

Lent arrives on Wednesday 14th February.



Fight global poverty by walking 200 km over 40 days.

Sign up for CAFOD Big Lent Walk and challenge yourself to try something new. Stand in solidarity with communities around the world by walking, running, rolling or strolling with friends and family, in your school, in your parish, or simply on your own.

[Sign up now](#)

This Lent, Family Fast Day is on Friday 23rd February.

Please bring your old, blessed palms to church.

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.



Almighty God,

Creator of the earth in which we live,

Help us today in our search for peaceful ways

To avoid wars, to eliminate terrorism and tyranny

And to establish justice for peoples of all races and faiths.

We pray that the billions of peace-loving

People of goodwill throughout the nations,

Will join together in prayer and action

To bring love where there is hatred,

Friendship where there is enmity,

And justice where there is oppression.

Amen.




Tea/coffee after the 10.30am Mass every Sunday in the hall.
Please join us!

	<p><i>Mother of God</i> Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉nogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p>	<p>Parish Priest: Fr Hans Puthiakulangara e-mail: hansps83@gmail.com mob: 07428658756</p>  <p>NRCDT- Registered Charity</p>
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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

	<p align="center">Fifth Week of Ordinary Time</p> <p align="center">4th - 11th February 2024</p>
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Sunday 4.02	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite English Mass - Private Intentions Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite	<p align="center">The Pope's prayer intentions for February 2024.</p> <p>For The Terminally Ill. Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.</p> <p align="center">//////////</p> <p align="center">Please pray for Father Hans. He will keep us all in his prayers.</p>
Monday 5.02	No Service	St. Agatha, virgin and martyr.	
Tuesday 6.02	No Service	Priests Retreat SS Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs of Japan.	
Wednesday 7.02	No Service	Priests Retreat	
Thursday 8.02	No Service	Priests Retreat	
Friday 9.02	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Private Intentions	
Saturday 10.02	2.00pm	Father Hans Induction Mass	
Sunday 11.02	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite English Mass - William & Catherine Hugh RIP Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite	

Please keep in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish, also let's pray for the deceased 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 storm and flooding and have lost their home and livelihood.

Induction Mass of Father Hans
 will be on Saturday, 10th February 2024 at 2.00pm. We look forward to welcome Canon Edward Jarosz, who will be the principal celebrant at the official Mass to welcome Father Hans as our new Parish Priest.
 You can all contribute to the buffet, please contact Teresa on 07877581148 or Josephine for further details.
 Please Join us in the Hall afterwards for refreshments.

Background on the Gospel Reading Mark 1:29-39.

Jesus cures Simon's mother-in-law and many others as well.

Today we continue to read from Mark's Gospel, learning more about the ministry of Jesus. Jesus cured Simon's mother-in-law, and she immediately began to serve Jesus and his disciples. Jesus also cured many others who were brought to him, healing their illnesses and driving out demons. As we will see throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus did not permit the demons to speak because they knew his identity and would have revealed it to those who were present.

On the morning after this busy day, Jesus retreated in prayer, but was pursued by Simon and others who brought news that many people were looking for him. At this point in Mark's Gospel, we begin to see a distinct role for the inner circle of Jesus' disciples—they act as intermediaries between Jesus and the people. Jesus reports to his disciples that they need to leave Capernaum to preach in other places.

Today's Gospel completes a picture of Jesus' ministry: preaching, curing the sick, driving out demons, and then moving on to continue this work in another place. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus did this throughout Galilee.

Jesus' compassion and healing of the sick is a sign of the Kingdom of God. The Church continues to extend Christ's healing presence to others in its ministry to the sick. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church prays for spiritual and physical healing, forgiveness of sins, and comfort for those who are suffering from illness.

In today's Gospel we also notice the importance of **prayer** in Jesus' daily life. Jesus rose early in the morning, removed himself from the crowds, and went to a deserted place to pray. When the disciples found him, he told them that it was time to move on. We believe that in his prayers Jesus found guidance and direction from God. We also bring our decision-making to God in prayer, asking for his guidance and direction in our lives.

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. 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.

Last year, the 300 Club raised £7,500 (£2,500) for each church! Many thanks to everyone who is part of this fundraising parish lottery and an especially thanks to those who organise and promote it. A particular mention to Donna Brighton who died last year. May she rest in peace. There is still time to join the Club, speak to John Gray after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday.

300 Club Draw 28th January 2024: £100 A F (264). £50 Mrs M B (75). £25 M R (30), T F (4).

FOODBANKS. We are extremely grateful to all the parishioners who donates food for the FOODBANKS. It is very much needed. Please continue to donate, if you can.

A huge thank you to all of you!

Reflection from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer. If during prayer we feel sluggish and empty, we must at that moment beg that Jesus' prayer also become our own. "I cannot pray today, I don't know what to do: I don't feel like it, I am unworthy". In this moment Jesus is before the Father, praying for us; let us trust in this! If we are trustful, we will then hear a voice from heaven, "You are God's beloved, you are a child, you are the joy of the Father in heaven". To read the full reflection and find more resources at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer.

LACY Walk for CAFOD. Sharing in the "Big Lent Walk". **SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 2024** - Young People come and join us! Bring your families and friends. Enjoy a short walk commencing from St. Mary's, Countesthorpe Road, South Wigston, LE18 4PG at 2.00 p.m. Walk as much as you can - route supplied - trail to follow with prizes for correct answers! A craft opportunity for younger children who don't want to walk too far and refreshments. Celebration of Mass at 4.00 p.m. praying for all those in the areas of conflict in the world. Calling all young people to support! LET'S PUT OUR FAITH INTO ACTION THIS LENT! Looking forward to seeing you! More details of the afternoon? e mail: paulinepayne@hotmail.com for sponsor forms and details of Just Giving Account or just turn up at 2.00 p.m. where this information will also be available.

Leicester Council of Faiths is holding a series of Conversations About Cancer events where we can come together, in an informal and supportive environment, to talk about cancer, and help Macmillan Cancer Support to work with people affected by cancer. For the first Conversations about Cancer event members from the Christian faith are invited to Sacred Heart Guild Hall, 25 Mere Road, Leicester, LE5 3HS on Tuesday 6th February from 5.30pm for a 6pm start. Bookings are via projectofficer@leicestercounciloffaiths.org.uk.

Three Leicester cinemas are showing Christian films in February **The Chosen** - The Chosen is a major new drama series which has now reached the mid-point of Jesus' ministry. Season 4 - episodes 4 to 6 will then be showing at cinemas on Thursday 15th February only. Season 4 episodes 7 to 8 will be showing at cinemas on Thurs. 29th February. For details and to book go to: thechosentv.co.uk.



caritas. Sjog-homesforukraine.uk, has send us this prayer.

Mary, Our Lady of Kiev, Mother of God,
we ask you to intercede for the people of Ukraine, for their government,
and all who suffer as a result of war. Be with them as you stood beside your Son,
suffering on the cross at Calvary. Give them strength and courage through faith,
hope and justice. May we, in our turn, support them through prayer and generosity
that human lives may be saved, that the injured may be healed,
that the dead may rest in peace, that there will be peace after war.

Amen.

Please take a prayer card from the church porch.