></p> <p>NRCDT- Registered Charity</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Our Schools:</p> <p>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;">Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914</p>		
	<p style="text-align: center;">Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6th – 13th February 2022</p>	

<p>Sunday 6.02</p> <p>10.30am</p> <p>4pm</p>	<p>English Mass - Catherine Stretton & Jimmy Finnegan</p> <p>Malayalam Mass George Mattathikunnel RIP</p>	<p>Updated Omicron Guidance: The new guidance recommends that you still wear a face covering. Hand sanitiser will be available at the entrance. Please do not attend church if you display a sign of illness. Hymn books can be distributed. Holy Communion can be distributed with distancing. Some copies of the new guidance will be available on the table in the church porch.</p>
<p>Monday 7.02</p> <p>No service</p>		
<p>Tuesday 8.02</p> <p>10am</p>	<p>People of the Parish</p>	
<p>Wednesday 9.02</p> <p>6pm</p>	<p>People of the Parish</p>	
<p>Thursday 10.02</p> <p>10am</p>	<p>People of the Parish</p>	
<p>Friday 11.02</p> <p>10am</p>	<p>Our Lady of Lourdes</p>	
<p>Saturday 12.02</p> <p>10am</p>	<p>People of the Parish</p>	
<p>Sunday 13.02</p> <p>10.30am</p> <p>4pm</p>	<p>English Mass Malayalam Mass</p>	

Feasts of the week: Friday: Our Lady of Lourdes.

Words of the Holy Father

Jesus' response to Simon Peter is reassuring and decisive: "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men". This is the logic that guides Jesus' mission and the mission of the Church: go in search, "fish" for men and women, not to proselytize, but to restore full dignity and freedom to all, through the forgiveness of sins. This is the essential point of Christianity: to spread the free and regenerative love of God, with a welcoming and merciful attitude toward everyone, so that each person can encounter God's tenderness and have the fullness of life. Today's Gospel challenges us: do we know how to truly trust in the Word of the Lord? Or do we let ourselves become discouraged by our failures? May the Virgin Mary help us to ever better understand that being disciples means placing our feet in the footprints left by the Master: they are the footprints of divine grace that restore life for all.

Gospel background for Sunday 6th February - Luke 5:1-11

The fishermen (Simon, James, and John) leave their fishing boats and follow Jesus.

Last Sunday, we heard how Jesus was rejected in his hometown of Nazareth. In the verses that follow, Jesus travels to the town of Capernaum and begins his ministry of teaching and healing. While in Capernaum, Jesus cures a man possessed with a demon and heals Simon's mother-in-law. After spending some time there, Jesus prepares to preach in other places. The fact that Jesus had previously been in Simon's home and healed his mother-in-law suggests that this encounter is not the first between Jesus and Simon Peter. We can read today's Gospel, therefore, as a description of the developing relationship between Jesus and Simon Peter.

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches from Simon's boat. Jesus turns to Simon and instructs him about where to lower the fishing nets. Simon and others have been fishing throughout the night and have not caught anything. Simon protests, claiming that such an effort would be futile. Simon ultimately obeys Jesus and lowers his nets into the deeper water as directed. Notice here that Peter calls Jesus by the title "master." He already recognizes Jesus as a person of authority. They catch so many fish that the nets begin to tear; Jesus' presence has created abundance out of scarcity, just as it did at the wedding feast at Cana, which we heard at Mass just a few weeks ago.

Simon Peter becomes a follower of Jesus immediately. He calls Jesus "Lord"—the title given to Jesus after his Resurrection—and protests his worthiness to be in Jesus' presence. Today's Gospel, therefore, marks a turning point in the relationship between Jesus and Peter.

Two of Simon's partners are also named as witnesses to the event described in today's Gospel: Zebedee's sons, James and John. Yet Jesus' words are addressed only to Simon. Jesus gives Simon a new job, telling him that he will become a different kind of fisherman. No longer will he catch fish; instead he will catch people. In these words, we hear the beginning of the leadership role that Peter will have within the community of disciples. Peter was chosen for this role. His task will be to bring others to Jesus. Already he is doing so; the Gospel tells us that all the fishermen with Peter also left their nets and followed Jesus.

We continue to speak of Peter's leadership and influence in the Church today when we call the pope the "successor of Peter." We participate in the mission of the Church when we bring people to Christ through the example and positive influence of our lives.

Caritas seeks fundraising volunteer / freelancer. Over the next three years Caritas Diocese of Nottingham hopes to develop a number of outreach projects that will require external funding. Here's a flavour of the plans:

- Helping parishes open 'listening centres', drop-ins and well-being sessions
- Affordable counselling services for people on low incomes
- Developing environmental initiatives for our Pioneer Parishes scheme
- Promoting racial equality and inclusion through our parishes and in society.

If you have experience of applying to the Lottery or grantmaking trusts, or would like to help in another way, Caritas would love to hear from you. Initially the role would be voluntary, but if funding can be secured remuneration may be possible on a freelance basis. Email Paul at caritas@dioceseofnottingham.uk to find out more.

300 Club Results: 30th January £100 K O'Brien (3). £50 J Waldron (227). £25 A Pipes (86), D Fitzgerald (299).

Florence Perkins RIP: Her body will be received at St. Peter's Church, Hinckley Road, on Tuesday 8th February at 4pm. Funeral mass will be on Wednesday 9th of February at 8am, followed by burial at Gilroes Cemetery. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

Walk against Hunger. Are you ready to change your life and transform someone else's this Lent? Challenge yourself to walk 200k this Lent and help stamp out hunger, one step at a time. You can walk, roll, skip or stroll your way to 200k. You can boldly go it alone and take it on 5k a day for 40 days, or you can smash the target all at once as a team. There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. So, this Lent, challenge yourself to conquer 200k, and help give hunger its marching orders.

[Sign up now](https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-Against-Hunger) <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-Against-Hunger>

Show the Love this Valentine's Day. CAFOD joins the Climate Coalition's Show the Love campaign every Valentine's Day to talk about how the things we love are affected by climate change. Join us to show decision makers that we want to see real and rapid action to tackle the climate and nature crisis -for the love of our families, our homes, our livelihoods and our planet. cafod.org.uk/showthelove.

Parish Finances. All financial contributions made by parishioners are very much appreciated at any time and we greatly appreciate those who have been able to continue to contribute throughout the pandemic. Many parishioners contribute through Planned Giving Envelopes. The time has come to order April 2022 - March 2023 envelopes. You might want to reconsider your way of giving and change to standing order. You do not have to be a tax payer to do this. Please see Father George or Maila after Mass. A Standing Order Mandate form will be available for you to take to your bank.

**Our Account Name: MOTHER OF GOD LEICESTER RCP -
Account number: 01538822 - Sort code: 30-94-97. Thank you.**

WEST LEICESTER CATHOLIC 300 CLUB

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

The committee is pleased to announce the dividend for the year ending October 2021 is £7,500, to be split equally between our parishes, at £2,500 per parish.

Subscriptions remain at £5 per month for the new year - November 2021 to October 2022, with prize money as last year: **Weekly:** 1 x £50 plus 2 x £25 - **Quarterly:** 1 x £100 - **Year End:** 1 x £1,000 plus bonus prizes. Membership is continuous year after year, unless the committee is advised otherwise.

Please see our "History and Today" and "300 Club Rules and Membership Form" documents on our parish website. Not a member? If you would like to join, please contact either Marian: 0116 2246 258, or Anna and Pio (0116 2892 697) (Blessed Sacrament and St Peter's) or John: 0116 2312862 / Ted: 07737 320 878 (Mother of God).