



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.](#)

Please bring your old, blessed palms to church.

The Pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving

Saint Augustine described “Prayer, fasting and almsgiving” as the Pillars of Lent. The role of any pillar is to support, from the soft pillar we rest our head on each night to the pillars of the buildings we live and work in; they all support something. Pillars of Lent support our way of living the Gospel. The ideals of prayer, fasting and almsgiving support us on our whole Christian journey rather than are something we inflict on ourselves for just forty days of the year. Jesus summed up the pillars of discipleship - “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” (Prayer) “You shall love your neighbour (almsgiving) as yourself (fasting)” Matt 22:37,39. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving remind us to put our relationships right again (conversion).

Prayer, places us into right relationship with God.

Fasting, places us into right relationship with our self (our body).

Almsgiving, places us into right relationship with others (almsgiving).

Cycle of prayer during Lent.

Candidates for the Sacrament. Women.

The Needy and Hungry of the World. Penitents and Wonderers.





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.



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

		Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ ☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉ mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk	Parish Priest: Fr Hans Puthiakulangara e-mail: hansps83@gmail.com mob: 07428658756  NRCDT- Registered Charity
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			
		Second Sunday of Lent 25th February - 3rd March 2024	 Stations of the Cross every Friday after morning Mass.
Sunday 25.02	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite English Mass - Keith Bobs RIP Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite	The Pope's prayer intentions for February 2024. 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.
Monday 26.02	No Service		
Tuesday 27.02	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Harry & Beatrice Dixen RIP	
Wednesday 28.02	5.30 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Thursday 29.02	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Shirley RIP	
Friday 1.03	10am	Holy Mass & Stations of the Cross St. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales Syro Malabar Mass & Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 2.03	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 3.03	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite English Mass - Sr Anna Patricia RIP Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite	

CAFOD Envelopes/Donations will be collected today.

LENT PRAYER

Loving God, when our boat is rocked by poverty, illness or disaster, you quiet the waves, and lead us safely to shore.
 When we work hard, but still go hungry, you walk beside us, calling “cast your nets”, there is enough for all.
 Lead us, Lord to play our part in calming the storm and sharing your gifts so all people may look to the future with hope.
 Amen.

Repository Items

The repository has now been restocked with new religious items and cards. If you need to buy anything, please contact Teresa Knott, Vincy Jacob or Sheena Cuerian.

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!

Background on the Gospel Reading Mark 9:2-10.

Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

On the second Sunday of Lent in each Lectionary cycle, the Gospel reading proclaims the story of Jesus' Transfiguration. This event is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This year, in Lectionary Cycle B, we hear Mark's report of this event.

The context for Mark's Transfiguration story is similar to that found in both Matthew's and Luke's Gospel. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his passion. After this, in each of these Gospels, there is also a discussion of the cost of discipleship.

In each case, Jesus takes three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospel, there is reference to a conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel includes the detail that this conversation is about what Jesus will accomplish in Jerusalem.

Elijah and Moses are significant figures in the history of Israel. Moses led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and received from Yahweh the Ten Commandments. In appearing with Jesus at his Transfiguration, Moses represents the Law that guides the lives of the Jewish people. Elijah is remembered as one of the most important prophets of Israel who helped the Israelites stay faithful to Yahweh. Some Jews believed that Elijah's return would signal the coming of the Messiah for the Jewish people. This belief is evidenced in the question posed by Jesus' disciples after they have witnessed the Transfiguration. The appearance of these two important figures from Israel's history with Jesus signifies Jesus' continuity with the Law and with the prophets and that Jesus is the fulfilment of all that was promised to the people of Israel.

On seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses and having witnessed his Transfiguration, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Mark reports that the disciples are terrified by what they have witnessed and that Peter's offer is made out of confusion. We also notice that Peter has reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus rabbi instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding the disciples to obey him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, Jesus instructs the disciples to keep secret what they have seen until after the Son of Man has risen from the dead. The disciples' confusion continues as they wonder what Jesus means by rising from the dead. The disciples cannot possibly understand Jesus' Transfiguration until they also witness his passion and death. We hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection, even as we prepare to remember Jesus' passion and death.

Sister Anna Patricia Pereira died last Sunday. We have very fond memories of Sister Anna Pat. She lived in the Presbytery for many years and supported us in so many ways. Over the years she remained friends with many of our parishioners. May she rest in peace.

Please support an amendment to reduce our abortion law from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born premature at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP in support of this amendment!

300 Club Draw 18th February 2024: £50 P O'B (243). £25 I T (263), T K (13).

SJOG Homes for Ukraine. As an official provider of the government scheme, SJOG Homes for Ukraine acts as a matching, training, and support pathway for guests from Ukraine and hosts in the UK who are willing to provide much-needed support. Our programme operates collaboratively with the esteemed Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN). At SJOG Homes for Ukraine, we offer a range of services to ensure fulfilling experience for both guests and hosts. These services include matching, training for hosts and guests, transportation assistance, a Welcome Box for Ukrainian guests upon arrival, and support during the placement. More information can be found at the following links. Website: <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk>. E-mail: homesforukraine@sjog.org.uk. [facebook.com/sjoghomesforukraine](https://www.facebook.com/sjoghomesforukraine). [youtube.com/@sjoghomesforukraine](https://www.youtube.com/@sjoghomesforukraine).

Search for the Light at the Briars. Take some time out this Easter to come to The Briars for an amazing retreat experience. You can come by yourself or with your friends, no parents or teachers needed, and take part in fun activities and opportunities to learn more about and deepen your faith alongside other like-minded young people. This retreat is open to all in years 10 to 13, between Thursday 28th - Sunday 31st March, and costs £55 per person (with bursaries through the St Francis of Assisi fund). Get in contact on our Instagram (@NDCYS) or Facebook (NDCYS - The Briars) or call (01773 852044). Volunteer year at the Briars Applications for The Briars Team 24/25 are now open! Contact email programmeleader@ndcys.com.

Nottingham Cathedral is hosting a Lenten Chamber Concert on Friday 15th March at 7.00pm, featuring Buxtehude's Membra Jesu Nostri, and other Lenten Music, performed by the Cathedral Choir, Boys' Choir, Girls Choir and Arculo Consort. Tickets are available from www.nottinghamcathedral.co.uk/what-s-on/upcoming-events/concert-buxtehude-s-membra-jesu-nostri/?d=638461260000000000.

The Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Patrick between Monday 15th and Friday 19th July. By air from East Midlands Airport directly to Lourdes, prices for the full-board five-day pilgrimage start at £819, including a full liturgical programme, and medical care and assistance for those who need it. For more details visit www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/lourdes or email the Pilgrimage Deputy Director at simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

Young Adult Retreat at Holy Cross, Leicester on Saturday 2nd March from 10am to 4pm. Bring your own packed lunch. **Lenten Women's Pilgrimage in The Holy Trinity Parish**, Newark on Saturday 9th March from 10am to 3.30pm. Please bring your own packed lunch. The cost is £12. **Men's Lenten Pilgrimage** on Saturday 23rd March from 10.30 am to 3.30pm at Mount St Bernard Abbey, Coalville. Bring your own packed lunch. The cost is £12. All three events will focus on the year of Prayer. Bring your packed lunch. Please See dioceseofnottingham.uk/events to find out more about these and other events.

Rediscover Your Marriage - Retrouvaille offers you the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10s of 1000s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work. The next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk.