

**Please Note: We are updating our new website.  
If anyone has any memories or old photos of Mother of God Church  
and they would like to share for the new website,  
please speak to Sharon Pritchard after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday.**

**Cycle of prayer during Ordinary Time, we pray for these intentions: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews. Those who Suffer persecution, Oppression, and Denial of Human rights. Europe. Human Life. Seafarers.**

**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.**



**A Prayer for our Parish Community**

**Almighty God,  
we pray for your blessing on all who  
share in the life and work of our Church and Parish:**

**In the ministry of word and sacrament,  
in teaching and pastoral care,  
in service to the Diocese and Deanery.  
The community and those in need,  
in ecumenical fellowship and co-operation.**

**We pray for all members of the congregation,  
that in their life and work they may advance  
your kingdom and bear witness to your love,  
shown in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**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.**



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



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**NRCDT- Registered Charity**

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

**Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914**



**Seventeenth Week of Ordinary Time**

**28<sup>th</sup> July – 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

**Mass intentions  
this week for all  
parishioners**

Sunday 28.07	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	No Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	<b>The Pope's prayer intentions for August 2024</b>  <b>For Political Leaders</b> Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.
Monday 29.07	No Service	St Martha, Mary and Lazarus	
Tuesday 30.07	No Service		
Wednesday 31.07	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest	
Thursday 1.08	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor	
Friday 2.08	9.30am 10am 5:30pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro Malabar rite	
Saturday 3.08	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 4.08	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

**World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** - Sunday 28th July 2024. Pope Francis' message for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2024, Reminds us that God never abandons his children, never. He chose the theme: "Do not cast me off in my old age" (cf. Ps 71:9). <https://bit.ly/3zHS0yi>.

**International Mass – Music Practice.** The next music practice is on August 1st at 7.00pm. Entrance is via the sacristy door. The International Mass is an important event for our community so it is important for our music and worship to reflect the multi-ethnic make-up of our parish community. Please set aside time for this practice and come along. The practice is every fortnight and lasts one hour, no longer. Spread the word and make our International Mass a wonderful celebration. **Ian McKay - Chair of Parish Council**

### VOCATIONS

If you want to speak to someone about whether God might be calling you to the priesthood, contact Fr Neil Peoples, Vocations Director, at [vocations@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:vocations@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or call 01283564814.

## Background on the Gospel Reading John 6:1-15.

Jesus feeds the crowd of more than five thousand people  
with five barley loaves and two fish.

Through most of Lectionary Cycle B, our Sunday Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel of Mark. Over the past two Sundays, we heard how Jesus sent his disciples to share in his mission. If we were to continue reading Mark's Gospel, we would next hear his report of how Jesus feeds the crowds in the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Our Lectionary, however, leaves Mark's Gospel for the next several weeks and instead presents this event from the Gospel of John. In John's Gospel, Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fishes is presented as a sign of his authority and divinity. Jesus interprets the meaning and significance of this miracle as a sharing of his Body and Blood. This chapter is sometimes called the "Bread of Life Discourse."

In many important ways, John's Gospel uses the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes to teach about the Eucharist. Like the Last Supper, this miracle is said to have occurred near the time of the Jewish feast of Passover. (In John's Gospel three Passovers are identified.) Jesus' language is similar to the language he used at the Last Supper as reported in the Synoptic Gospels. John's description of this event also anticipates the Messianic banquet of heaven, as the crowd reclines and all hungers are satisfied with abundance. This connection is further amplified by the response of the crowd, who wants to make Jesus a king. John is teaching us that each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are anticipating the eternal banquet of heaven.

Recall that John's Gospel tells the story of the Last Supper differently than the Synoptic Gospels. Instead of describing the meal and Jesus' actions with the bread and cup, John describes how Jesus washed his disciples' feet. We hear this Gospel when we remember the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. This recollection of Jesus' action at the Last Supper complements the institution narrative of the Synoptic Gospels and Paul's Letters that we hear repeated at each Mass.

In both stories about the Eucharist—the washing of the disciples' feet and the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes—the Gospel of John teaches us that the Eucharist is an action. Our word Eucharist is taken from the Greek language and describes an action: "to give thanks." In the Eucharist we are fed by Jesus himself, and we are sent to serve others.

John's Gospel notes the detail that the bread blessed and shared with the crowd are barley loaves. This is the food of the poor. It reminds us that God feeds and nourishes us, fulfilling our physical needs as well as our spiritual ones. In the Eucharist, we are sent to serve the poorest among us.

The story of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes recalls a particular aspect of the Mass. In this miracle, Jesus transforms a young boy's offering of five barley loaves and two fish. In the offertory at Mass, we present the fruits of our labors, represented by bread and wine. These gifts, given to us first by God as grain and fruit, are returned to God in our offering of thanksgiving. God in turn transforms our gifts, making this bread and wine the very Body and Blood of Jesus. We also offer ourselves in this exchange, and we, too, are transformed by the Eucharist.

**300 Club Draw 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024:** £50 R H (135). £25 M K (12), P K (214).

**Mass Intentions.** 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 the 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 intentions.



*"Humanity's abuse of nature requires a true conversion and invites us to change our lifestyles."* Pope Francis makes this appeal in his Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to be held on 1 September. The Day, which this year is also the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, kicks off the annual Season of Creation, which is celebrated by Christians of all denominations until St Francis' feast day on 4 October. The Day's theme this year is "Hope and Act with Creation," drawn from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans (8:19-25), in which the Apostle explains what it means for us to live according to the Spirit. Click below to watch a video summary of Pope Francis' message. For more information, please visit: <https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/ne...>

**Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer** for the Sanctity of Life is being held in Walsingham on Saturday 3rd August, led by Bishop David Oakley of Northampton Diocese. Information at: [www.walsingham.org.uk/event/pro-life-pilgrimage-4/](http://www.walsingham.org.uk/event/pro-life-pilgrimage-4/).

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Pilgrimage to Walsingham** on Monday 26th August 2024 at the Catholic National Shrine led by Fr Zvonimir Pavičić OFM parish priest of St James, Medjugorje. 1.15pm Gathering, Rosary and Litany. Talk by Fr Zvonimir. Break (Sacrament of Reconciliation). 3.45pm Holy Mass, Adoration and Benediction. 5.30pm Depart. A coach will leave Leicester from St Patrick's, Beaumont Leys Lane, at 8am with a stop at St Joseph's, Uppingham Road. The cost of a return seat is £19. Children under 16 years £5. Please ring Paul Spencer on 07710567183 or email pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com for more information and to book a place. **See poster in church porch.**

**Family Pilgrimage Day at Mount Saint Bernard's Abbey.** On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Outdoor Mass at 2pm in the guest house garden, family picnic, (please bring a chair or picnic blanket & picnic). Marian procession followed by adoration and Benediction. This will be run alongside the Cyprian Tansi Pilgrimage held on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August. It would be really lovely to join together our parishes, schools and families. The date chosen is the first weekend of the start of term. **See poster in church porch.**

**Volunteers are needed to tidy the church gardens, especially the spaces in front of the church. Any help you can give will be much appreciated. For further information, speak to Maila Taylor after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, or send an email to the parish office ([mogparish@gmail.com](mailto:mogparish@gmail.com)). Thank you.**

**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.

**Thank you for your continued support.**