

**CAFOD Big Lent Walk - Josephine**, from the Music Group, will be taking part in the CAFOD Big Lent Walk, walking 200 kilometres over the 40 days of Lent. To sponsor Josephine and raise funds for the vital work of CAFOD, visit her page on <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/josephine> or fill in the form at the back of church. If you'd like to walk with Josephine for part of the way, please speak to her after Mass today.'

**CAFOD community rosary.** Every Thursday morning, 9:00am-9:40am. Join us every Thursday morning at 9:00 am on Zoom, as we pray the Joyful mysteries of the rosary for the Care of Creation together as a CAFOD community. We offer these joyful mysteries, nourishing our commitment to care for the earth. Join us as together in prayer, guided by Mary, Mother of God, we let these mysteries penetrate deep within us and respond with reverence for all God's creation. **Register to join us.**

### CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For **more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.**

### The Pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving

Saint Augustine described "Prayer, fasting and almsgiving" as the Pillars of Lent. The role of any pillar is to support, from the soft pillar we rest our head on each night to the pillars of the buildings we live and work in; they all support something. Pillars of Lent support our way of living the Gospel. The ideals of prayer, fasting and almsgiving support us on our whole Christian journey rather than are something we inflict on ourselves for just forty days of the year. Jesus summed up the pillars of discipleship - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." (Prayer) "You shall love your neighbour (almsgiving) as yourself (fasting)" Matt 22:37,39. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving remind us to put our relationships right again (conversion).

Prayer places us into right relationship with God

Fasting places us into right relationship with our self (our body)

Almsgiving places us into right relationship with others (almsgiving)

**Feasts of the week:** Tuesday, SS Perpetua & Felicity, martyrs. Wednesday, St. John of God, religious. Thursday, St Frances of Rome, religious.



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.

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



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



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*NRCDT- Registered Charity*

Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - [www.ctkleicester.co.uk/](http://www.ctkleicester.co.uk/)  
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - [www.emschool.co.uk/](http://www.emschool.co.uk/)

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914



**Second Sunday of Lent**

**5<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



**Stations of the Cross  
every Friday after morning  
Mass.**

Sunday 5.03	7am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass - Vanessa Lopes (Thanks) Malayalam Mass - Lukose Joseph RIP	<p><b>The Pope's prayer intention for March 2023.</b></p> <p><i>For victims of abuse We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.</i></p> <p><b>This week's Mass Intentions for all parishioners.</b></p>
Monday 6.03	No Service		
Tuesday 7.03	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Wednesday 8.03	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Thursday 9.03	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Friday 10.03	9.30am 10am 5pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass Silent Adoration & Malayalam Mass	
Saturday 11.03	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent - 12.03	7am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass Malayalam Mass	

### CAFOD SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY

Please use an envelope for your donation, if you are a tax-payer.

*Throughout Lent we are asked to pray for the following intentions:*

Candidates for the Sacraments. The Needy and Hungry of the World. Women's World Day of Prayer. Survivors of Sexual Abuse. Penitents and Wanderers

### LENTEN PRAYER

Almighty and Everlasting God, You have given the human race Jesus Christ our Saviour as a model of humility. He fulfilled Your will by becoming man and giving His life on the Cross. Help us to bear witness to You by following His example of suffering and make us worthy to share in His Resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

Please take a copy of document from Bishop Patrick,  
Re: receiving the Eucharist this Lent.

## Gospel background for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Matthew 17:1-9.

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

For the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert to his Transfiguration. Each year on the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday of Lent each year, we hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The story of Jesus' Transfiguration is told in the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In each of those Gospels, the Transfiguration follows Jesus' first prediction of his death and his teaching about the costs of discipleship. Jesus' Transfiguration is a promise of Jesus' glory, his Resurrection.

On a mountain in today's reading, a voice affirms that Jesus is God's Son in words reminiscent of the voice at Jesus' baptism. In addition, the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the mountain connects this story with God's relationship to the people of Israel. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, respectively. Together with Jesus, they represent God's complete Word.

The Transfiguration occurs in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples: Peter, James, and John. In Matthew's Gospel, those disciples are among the first whom Jesus calls. The three men are identified as an "inner circle" among Jesus' disciples when Jesus asks them to accompany him to the Garden of Gethsemane just before his arrest.

**Words of the Holy Father:** During the 40 days of Lent, as Christians we are invited to follow in Jesus' footsteps and face the spiritual battle with the Evil One with the strength of the Word of God. Not with our words: they are worthless. The Word of God: this has the strength to defeat Satan. For this reason, it is important to be familiar with the Bible: read it often, meditate on it, assimilate it. The Bible contains the Word of God, which is always timely and effective. Someone has asked: what would happen were we to treat the Bible as we treat our mobile phone? Were we to read God's messages contained in the Bible as we read telephone messages, what would happen? Clearly the comparison is paradoxical, but it calls for reflection. Indeed, if we had God's Word always in our heart, no temptation could separate us from God, and no obstacle could divert us from the path of good.

Please collect your weekly envelope donations boxes from the back of the Church for the next tax year. If anyone would like one, please add your name to the sheet. An alternative method of donating would be by standing order- direct into our bank account. This can be weekly, monthly or annually to suit your circumstances. Our account details are: Sort code 30-94-97 Lloyds Bank, Account no 01538822. Account name Mother of God Leicester RCP. If you are a tax payer a Gift Aid Declaration only requires one signature for an additional 25% of every donation - **25p of tax for every £1 you donate, at no extra cost to you.** All donations in this challenging financial time are greatly appreciated.

**300 Club Draw 26<sup>th</sup> February:** £50 K O'Brien (3). £25 Mrs V Sweeney, A Valente (178).

**300 CLUB DIVIDEND.** Thank you to all our 300 Club members for your continued and new support for this valuable fundraising initiative for our parishes of Mother of God, The Most Blessed Sacrament and St Peter. The committee is happy to announce a total dividend of £7,200 for the year ending October 2022, to be split evenly between our three churches, as before, and cheques will shortly be issued to the value of £2,400 per church. Not a member? Please see the photographed poster on the Notice Board in each church porch - any queries, contact Marian on 0116 2246 258. Existing members: Please call if you wish to advise of any change of address since you became a member, as we can then be sure any winning cheques will be correctly addressed.

**Faith and Footprint: Caring for Creation** - Tuesday 7 March 2023 at 7pm on Zoom. Join us for inspiration from CAFOD's Livesimply scheme and our own Pioneer Parishes. Caritas supports a network of people like you who see how our faith calls us to live on the Earth. Join us to answer the call of Pope Francis in Laudato Si to care for our common home. We'll explore how to: 'join the dots' between faith and footprint and help our fellow parishioners do the same reduce our parishes' own carbon footprint, and our own help to restore nature at our church and at home contribute to the renewal of our parish and our own faith in harmony with creation. A warm welcome to you and to Will Cruddace who will be joining us from CAFOD. We are planning three of these get-togethers through the year which you are very welcome to join. The others are as follows: Monday 5 June, World Environment Day. Tuesday 3 October, eve of St Francis' Day. [Book for Faith & Footprint, 7 March](#)

**Share, inspire, support: sharing good news, building resilience**- parishioners and clergy in Leicester and Leicestershire are invited to the third bi-monthly meeting of Caritas Leicester hub, to share ideas and experience, to inspire and support each other and to explore new ways of working together. Please come along to St Peter's parish, [Hinckley](#) (Mary Forryan Centre) on Thursday March 9th from 7-9pm, when there will be a short presentation of local projects and an opportunity to discuss how to support resilience in projects which take off. (Just turning up is fine, but it would be helpful to have some idea of numbers, so if you're able to let us know, drop an email to [cmdanaher66@gmail.com](mailto:cmdanaher66@gmail.com)).

**Retreats in the Diocese of Nottingham this Lent** - After the great success of last year, the Diocese of Nottingham is again offering day retreats to help you grow closer to God this Lent. There is a FREE Young Adults (18-35) retreat in Derby on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> a Men's Retreat on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March and a Women's Retreat on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March. The Men's and Women's Retreat will be held at the Rosmini House of Prayer (LE7 4SJ) and cost £20 which will include lunch and a light breakfast. To book or for more information visit: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events), email [adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham](mailto:adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham) or call 0115 953 9841.

**INTER CARE WITH LACY:** Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth invite all young people, families and friends to join them on Sunday 12th March at 2pm in a social walk, doing laps of Knighton Park to raise funds for Inter Care which provides free access to medical aid for vulnerable patients across sub-Saharan Africa. All monies received will help towards medical aid for the people of Africa. 4pm hot drinks and cake at St. Thomas More Church, 75 Knighton Road, LE2 3HN. 5pm a Youth Mass will be celebrated for us by Fr. Simon Gillespie. The Mass will be offered for the vulnerable people of sub-Saharan South Africa. Sponsor forms available from [paulinepayne@hotmail.com](mailto:paulinepayne@hotmail.com) and [fundraising@intercare.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@intercare.org.uk). All donations to Just Giving: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/lacysponsoredwalk2023>.

**Calling Catholic Teachers.** If you are a Catholic teacher currently working outside of Catholic education and would like to find out more about the joys of working in a Catholic school within the Diocese of Nottingham, a virtual information session will take place on **Wednesday 29th March** from 7.00pm - 8.30pm. See the poster on the parish notice board for further information, and to book contact: Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan Education Service ([julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk](mailto:julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk)).

**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.