

A message from Bishop Patrick regarding Sudan

As the situation worsens, the Church in Sudan asks for our prayers. I invite you to join me in praying for the horrendous situation in Sudan, and especially for all God's children who are affected most deeply by it.

Lord, that there might be, in the short term, a ceasefire and in the long term, a complete end to this divisive fighting which is tearing the country and children apart.

Bring justice and healing to this divided land, we pray.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us

Saint Josephine Bakhita, pray for us

Saint Michael the Archangel, pray for us

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

On 21st April Kinga von Schierstaedt, Project Co-ordinator for ACN (Aid to the Church in Need) in Africa and Head of Projects in Sudan, gave an interview detailing the dangers and uncertainties facing our brothers and sisters in Sudan. Let it inform and guide our heartfelt prayers. Available to view on the diocesan website: www.dioceseofnottigham.uk/news/sudan

Feasts of the week: Saturday, St. Matthias Apostle.

Mother of God Holy Communion

Children from the Malayalam Community will have their First Holy Communion on Saturday 17th June at 11.30am. 8 children from the English Community will have their First Holy Communion on Sunday 18th June during the 10.30am Mass. Please keep the children in your prayers.

At the 10.30 Mass last Sunday, people voted regarding changing the Mass time to 10am instead of 10.30 am. The votes were counted in the hall after Mass and there were several people watching the count so all is in order.

Those in favour of Mass at 10.00am - 66 votes.

Those in favour of keeping the Mass at 10.30am - 131 votes.

So, there is quite a substantial majority in favour of keeping Mass at the same time as now, 10.30am.

Safeguarding Sunday. The Diocese has designated Sunday May 14th as Safeguarding Sunday. This is an opportunity for the Diocese to reflect on the theology and spirituality of safeguarding and to express gratitude for the work of all our parish safeguarding representatives, who assist us in assuring that our Church is a safe place for all children and vulnerable adults. To inform congregations of the journey of the Catholic Church and how safeguarding has evolved over the years and the current changes that have now been implemented.



Mother of God
Greencoat Road
Leicester LE3 6NZ

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

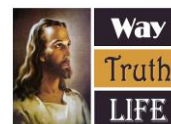
Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas
gchelackal@gmail.com
george.thomas@dioceseofnottingham.uk



NRC DT- 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



Fifth Sunday of Easter

7th - 14th May 2023



Sunday 7.05	7am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass Malayalam Mass	<p>The Pope's prayer intention for May 2023.</p> <p>For church movements and groups</p> <p>We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.</p> <p>This week's Mass Intentions for all parishioners.</p>
Monday 8.05	No Service		
Tuesday 9.05	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Wednesday 10.05	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Thursday 11.05	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Friday 12.05	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Saturday 13.05	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 14.05	7am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass Malayalam Mass	



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.

Background on the Gospel Reading *John 14: 1-12*.

Jesus tells his disciples, "I am the way and the truth and the life."

The readings for the last few Sundays have been about the Resurrection, but today's Gospel takes us back in time to an event in Jesus' life before his Passion. Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to prepare a place for them in his Father's house. He promises that where he is going, his disciples will be able to follow. Thomas, who will later doubt the disciples' reports that they have seen the Risen Lord, contradicts Jesus by saying that the disciples don't know where Jesus is going or how to get there. Jesus explains that he himself is the way, the truth, and the life. In knowing and loving Jesus, the disciples now love God the Father.

Philip then makes a request that challenges Jesus' words. Philip wants Jesus to show the Father to the disciples. Recall that Jesus has just told his disciples, "If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." As a good teacher, Jesus responds to Philip by repeating and elaborating on what he has just told the disciples: they have seen and known Jesus, so they have seen and known the Father. Then Jesus offers another reassurance about his departure: because of faith in God and in Jesus, the disciples will do the work that Jesus has done and more.

The connection between Jesus and his Father, between Jesus' work and the work of the Father, is made clear in today's Gospel. Jesus is in the Father, and God the Father is in Jesus. As God spoke his name to Moses, "I am," so too Jesus speaks his name to his disciples: "I am the way and the truth and the life."

The revelation of the Trinity is completed in the passage that follows today's reading, and it is the Gospel for next Sunday. Because Jesus goes away, the Father will send in Jesus' name the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will continue the work of the Father and of Jesus.

Mrs Kristyna Patecka RIP. Her funeral mass will be on 22nd of May at St Paul Polish Church, Wakerley Road, Leicester, LE5 6AR at 12.30pm with committal at Gilroes Cemetery at 2pm. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

Mairead Collins and her family would like to thank everyone who sent Mass cards, cards, flowers, cakes and donations following the death of her **dearest Husband, David Collins**, may he RIP. Over £600 has been raised for Marie Curie nurses. The family appreciate all the kindness they have received from parishioners and would like to thank Fr George and all who participated in and attended his Requiem Mass. God bless.

300 Club Draw 30th April: Quarterly Prize £100 M Jefferies (217). £50 C Scranney (200). £25 J Bevins (280), D Greaves (186).

Loving the stranger. Becoming a hospitable Church to those from other shores. In partnership with the Sisters of St Joseph of Peace Wednesday 17 May 2023 7.00 - 8.30 p.m. Join an online conversation about what we can do to support those fleeing violence and destitution, or settling in our diocese for a better life. Meet others who want to help those in our asylum system recover their human dignity. Hear from Catholics who have volunteered in a variety of settings to support refugees and asylum seekers. Plan ways to engage MPs in a more compassionate asylum policy. Ensure that people from all over the world thrive in our parishes. We'll explore the potential of a network for advocacy and practical service in the diocese. [Book for the workshop on 17 May.](#)

Neophyte Mass on Sunday 21st May. The Neophyte Mass is celebrated by Bishop Patrick every year for those who have recently been baptised or received into the Catholic Church. This year St Mary's South Wigston will be hosting the Mass at 3pm please do come along and invite those in your parish who have joined the Church recently. For more information or to sign up please do so here: forms.office.com/r/Q6QNN7yYzV

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 Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk.

An opportunity to volunteer at Leicester Prison. PACT is looking to strengthen their support for families visiting their loved ones at Leicester Prison. A smile and a welcome can make a big difference. If you are interested, please contact Theresa Alessandro at parish.action@prisonadvice.co.uk to find out more about the roles and the training they offer. Pope Francis says 'No one can face life in isolation, we need a community that supports and help us.'

About the Prison Advice & Care Trust (Pact). Pact is a pioneering national Catholic charity that supports prisoners, people with convictions, and their children and families. It provides caring and life-changing services to all, at every stage of the criminal justice process: in court, in prison, on release, and in the community. Pact's vision is of a society that understands justice as a process of restoration and healing, uses prisons sparingly and as places of learning and rehabilitation, and values the innate dignity and worth of every human being. Pact works to: Build stronger families and safer communities. Reduce risk of harm to prisoners and their children. Remove barriers and increase awareness in public services. Influence commissioning, policy and legislation.

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.

**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.**

Cycle of prayer during Eastertide, we pray for these intentions:
New members of the church. Human work. Vocations. Survivors of abuse.
The Right Use of the Media. The Church.



Please Join us for tea/coffee in the hall after the 10.30 Mass every Sunday.