

Parish Council Update.

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on April 17th. Here is a summary of what was discussed.

1. There will be a Summer Fayre on Saturday, 29th June, after the 10.00am Mass.
2. The Parish census continues to be updated and names of new members are being added every Sunday.
3. The next International Mass will be on Sunday, September 27th.
4. There will be a 2nd Collection May 5th. This is to raise money for urgent and immediate repairs to the Parish Hall. The cost is estimated to be around £9,000. Notification of the 2nd collection will be announced on Sunday, 28th April.
5. Bible Study classes will be held in Advent.
6. The Parish website is being updated and steady progress is being made.
7. It is proposed the parish will develop its own Confirmation Programme. More on this later.
8. The parish needs a **Safeguarding Officer** and also a **Health and Safety Representative**. These positions need to be filled as a matter of some urgency. It is a requirement of the Diocese that each parish has a recognised and approved person(s) to fill these roles. If anyone thinks they may be able to take up one of these positions, please contact Fr Hans. **Ian McKay - Chair of Parish Council**

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-orchestra 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.


Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday 15 June. 11am - 4.30pm. Join with Bishop Patrick as we seek Our Lady of Walsingham's intercession for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and Religious Life in our Diocese. For more information contact Father Neil Peoples 01283 564814 or vocations@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

Cycle of prayer during Eastertide, we pray for those intentions: New Members of the Church, Human Work, Vocations, Survivors of Abuse, The Right Use of the Media, The Church.



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 ✉ emogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk	Parish Priest: Fr Hans Puthiakulangara e-mail: hansps83@gmail.com mob: 07428658756  NRCDD- 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			
		Fifth Week of Eastertide 28 th April - 5 th May 2024	
		Mass intentions this week for all parishioners	
Sunday 28.04	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass in the Syro- Malabar rite English Mass - Stacy & Denise Mukopfa birthday Cristiano Albano RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	The Pope's prayer intentions for May 2024. For The Formation Of Men & Women Religious & Seminarians Let us pray that men and women religious and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.
Monday 29.04	No Service	St. Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor, Patron of Europe	
Tuesday 30.04	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Chinnamma Joseph RIP	
Wednesday 1.05	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Berenice O'Rourke RIP	
Thursday 2.05	9.30am 10am 19.30	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. Athanasius, bishop & doctor Reception into church Berenice O'Rourke RIP	
Friday 3.05	9.30am 10am 12noon	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. Philip and James, Apostles Funeral Mass of Berenice O'Rourke RIP	
Saturday 4.05	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - The English Martyrs	
Sunday 5.05	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

URGENT: SUDAN CRISIS APPEAL

a basket for your donations will be in the church porch.

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their home amid conflict, now face another crisis- extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help to get medicine, as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and your prayers.

Information for all Eucharistic Ministers. The Leicestershire Eucharistic Ministers Renewal Day is on June 22nd 2024 at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Leicester Road, Hinckley, Leics. LE10 1LW. The day will begin at 10:30 am with tea and coffee followed by our first talk and will finish between 3 - 3:30pm. *Many thanks - Mairead*

Summer Fayre on Saturday 29th June after Mass.

Please bring your unwanted gifts, bric-a-brac, items for the raffle to church. Thank you.

Background on the Gospel Reading John 15:1-8.

Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches.

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper.

Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

Kathleen Bernadette O'Rourke (Berenice) RIP. Reception into the church on Thursday 2nd May at 19.30, Funeral Mass on Friday 3rd May at 12 noon followed by burial at Gilroes Cemetery at 13.30. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

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.

300 Club Draw 21st April 2024: £50 J O'G (180), £25 M S (106), R K (249).

Envelopes for April 2024 to March 2025 - Would you like a Box?

Please let Hope know or add your name on the list on the table at the back of the church. Also please sign the Gift Aid Declaration if you pay tax. For existing parishioners who have previously received a box of envelopes, please note the following: if your box replacement is not on the table at the entrance of the church, please put your name on the attached list. Tell us the number on your envelope and confirm you are a tax payer. **Thank You.**

The Diocesan Youth Service is looking for volunteers to help with the moderating process of the Faith in Action Award; a national scheme to encourage young people in their faith and service. Moderators could be anyone with or without experience of running the award. All training, guidance and support during the moderating process will be given beforehand. Moderation will take place during June. If you're interested, please contact Elise at eliserichardson@ndcys.com before the end of April.

'Talking Philosophy: A Carmelite Perspective' meets on zoom on first Wednesdays of each month from 7:45pm logging on, for an 8pm prompt start (with latecomers logging on when they can) and finishing promptly at 10:00pm. Key contacts Rev Deacon James Hunter CertEd BA MA OCDS james.hunter@dioceseofnottingham.uk. [01507 525274](tel:01507525274).

[Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East \(FACE\)](#) is pleased to announce the annual International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians, which will take place on the Sixth Sunday of Easter (5 May 2024), with the participation of Christians from all over Europe, the Middle East, the Horn of Africa and India. This Day of Prayer - promoted by FACE in partnership with the Dicastery for Oriental Churches - offers Eastern and Western Christians an opportunity to come together in prayer during the season of Easter. The occasion unites the Roman Catholic Church in Europe and the Eastern Catholic Churches in union with the Bishop of Rome. Please join us on this occasion in praying for an end to war and the reestablishment of unity and peace, and to give thanks for the steadfast witness of Eastern Christians in holding fast to their faith, traditions and biblical homelands, even though many suffer the effects of war and discrimination, especially those in Ukraine and the Palestinian territories who are dispossessed and displaced.

VACANCY: The Diocesan Education Service is seeking to appoint a highly professional, motivated Governance, Admissions, and Appeals Officer to join their small and friendly team. The post will start on 1st September, at a salary between £38k and £42k, and applications should be received by Tuesday 7th May. More details can be found at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers.

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!

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.