




Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk!

Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. CAFOD's Lent walking challenge is back, and this year it's the Big Lent Walk! We are very excited and would love for you to join us as we walk to help fight global poverty. Whether you're taking on the 40 day challenge on your own or part of a school or community/parish group, we'd love to have you as part of CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. This Lent CAFOD is supporting families with the skills and tools they've asked for to fight the climate crisis. In Bangladesh, 14-year-old Dristy and her Mum Rupali are building seed beds and planting palm trees to protect their crops from flooding and cyclones. [Sign up now!](#)

 Please keep in your prayer all the sick and housebound people of the parish. If you know of anybody who would like a visit from Fr. George, please let him know.



Almighty God,

*Creator of the earth in which we live,
Help us today in our search for peaceful ways
To avoid wars, to eliminate terrorism and tyranny
And to establish justice for peoples of all races and faiths.*

*We pray that the billions of peace-loving
People of goodwill throughout the nations,
Will join together in prayer and action
To bring love where there is hatred,
Friendship where there is enmity,
And justice where there is oppression. Amen.*

**We continue to pray for Ukraine and its people
and for all the war-torn countries in the world.**

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.



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NRCDT- Registered Charity

Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ckleicester.co.uk/
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914



Third week of Ordinary Time

**22nd – 29th
January 2023**

Sunday 22.01.2023	10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass - Frances McLaughlin RIP Malayalam Mass	<p>The Pope's prayer intention for January 2023.</p> <p>For educators We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.</p> <p>This week's Mass Intentions for all parishioners.</p>
Monday 23.01	No service		
Tuesday 24.01	No service		
Wednesday 25.01	No service		
Thursday 26.01	No service		
Friday 27.01	No service		
Saturday 28.01	No service		
Sunday 29.01	10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass- Malayalam Mass	

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18th -25th January. As we join with other Christians around the world for the Week of Prayer we pray that our hearts will be open to see and hear the many ways in which racism continues to destroy lives, and to discern the steps we can take as individuals and communities to heal the hurts and build a better future for everyone

Cycle or Prayer during Ordinary Time Winter:

Peace on Earth. Openness to the Word of God. Christian Unity. The Sick and Those who Care for Them. Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it.
The Unemployed.

Feasts of the week:

Tuesday, St. Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor. Wednesday, The Conversion of St. Paul. Thursday, SS Timothy and Titus, bishops. Saturday, St. Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor.

Gospel background for Sunday 22nd January 2023 – Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins to preach in Galilee and calls his first disciples.

Today's Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

Words of the Holy Father: Let us think about what Jesus said to them: I will make you fishers of men. He was speaking to fishermen, using the language they understood. Their lives changed on the spot. He called them where they were and as they were, in order to make them sharers in his mission. "Immediately they left their nets and followed him" (v. 20). Why immediately? Simply because they felt drawn. They did not hurry off because they had received an order, but because they were drawn by love. To follow Jesus, mere good works are not enough; we have to listen daily to his call. He, who alone knows us and who loves us fully, leads us to put out into the deep of life. Just as he did with the disciples who heard him.

Mrs. Margaret O'Connor RIP. Funeral details: Reception into church on Thursday 2nd February at 6pm. Funeral Mass on Friday 3rd February at 10am followed by burial at Gilroes Cemetery. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

Mr Terry Dwyer's wife Joan RIP, has died on Christmas Eve. Mr Dwyer has been a member of our church since it opened. Our sincere and deepest condolences to her family and friends.

300 Club Draw 8th January: £50 G Hallett (60). £25 Mr/Mrs A Murphy (40), S O'Brien (228).

English Martyr's Start of term letter available from the church porch. If you have a child attending the school, please take a copy.

English Martyr's Preloved School Uniforms. As part of our commitment to helping families and part of Eco-Martyrs. As a school we will be running a pre-loved uniform shop. We invite all parents to take advantage of this shop to help replace and part of uniform their children might be missing. The shop will be open between 3 and 4 in our main reception on the following dates: **15th March, 19th April, 17th May, 14th June.** See poster in church porch.

Just a little reminder that the first of our three new Catechist Courses start on Monday 16th January (7-9pm) it is more than likely finish before 9. The Encounter Catechesis course will take place at Our Lady of Lincoln parish but you can join at exactly the same time on Zoom. I've attached a flyer about the three pathways for more information and here is the link to register: <https://forms.office.com/r/Q6QNn7yYzV>. You can attend in person at one of the courses at St Patrick's Catholic Church, Beaumont Leys Ln, Leicester LE4 2BD, Cost: £35. **Who is it for?** These four sessions will help identify key principles to develop a culture of ongoing catechesis, formation and discipleship. Ideal for those more experienced catechists or anyone who would like to take their parish catechesis further. **Dates Topics:** 17/4/23 Leading a team of catechists and creating your own resources. 24/4/23 Family Focused Catechesis. 15/5/23 Catechesis for those with Special & Additional Needs. 22/5/23 Ongoing Formation and Discipleship.

Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages. Help Your Marriage - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, or a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk. See poster in church porch.

Open Hearts Becoming a hospitable Church for a hostile environment. Tuesday, 28 February at 7pm. An informal online conversation to explore how we can support those fleeing violence and destitution, or settling in our diocese for a better life. Meet others who want to help those seeking asylum recover their human dignity. Explore the potential of a network for advocacy and practical service to those who are arriving in our diocese from overseas. We'll seek out solutions for action, whether as individuals, as parishes or as a diocese. [Book for Open Hearts on 28 February](#)



Please join us in the Hall for tea and coffee after the 10.30 Mass on Sunday.