

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE in the church hall**

**THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November after Holy Mass.  
Raffle tickets will be available soon.**

**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. Let's also pray for all the people of Morocco and Libia  
who have been suffering from a dreadful earthquake and floods  
and have lost their home and livelihood.**

**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 note: If intention is for a living person, they must sign the envelope for permission to print their name on newsletter or intention will be listed as Private Intention and initials of intention.**

**Feasts of the week:** Wednesday, St. Vincent de Paul, priest. Friday, SS Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels. Saturday, St. Jerome, Priest and doctor.

**Cycle of prayer during Ordinary Time-Autumn; we pray for these intentions:**  
Students and Teachers. The Spread of the Gospel. The Harvest. The Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation. Justice and Peace in the World. All Victims of War. Young People, Prisoners and their Families.



**A 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.**



**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.cktleicester.co.uk/](http://www.cktleicester.co.uk/)  
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - [www.emschool.co.uk/](http://www.emschool.co.uk/)**

**Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914**



**Twenty-Fifth Week of Ordinary Time**

**24<sup>th</sup> September – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023**

**This week's Mass  
Intentions  
for all parishioners**

Sunday 24.09	6.30am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass Malayalam Mass	<p><b>The Pope's prayer intention for September 2023.</b></p> <p><b>For people living on the margins</b></p> <p>We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.</p>
Monday 25.09	No Service		
Tuesday 26.09	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Wednesday 27.09	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Thursday 28.09	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Friday 29.09	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Joseph Kachappilly RIP	
Saturday 30.09	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 1.10	6.30am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass Malayalam Mass	

Open Evening for Year 6 students at **English Martyrs' Catholic School** on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 5.00- 7.00pm. Formal Address by Mr Calen, Principal at: 5.00pm, 5.25pm and 5.45pm in the Auditorium. A copy of Mr Calen's Start of Term letter to parents, will be available in the church porch & on our website.

Are you looking for a Reception place for your child starting school in September 2024? **Christ the King is your local Catholic School.** It is rated outstanding by OFSTED and by the Diocese of Nottingham. We would love to meet you and show you around our vibrant school at our upcoming Open Days. We are holding our Open Days on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October @ 13:30 and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October @ 10.00. **If you would like further information, please ring the school office on 0116 285726.**

**CAFOD Harvest Fast Day..Family Fast Day is on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October.** Join together with friends and family for a simple meal or skip a meal so that families around the world can have access to the medical care they need to survive in increasingly challenging circumstances. By sharing a simple meal and giving what you save, you'll be standing in solidarity with vulnerable people who are threatened by disease and poverty, displaced from their homes and communities by the climate crisis.

## Background on the Gospel Reading Matthew 20:1-16.

In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy.

In today's Gospel, Jesus moves from Galilee to teach in Judea where he is sought out by great crowds and tested by the Pharisees on issues such as marriage and divorce. Jesus also encounters a rich young man who is unable to accept Jesus' demand that he leaves his possessions to follow him. Jesus' response to the rich young man sounds very much like the conclusion we will find in today's Gospel: the first will be last and the last will be first.

On the surface, the parable of the workers in the vineyard appears to be an offense to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those who work just an hour or two. When viewed in this way, the landowner seems unfair. That is because we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified.

A close read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated. The landowner, it seems, has acted completely justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not simply just, he is exceptionally just. He is radically just. He has given those who laboured in the field for a full day their due pay. But he has also given a full-day's wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament the fact that landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else?

The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways.

**Words of the Holy Father:** With this parable, Jesus wants to open our hearts to the logic of the Father's love which is free and generous. It is about allowing oneself to be astonished and fascinated by the "thoughts" and the "ways" of God which, as the Prophet Isaiah recalls, are not our thoughts and not our ways (cf Is 55:8). Human thoughts are often marked by selfishness and personal advantages, and our narrow and contorted paths are not comparable to the wide and straight streets of the Lord. He uses mercy – do not forget this: He uses mercy –, he forgives broadly, is filled with generosity and kindness which he pours forth on each of us. He opens for everyone the boundless territory of his love and his grace, which alone can give the human heart the fullness of joy. Jesus wants to make us contemplate the gaze of that landowner: the gaze with which he looks upon each of the labourers searching for work and calls them to go to his vineyard. It is a gaze which is filled with attention, kindness. It is a gaze which calls, invites one to get up and begin a journey because he wants life for each of us; he wants a full, committed life, safe from emptiness and inertia. God excludes no one and wants each of us to achieve his or her fullness. This is the love of our God, of our God who is Father.


**Community Movie Screening.** 'The Letter', a message from our earth. Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm, at Immaculate Conception, New Street, Oadby, LE2 4LJ. All welcome. Please see poster in church porch.

**300 Club Draw 17<sup>th</sup> September:** to be announced next week.

**LACY BIG SING AT ST. PATRICK'S, Leicester, 1<sup>ST</sup> October 2023 at 4pm:** Leics Active Catholic Youth are extending a warm invitation to all parishes to invite them to come along to a "Big Sing" for an hour in Leicester. We are inviting music groups and choirs to be involved in the liturgy by singing a hymn/Christian song of their choice. We are hoping that many young people, families and friends will come and join us! We will be celebrating the Mysteries of Light led by Father Simon Gillespie and we hope that many groups will get in touch with us to make this the most exciting event ever! Bring your young people - your voices - your instruments! To enable us to put all of this together we would be most grateful if you could contact Pauline Payne, LACY Co-ordinator as soon as possible if you are interested in sharing the occasion: email - [paulinepayne@hotmail.com](mailto:paulinepayne@hotmail.com) and tel number: 07885 187374. Let's raise the roof at St. Patrick's in song! "He who sings, prays twice" - St. Augustine of Hippo. See poster in church porch.

**Faith and Footprint: caring for Creation** on Tuesday 3 October 2023 at 7pm on Zoom. Join us for our Autumn workshop to help you bring Laudato Si to life in your parish. At Caritas we support a network of people who are praying and working for a greener Church and world. In the extreme weather being witnessed around the world this summer the environmental crisis is accelerating before our eyes. Our faith calls us to respond, as individuals and as a community. Join us on the eve of St Francis of Assisi's day to answer the call to care for our common home. Opening with a liturgy for St Francis, we'll focus on practical steps we can take to implement the three themes of Pope Francis' Message for the 2023 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation: transforming our hearts, our lifestyles, and the public policies ruling our society. We'll also have an update on the diocese's emerging decarbonisation strategy. Everyone welcome, especially if this will be your first eco-workshop with us. You'll find it especially useful if you are involved in the CAFOD Livesimply scheme or a diocesan Pioneer Parish - but anyone who is praying and working for a greener Church and world is invited. [Sign up for Faith And Footprint on 3 October.](#) [Read Pope Francis' Message for the World Day of Prayer](#)

**Gathering for Young Adults** - Christus Vivit is the diocesan ministry to Young Adults aged 18-35. We will be starting a new group here in Leicester meeting on the fourth Thursday of every month at Sacred Heart, Mere Road. With a time of prayer, a talk, group discussion, and a social time at a local pub. Our first gathering will be on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 6:15pm, come along to meet other Young Catholics in Leicester and grow in faith. You can join our mailing list by emailing: [cv@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:cv@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

	<p>Please bring your red MISSIO box to church to emptied and collect your free magazine. The Red Box is a vital source of support for countless people in need around the world. Thank you If you would like a Red Box, please speak to Maila Taylor. <b>World Mission Sunday: 22 October 2023</b></p>
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**FOODBANKS.....** Please continue to help your local FOODBANK. More people are in need to supplement their food shopping with items of prime necessity to feed their families. This current economic crisis is affecting a lot of families, especially families with young children. Please help, if you can.