

Holy Week Celebrations

Monday 3.04	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass
Tuesday 4.04	9.30am 10am 10.00am Onwards	Silent Adoration Holy Mass Confessions
Wednesday 5.04	No service at MOG	
Maundy Thursday 6.04	9.30am 6.30pm	Malayalam Service English Service
Good Friday 7.04	9.30am 3pm	Malayalam Service English Service
Holy Saturday 8.04	9.30am 6.30pm 9pm	Malayalam Service Easter Vigil Malayalam Service
Easter Sunday 9.04	10.30am	Holy Mass

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.



'CAFOD's 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.'

PILGRIMAGES

Pilgrimage to Lisieux by Coach June 5th - 8th 2023. (Pick up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester). The cost of the Pilgrimage is £380 sharing and £410 for a single room. We will begin our Pilgrimage with a Guided visit to the Cathedral in Lisieux and then to the Basilica dedicated to St. Therese, to the house where she grew up and to the Carmel where she lived and died. In addition to this there'll be an optional excursion to Hon Fleur. For more information and a booking form please contact Fr. John McCay at jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk or 07853068189.



Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage under the leadership of Bishop Patrick McKinney. The Lourdes Theme for 2023 is "Go and tell the priests to build a chapel here" We look forward to welcoming you on pilgrimage! Saturday 15th - Thursday 20th July. By air for 5 Nights from £709. For more details, please contact www.tangney-tours.com/nottingham - 01732 886666.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Nevers by Coach September 23rd - 30th 2023. (Pick up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester). The cost is £715 per person. This price includes Coach and Ferry travel, overnight stay with Bed and Breakfast at the Ibis Hotel in Orleans on the way out, full board at the Hotel Irlande in Lourdes, half board at the Kyriad Hotel in Nevers on the way back. In addition to this there's an optional excursion to Gavarnie, a Ski Resort in the Pyrenees. For more information and a booking form please contact Fr. John McCay at jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk or 07853068189.

	<p><i>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</i></p> <p>(0116) 287 5232 mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p>	<p><i>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com george.thomas@dioceseofnottingham.uk</i></p>  <p>NRC DT - Registered Charity</p>
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Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctkleicester.co.uk/
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914

	<p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Sixth Week of Lent – Holy Week</p> <p>2nd – 9th April 2023</p>	
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Sunday 2.04	10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Malayalam Mass	<p>The Pope's prayer intention for April 2023.</p> <p><i>For a culture of peace and non-violence.</i></p> <p>We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.</p> <p>This week's Mass Intentions for all parishioners.</p>
Monday 3.04	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Tuesday 4.04	9.30am 10am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass Confessions until 12.30pm	
Wednesday 5.04		Chrism Mass at St. Barnaba's Cathedral No Mass at MOG	
Maundy Thursday 6.04	9.30am 6.30pm	Malayalam Service English Service	
Good Friday 7.04	9.30am 3pm	Malayalam Service English Service	
Holy Saturday 8.04	9.30am 6.30pm 9.00pm	Malayalam Service Easter Vigil Malayalam service	
Easter Sunday 9.04	10.30am	Holy Mass No Malayalam service.	

SECOND COLLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY FOR THE HOLY PLACES.

Please note that there will be no Children's Liturgy and no refreshments in the hall on Easter Sunday. Both events will take place as usual the following Sunday.



Raffle tickets will be drawn this Sunday, April 2nd after the 10:30 am mass. A day of celebration & thanksgiving for the many generous parishioners and friends who donated making the fundraising a huge success. Please come and join us in the hall for drinks, cakes and biscuits.



Please keep in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish.
We continue to pray for Ukraine and its people and
for all the war-torn countries in the world.

Background on the Gospel Reading Matthew 26:14-27:66.

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

We read the Passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Matthew on Palm, or Passion, Sunday. (On Good Friday, we will read the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John). The story of Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the will of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to the Father to take away the cup of suffering, but each time, Jesus concludes by affirming his obedience to the Father's will (Matthew 26:39-44). Even Matthew's description of Jesus' death shows Jesus' obedience to the Father.

Another theme of Matthew's Gospel is to show Jesus as the fulfilment of Scripture. Throughout the Passion narrative, Matthew cites and alludes to Scripture to show that the events of Jesus' Passion and death are in accordance with all that was foretold. And if the events were foretold, then God is in control. In addition, Matthew is particularly concerned that the reader does not miss the fact that Jesus is the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament.

Jesus acts in obedience to the Father even in death, so that sins may be forgiven. Matthew makes this clear in the story of the Lord's Supper. As Jesus blesses the chalice, he says: ". . . for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:28)

While the Gospels of Matthew and Mark have many parallels in their narrative of the Passion, there are a few details worth noting that are unique to Matthew. Only Matthew indicates the price paid to Judas for betraying Jesus. The story of Judas's death is also found only in Matthew, as is the detail that Pilate's wife received a warning in a dream and that Pilate washed his hands of Jesus' death. Finally, Matthew's Gospel alone mentions the earthquakes and other phenomena that happened after Jesus' death.

Matthew places the responsibility for Jesus' death on the Sanhedrin, the chief priests and elders who were responsible for the Temple. However, the animosity that those Jewish leaders and the Jewish people demonstrate toward Jesus is not to be interpreted in ways that blame the Jewish people for Jesus' death. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, the narrative reflects the tension that probably existed between the early Christian community and their Jewish contemporaries. At the Second Vatican Council, the Council Fathers made clear that all sinners share responsibility for the suffering and death of Jesus and that it is wrong to place blame for Jesus' Passion on the Jewish contemporaries of Jesus or on Jewish people today.

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus' Passion. In the characters of Matthew's Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus' darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross. Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair. Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task—to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus' obedience won for us.

David Collins RIP passed away this week. We offer our sincere and deepest condolences to his wife Mairead, his family and friends. His funeral will be at MOG on Wednesday 19th April at 11am, followed by burial at Gilroes Cemetery at 12.30am.

300 Club Draw 26th March: £50 D Sherratt (104). £25 Mr N Phelan (132), M Pepler (216).

Following the success of the Saint Bernadette Relic Tour last October, the Diocese has produced a **Relic Tour Souvenir Book** recalling the Visit, with many photographs of the two days, the texts of the homilies preached, and prayerful reflections. Priced at just **£2.50**, orders can be placed with your parish priest / parish office, for delivery before Easter. Orders received by 3rd April will also receive a Complimentary Lourdes Prayer card.

Talking Philosophy and Theology: A Carmelite Perspective will be held virtually at 8.00pm until till 10.00pm, on Wednesday 19th April (Theology); Wednesday 3rd May (Philosophy) and Wednesday 17th May (Theology). Also 1.00pm until 3.00pm on Thursday 13th April (Philosophy) and Wednesday 3rd May (Philosophy). For more information refer to the three explanatory documents.

The SPUC Pro-Life Chain. Take part in a nationwide act of witness to the lives of the 10 million unborn babies killed by abortion since the implementation of the Abortion Act in 1968. The Nottingham chain will be on Trent Bridge, West Bridgford, from 10am until midday on **Saturday 22nd April**. Meet at the Brewhouse and Kitchen pub on the north side of the bridge, at 9.55am. For more information contact John on 07757 815 625 or email SPUCnottingham@gmail.com. Be a voice for the voiceless.

Vacancy: Office Manager. Missio have an opportunity for an outstanding Office Manager to support our operational effectiveness, managing all aspects of administration. Missio works alongside global communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. We work with some of the poorest communities in the world to create a vibrant Catholic Church for the future. [Apply Here](#)

Vacancy: JRS - Communications & Marketing Officer. The Communications and Marketing Officer is a varied and dynamic role developing written and visual content which: raises awareness of the situation faced by people seeking asylum and held in immigration detention in the UK; the work JRS does in response; and the difference supporters' donations makes to individuals' lives. [Apply Here.](#)

† 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.