

**PEACE SUNDAY 14 JANUARY 2024**

For his theme for the World Day of Peace in 2024, Pope Francis has chosen 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. Whilst this might seem a strangely technical theme, we know that we do need to think about the consequences of the advances in AI for peace and justice.

"at the start of the New Year that the rapid development of forms of artificial intelligence will not increase cases of inequality and injustice all too present in today's world, but will help put an end to wars and conflicts, and alleviate many forms of suffering that afflict our human family,".



**Please note: Holy Water Fonts/Stoops are filled. Please use them.**

**A Prayer for the Epiphany**

Dear Father,

As we observe the Epiphany, of Jesus this week, thank you for the revelation that Christ is the Son of God. Because of Your living, breathing Word, established in the Holy Scriptures, the message is out! Jesus Christ, the Light of the world has been born to disperse the darkness that covers all people. God, your glory is displayed in mortal form. With the birth, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our life on earth will never be the same!

Father, you used the star to led the Magi to the stable.

May you use us as Your little lights today as we live in a world that is still covered by darkness. We live in a world that is searching for hope and many still need to make the pilgrimage to the manger, the cross, and to the empty tomb. May our lives reflect your light as we seek to serve where you have placed us to make a kingdom impact.

We pray for our world to have a year of epiphanies and receive the gift of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the name of Jesus.

**Amen**



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Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - [www.ctkleicester.co.uk/](http://www.ctkleicester.co.uk/)  
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - [www.emschool.co.uk/](http://www.emschool.co.uk/)

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**  
7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Third week of Christmastide

Sunday 7.01	6.30am 10.30am  4pm	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> Holy Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite English Mass - Delaine Takunda Mukopfa RIP Vinod Thomas Family ints Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite	<p><b>The Pope's prayer intentions for January 2024. For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church.</b> Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.</p>
Monday 8.01	9.30am 10am	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b> Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Vinod Thomas Family ints	
Tuesday 9.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Roderick O'Gara RIP	
Wednesday 10.01	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Thursday 11.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Anna Patricia Periera RIP	
Friday 12.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Saturday 13.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 14.01	6.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite English Mass - David Mason RIP Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite	

**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.**



**Cycle of prayer during Ordinary Time (Winter).  
Peace on Earth. Openness to the Word of God. Christian Unity.  
The Sick and Those who Care for Them. Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it. The Unemployed.**

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK FOR SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS.**

## The Epiphany of the Lord. Background on the Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1-12.

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod..." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel. We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

**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.**

**FOODBANKS:** Thank you so much to all that donated food for the FOODBANKS. It is very much needed. Please continue to donate, if you can.

**300 Club Draw 31<sup>st</sup> December:** £50 Fr. F McL (67). £25 S C (192), P L (215).

**English Martyr's Start of term letter available from the church porch. If you have a child attending the school, please take a copy.**

**English Martyr's Preloved School Uniforms.** A reminder that we are continuing with our Pre-Loved Uniform shop which will be open once a month. We would welcome any clean, good quality uniform — any donations please hand in to our Reception.

**The Year of Prayer... 2024** being the second year of preparation for Jubilee Year 2025. Reflections from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer: To God who blesses, we too respond by blessing — God has taught us how to bless and we must bless — through the prayer of praise, of adoration, of thanksgiving. The Catechism writes: "The prayer of blessing is our response to God's gifts: because God blesses, the human heart can in return bless the One who is the source of every blessing" (n. 2626). Very often it happens that we do not pray, we don't feel like praying, or many times we pray like parrots, with the mouth, but our heart is not in it. The diocese is producing a monthly podcast for the Year of Prayer called Encounter Prayer. Each month a different type of prayer will be showcased; this first episode is given by Bishop Patrick who introduces the Year of Prayer, his hopes for it, and shares insights from his own prayer life. The Podcasts can be found on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music and Audible by searching Diocese of Nottingham; they are also on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer).

**Diocesan Catechist Formation Courses.** This course is six sessions and is a crash course in the fundamentals of Catholic belief. It is aimed to give you a broad knowledge of Catholic theology and how to present it. Missionary Catechesis - this course is also four sessions and explores why to advance your parish catechesis, to go beyond sacramental preparation and to adapt catechesis for those with special or additional needs. The cost for Discipleship Catechesis is £50 and Missionary Catechesis is £25, it is normal for parishes to cover the cost of Catechist training so please speak to your parish priest about funding. Encounter Catechesis will be starting on Wednesday 24th January - 7pm on Zoom. You can sign up/request more information from: [get in touch](mailto:get_in_touch). For more information on the courses please email: [adult\\_formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:adult_formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

**Homes for Ukraine.** Join us on Friday, February 2, at 2:30pm at The Frassati Centre, Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington St, Leicester LE1 6HW for a Homes for Ukraine gathering hosted by SJOG and CSAN. Nearly two years since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the number of those still wishing to evacuate and find refuge in the UK continues to be high. SJOG Homes for Ukraine is a programme run by St John of God Hospitaller Services (SJOG) in partnership with Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN). We offer a matching pathway and training and support programme for sponsors and individuals displaced by the war in Ukraine. We support people on their journey and provide opportunities to integrate into community life in the UK. During this information, we will share with you the successes of our project in supporting over 200 Ukrainian refugees since September 2022. We will discuss the current situation in Ukraine and why there is still a pressing need for people to come forward and host families from Ukraine. We will talk through our matching service, who is eligible to be sponsored, and some key considerations before deciding to host. You will find a wealth of useful information about hosting that will give you a clear understanding of what hosting is and isn't, to help you decide if it is right for you. This is a great opportunity to learn about Ukrainian refugees in the UK and ask any questions you might have. Duration: 90 minutes. Please register <https://forms.office.com/e/7p54vDsGbZ>.



**Tea/coffee after the 10am Mass every Sunday in the hall. Please join us!**