

May: Month of Mary.

It is a centuries-old custom of Catholics to dedicate the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The month of May is always part of the Easter season, the fifty days we celebrate in the liturgy the Resurrection of Our Lord, a time also of awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The celebration of May as a Marian month fits well with the liturgical celebrations of Easter and Pentecost as we recall Mary's great joy in her Son's victory over death as well as her presence with the apostles in the upper room prayerfully awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

When we think of our Blessed Mother, we recognize that she is indeed *blessed*, not only because she was the Mother of Jesus, but because she believed in the Lord's words. She believed with all her heart and said "yes" to become the Mother of the Messiah and Son of God. She allowed herself to be led by God's grace throughout her life, a life rooted in a deep faith in God. She became her Son's first and most perfect disciple.

In 1965, Pope Paul VI wrote a short encyclical on the month of May. He wrote that May is an occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven. Of course, the holy rosary is always a wonderful prayer to enter more deeply into the mysteries of Christ's life with Mary.

We all probably have our favourite images of Mary as well as our favourite devotions: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, Mother of Perpetual Help, the Miraculous Medal, etc. The many images and devotions express various aspects of Our Lady's vocation and mission. They help us to know the virtues of Mary and remind us to turn to her for her intercession. Let us especially commend to her our prayers for life, marriage, and religious liberty. Let us all place ourselves in the school of Mary to learn from her how to love God more fervently and to love one another as her Son has loved us.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary intercede for us and draw us closer to Christ her Son!



God's transforming power

God who cannot be bound
 Flow into our hearts and minds
 Wear down our resistance to your love
 And refresh us with the spirit of your compassion.
 Today, as we commit ourselves once more to your work
 We ask you to show us how to hold the needs of your world
 At the heart of our lives
 And to celebrate your many gifts with joy.
 May your power transform our lives
 May your Spirit set us free
 And may the blessing of God,
 Father, Son and Holy Spirit
 Be with us all now and for ever
 Amen.

Linda Jones/CAFOD

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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



Pentecost Sunday
Eighth Week of Ordinary Time

28th May –
4th June
2023

Sunday 28.05	7am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass - Krystyna Patecka RIP Malayalam Mass
Monday 29.05	No Service	
Tuesday 30.05	No Service	
Wednesday 31.05	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass
Thursday 1.06	9am 9.30am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass
Friday 2.06	9.30am 10am 5pm 5.30pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass Silent Adoration Malayalam Mass
Saturday 3.06	10am	Holy Mass
Holy Trinity Sunday 4.06	6.30am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass Malayalam Mass

The Pope's prayer intention for June 2023.

For the abolition of torture

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

This week's Mass Intentions for all parishioners.

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 Ordinary Time, we pray for these intentions:

A Deeper understanding between Christians and Jews. Those who suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights. Europe. Human Life. Seafarers.

Feasts of the week: Monday, Mary Mother of the Church. Wednesday, The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Thursday, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest. Saturday, SS Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyr of Uganda.



Background on the Gospel Reading *John 20:19-23*.

Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the [Second Sunday of Easter](#) this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

Words of the Holy Father. Let us go back to the origin of the Church, to the day of Pentecost. Let us look at the Apostles [...] They were all different. Jesus did not change them; He did not make them into a set of pre-packaged models. No. He left their differences and now He unites them by anointing them with the Holy Spirit. With the anointing comes their union - union in diversity. At Pentecost, the Apostles understand the unifying power of the Spirit. They see it with their own eyes when everyone, though speaking in different languages, comes together as one people: the people of God, shaped by the Spirit, Who weaves unity from diversity and bestows harmony because in the Spirit there is harmony. He Himself is harmony. [...] Let us begin anew from here; let us look at the Church with the eyes of the Spirit and not as the world does. The world sees us only as on the right or left, with one ideology or the other; the Spirit sees us as sons and daughters of the Father and brothers and sisters of Jesus. The world sees conservatives and progressives; the Spirit sees children of God. A worldly gaze sees structures to be made more efficient; a spiritual gaze sees brothers and sisters pleading for mercy. The Spirit loves us and knows everyone's place in the grand scheme of things: for Him, we are not bits of confetti blown about by the wind, rather we are irreplaceable fragments in His mosaic.

300 Club Draw 21st May: £50 D Gomes (221). £25 Mrs R McCormick (15), A Valente (178).

On Thursday, June 8th at 7.00pm there will be a Choir Practice, as preparation for the International Mass on September 10th. The aim is to develop a choir also for the 10.30 Sunday Mass and increase our repertoire of music. Entrance will be via the sacristy. The plan is to hold a practice every two weeks so this is a great opportunity for the members of the parish to develop a ministry that is very much at the heart of our worship. The practice will last for exactly one hour.

Diocesan Caritas... Faith and Footprint: Monday 5th June at 7.00pm - 8.30pm. Caritas invite you to their next online workshop with CAFOD on caring for Creation in our parishes and homes. The session is a chance to meet others who are praying and working for a greener Church, or interested in the parish earning the Livesimply Award. This time we'll focus on:

- Planning for activities for the Season of Creation, which starts on 1st September
- Designing a 'campaign journey' and assembling resources to engage parishioners
- Hosting a screening in your parish of The Letter, a film about putting Laudato Si into action.

To receive the Zoom link book your place at bit.ly/FaithandFootprint

See, I Do a New Thing - Bringing our church's social mission to life in 2023 is a workshop near you to celebrate the impact you've had over the last year, discover God at work in it, share what we're learning, and invest in the future. We will take time to listen afresh to God's call, and focus on developing two things which many people around the diocese have told us they need:

Self-confidence and practical skills for outreach

Parish and diocesan structures to help lay leaders pray, plan and act.

The workshop will introduce a wider project called Paving the Way. Much is said about 'missionary discipleship', but what do you and your parish need for this outward turn to happen in practice? And how might Catholic social teaching, often called the Church's 'best kept secret' become an engine of grassroots renewal across the diocese? With your help, at this workshop and over the next two years, we will find answers to these questions - and put them into practice for the common good and the kingdom of God. **Leicester: 17th June at Our Lady, Rushey Mead. For details and to book visit bit.ly/new-thing.**

A Mass and celebration for families across the Diocese. Following on from last years World Meeting of Family the Diocese of Nottingham is once again organising a Mass and celebration for families across the diocese. This year we are delighted that are host parish will be **Sacred Heart Leicester on Saturday 24th June**. Bishop Patrick McKinney will celebrate **Mass at 3pm**. The Mass will be followed by the opportunity to socialise with a barbeque, live music, family games and activities, and an ice cream van in the grounds of the parish and Sacred Heart School next door. To help with catering numbers for the BBQ please book a free ticket here for each member of your family who is attending. Donations are welcome on the day to cover the cost of the event. Please contact Joe Hopkins, Director of Adult Formation for Mission. joe.hopkins@dioceseofnottingham.uk [0115 953 9806](tel:01159539806)

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