

+November - Month of the Holy Souls

If you would like your deceased relatives and friends remembered in our November Masses, place the names in an envelope along with any Mass offering and drop in the collection basket or post through the Presbytery door. Please clearly mark the envelope "November Holy Souls". We pray for all the deceased people of the parish.

Blessing of Graves in Leicester

Sunday 19th November 2.00pm Blaby Cemetery and Thurmaston Cemetery
 3.00pm Countesthorpe Cemetery and Kirby Muxloe Cemetery
 Sunday 26th November 3.00pm Gilroes Cemetery

A Prayer for Our Deceased

God our Father,

Your power brings us to birth, your providence guides our lives, and by Your command we return to dust.

Lord, those who die still live in Your presence, their lives change but do not end.

I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends, and for all the dead known to You alone.

In company with Christ, who died and now lives, may they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family, to sing Your praise forever and ever. **Amen.**

Please keep in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish.

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

Let's also pray for all the people that have been affected by climate change and have lost their home and livelihood and also for the poor.

Feasts of the week: Tuesday, The presentation of the BVM. Wednesday, St. Cecilia, virgin and martyr. Friday, St. Andrew Dung-Lac, priest, and Companion martyrs.


The World Day of the Poor is a Roman Catholic observance, celebrated on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time since 2017. It was established by Pope Francis in his Apostolic Letter, Misericordia et Misera, issued on 20 November 2016 to celebrate the end of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. The theme for World Day of the Poor 2023 is "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor". Pope Francis wrote that "when we encounter a poor person, we cannot look away, for that would prevent us from encountering the face of the Lord Jesus". In his homily for the sixth World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis advised Christians to "not listen to the prophets of doom" and to serve others. He also reflected on the centre of the parable, and our lives: "The work of servants, which is service".

★ A huge thank you to the organisers of the Christmas Bazaar, to the helpers and our supporters. It has been nice to see the people from both communities working together to make the Christmas Bazaar a great success.

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

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914

 **Thirty – Third Week of Ordinary Time** This week's Mass Intentions for all the deceased people of the Parish
19th November 2023
Day of special prayers for the poor

Sunday 19.11	6.30am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass- Souls by Anto Antony & Family Holy Mass - John & Maria Luiza Miranda RIP Katheen & Peter McCreesh Private ints. Malayalam Mass - Rosily Anthony RIP/ M M Mathai RIP	<p>The Pope's prayer intentions for November 2023. For the Pope. We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.</p>
Monday 20.11	No Service		
Tuesday 21.11	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration - Dedication of our church (1973). Holy Mass - Mary Joseph RIP	
Wednesday 22.11	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Thursday 23.11	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Thanksgiving Mass - Fr George Personal ints.	
Friday 24.11	10am	Holy Mass by Rev. Fr. Hans Puthiakulangara	
Saturday 25.11	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 26.11	6.30am 10.30am 4pm	Malayalam Mass Holy Mass - Departed souls of the Hendrick Family Malayalam Mass	

From the Chair of The Parish Council. We are bidding 'Farewell' to Fr George after his years of service in Mother of God. As he moves to the parish of St Anthony of Padua in Wolverhampton, he leaves with our best wishes and prayers for the future. May the Lord grant him health and strength for the years ahead.

Our parish community has been very fortunate in having Fr George as Parish Priest. He has served the Syro-Malabar community and the whole parish by giving us an example of dedicated service, a deep faith and love for the Gospel. His devotion to Mary, Mother of God is clear to us all and we thank him for leading us forward as a community over these years.

We look forward to welcoming Fr Hans Puthiakulangara to our community. We have every hope he will build on the good work of Fr George. As a parish, we look forward to the future. Fr George, our prayers go with you to Wolverhampton. Thank you for all your hard work and service. Ian McKay - Chair of Parish Council

A message from Father George

I am grateful to you all for your cordial support and cooperation for my years of ministry here at Mother of God. A big thank you to all. God bless you all. Let Mother Mary protect you all well.

Background on the Gospel Reading Matthew 25:14-30.

Jesus tells the parable of the talents, in which he teaches about the importance of using the gifts that God has given to us in service to the Kingdom of Heaven.

This week's Gospel speaks of how Jesus' disciples are to conduct themselves as they await the Kingdom of Heaven. In the preceding passages and in last week's Gospel, Jesus taught that there is no way to predict the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. His disciples must, therefore, remain vigilant and ready to receive the Son of Man at any time.

Jesus' parable talks about Christian discipleship using economic metaphors. Before he leaves on a journey, the master entrusts to his servants a different number of talents, giving to each according to their abilities. A *talent* is a coin of great value. Upon the master's return, he finds that the first and second servants have doubled their money, and both are rewarded. The third servant, however, has only preserved what was given to him because he was afraid to lose the money. He has risked nothing; he did not even deposit the money in a bank to earn interest. This servant is punished by the master, and his talent is given to the one who brought the greatest return.

Read in light of [last week's parable](#) of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, this parable teaches that God's judgment will be based on the service we render to God and to one another in accordance with the gifts that God has given to us. Our gifts, or talents, are given to us for the service of others. If we fail to use these gifts, God's judgment on us will be severe. On the other hand, if we make use of these gifts in service to the Kingdom of Heaven, we will be rewarded and entrusted with even more responsibilities.

This Gospel reminds us that Christian spirituality is not passive or inactive. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbour. God's grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven.

This week is Interfaith Week. Bishop Patrick, who leads on interfaith relations for the Bishops' Conference, has issued a short video message which you can see below. "At this moment in time it is particularly important that people of faith join together in a spirit of friendship and respect. Let us do all we can during this year's Interfaith week to highlight the witness and effectiveness of working together to build greater harmony and cohesion in our society."

Mrs. Eve McEaney RIP, died on 4th of November. She has been a long-standing member of our church. Her funeral will be held at MOG church on Monday 11th December at 10am, followed by burial at Gilroes Cemetery. Our sincere and deepest condolences to her family and friends.

300 Club Subscriptions

Members who pay yearly are reminded that subscriptions for the year 2022/23 are now due. Please put your cheque or cash in an envelope and hand it in to John Gray. If you are unable to attend church collection can be arranged by calling John on 0116 2312862. Thank you for your continued support.

300 Club Draw 12th November: £50 M B (199). £25 K W (96), P J (266).

CANON CAUS ADVENT TEA. This event is principally for the benefit of our more elderly parishioners. It will follow on from our 4.00pm monthly St Peregrine devotion on Sunday 3rd December. There will be a light tea provided by caterers from DMU so we need to know numbers as soon as possible. Please sign the list at the back of church over this weekend and next if are interested. If anyone is willing to help with serving & transport please contact Sr Gabrielle 07944872154 or email marieclaireosc@gmail.com or John Gray after 10:30am Mass.

Christmas Bazaar at St. Patrick's Church, Beaumont Leys, Leicester LE4 2BD. On Saturday 25th November from 10.30am to 1.30pm. All welcome.

LACY (Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth). Calling all young people, families and friends at St. Thomas More Church, 75 Knighton Road, Leicester, LE2 3HN for an afternoon of craft and liturgy, on **Sunday 10th December 2023** creating cards with Christmas messages to be distributed to the sick and housebound, both at home and in hospital. Help us to pass on the Christmas message of hope, love and peace. Our afternoon begins at 3.00 p.m. and ends with a short liturgy at 4.30pm. The LACY team will be joined by one of the Chaplains from the Leicester Hospitals, Ed Pike, and your presence will make the afternoon very special. Christmas treats, mince pies and drinks will be served in the hall during the afternoon. **We're looking forward to seeing YOU!** More information from Pauline Payne - Tel: 07885 187374 or e mail joshearer@hotmail.com/paulinepayne@hotmail.com.

VACANCIES: Join the team. We're looking for an Outreach and Communications Assistant! The recent diocesan consultation found a strong desire across the diocese in becoming a more outward-facing Church. As a result, we are seeking to recruit a skilled, enthusiastic and creative communicator to work three days a week with Caritas, and two days with the Communications Department. This role will interest anyone keen to foster a more mission-minded Church and to support parishes in their outreach. Do you know anyone with the communication skills to help us make an impact together in society? We'd love to hear from them. Please think who you could pass this opportunity onto. The role may be fulfilled on a job-share or part-time basis, with hybrid working (at our office in Nottingham and at home) a possibility. Applications close on 11 December. The Diocese is also recruiting for a Young Adult Ministry Lead, to develop the diocese's work among those aged 18-35. Applications for this role close on 6 December [Visit the diocesan vacancies page](#).

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.

Prayer for peace in Israel and Gaza

Let us pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart by conflict in Gaza and Israel.

We remember especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies.

We pray also for those who have the power to bring peace. May they be touched by a spirit of compassion and kindness.

Lord, hear us.

Our Lady of Palestine, pray for us