

Mother of God First Holy Communion Programme 2024-2025.

Applications forms for our First Holy Communion are now available in a box at the back of the church. Children from school year 3 or older and have been baptised are invited to apply. Parents, please be aware that your active participation will be needed in order to support your child throughout this programme. Please complete the application forms in block capitals and return them in a sealed envelope to the same box or to Father Hans directly. Thank you all very much and am looking forward to meeting you all soon.
Margaret Bobs

CENSUS UPDATE: There are Census forms on the table in the church porch. Please fill in a form, so that you could be added to our parish list. Also, let us know of any recent change of address. Please give your completed form to Fr. Hans or Sharon Pritchard.

Cycle of prayer during Ordinary Time - Autumn; we pray for these intentions: Students and Teachers. The Spread of the Gospel. The Harvest. The Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation. Justice and Peace in the Worlds. All Victims of War. Young People. Prisoners and their Families.

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.

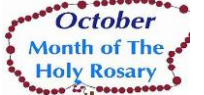
Prayer for the Season of Creation

**God of love, show us our place in this world
as the channels of your love
for all creatures of this earth,
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good, advance the weak,
and care for this world in which we live.
The poor and the earth are crying out.
O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom
Of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you!
Amen.**

	<p><i>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</i></p> <p>(0116) 287 5232 <i>✉mogparish@gmail.com</i> www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p>	<p><i>Parish Priest: Fr Hans Puthiakulangara</i> e-mail: hansps83@gmail.com mob: 07428658756</p>  <p><i>NRCDT- Registered Charity</i></p>
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Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctlleicester.co.uk/
English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914

	<p>Twenty-Sixth Week of Ordinary Time 29th September – 6th October 2024</p>	
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Sunday 29.09	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite International Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	<p>The Pope's prayer intentions for October 2024 For A Shared Mission Let us pray that the Church continues to sustain a synodal lifestyle in every way, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, communion and mission shared by priests, religious and laity.</p>
Monday 30.09	No Service	St. Jerome, priest and doctor (memorial)	
Tuesday 1.10	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration and Rosary Holy Mass - St. Therese of the Child Jesus (memorial)	
Wednesday 2.10	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration and Rosary Holy Mass - The Holy Guardian Angels (memorial)	
Thursday 3.10	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration and Rosary Holy Mass	
Friday 4.10	9.30am 10am 5.30pm	Silent Adoration and Rosary Holy Mass - St. Francis of Assisi (memorial) Rosary and Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite CAFOD Family Fast Day	
Saturday 5.10	9.30am 10am 5.30pm	Silent Adoration and Rosary Holy Mass - St Faustina Kowalska (memorial) Rosary and Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	
Sunday 6.10	8.30am 10.30am 3.30pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Rosary and Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

International Mass Today Sunday 29th September with Bishop Patrick McKinney.

Refreshments will be available in the Parish Hall afterwards.

There will be a photographer for the website so, please let us know if you do not give permission for a photograph to be used. Thank you.

HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2024.

Give today so that people around the world can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential. £10 can teach someone to read, can provide training like carpentry and sewing for those who missed out on school so they can earn a living, can buy all the tools, equipment and teaching materials for six months of carpentry training.

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR COLLECTION ENVELOPE IN CHURCH!

SECOND COLLECTION TO BE TAKEN ON SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER.

Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk/envelope.

Background on the Gospel Reading Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48.

Jesus teaches that whoever is not against him is for him.

Today we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Recall that last week we heard Jesus chastise his disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. In today's Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark's Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus' words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus' name with others.

Today the demon possession described in the Gospels might be seen as a form of mental illness, but the need for healing these syndromes was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine. Some people had the power to heal the symptoms of possession. One of the strategies used was to invoke the name of a person or figure who was believed to have the power to heal.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus' name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In his reply to his disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He also teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others.

Later in this Gospel, Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are just beginning to have faith but to encourage even the smallest signs of faith. The Greek word used here for sin also connotes "stumbling" or "causing scandal." In vivid terms Jesus teaches his disciples the consequences to those who would put obstacles before people who are on the road to faith.

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.

New Missal. Hodder & Stoughton are publishing a brand-new edition of The Sunday Missal for use with the new ESV-CE lectionary from Advent this year. It is available from all good bookshops and online., priced at just £18.99, and available in an attractive blue or red binding. Contains an easy-to-follow Order of Mass, introductions to all the seasons and readings as well as extra devotional material - a true spiritual companion (blue 9781399822831, Red 9781399822770).

300 Club Draw 22nd September 2024: £50 A H (271). £25 M B (63), S P (187).

Open Evening for Year 6 students at English Martyrs' Catholic School on Thursday 3rd October 2024, 5.00- 6.45pm. Formal Address by Mr Calen, Principal at: 5.00pm, 5.25pm and 5.45pm in the Auditorium.

Sixth Form Open Evening at English Martyrs' Catholic School on Thursday 17 October 5.00 - 6.45pm.

Faith and Footprint workshop - Caring for Creation. Tuesday 1 October at 7pm. Faith and Footprint is our regular opportunity to explore how our faith calls us to live on the Earth - and to put it into practice. Join us to answer the call to care for our common home. At this session we will Mark the closing of the Season of Creation with a short liturgy. Give an update on opportunities to decarbonise our parishes and help the diocese reach net zero. Share practical ideas for reducing our parishes' environmental footprint and decarbonising your buildings. **Everyone welcome.** You'll find the workshop especially useful if you are involved in the CAFOD Livesimply scheme or a diocesan Pioneer Parish - but everyone who is praying and working for a greener Church and world is invited.

[Book now for Faith and Footprint.](#)

IS GOD CALLING ME TO BE A PRIEST? Do you feel that God might be calling you to the priesthood? If so, please contact Father Neil Peoples, Vocations Director, at vocations@nottinghamdiocese.uk to book a place at the next discernment meeting taking place at Cathedral Hall, Nottingham at 10.30am on Saturday 5th October.

LACY's BIG SING 2024. After the success of last year's Big Sing, we at Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth (LACY) are holding another Big Sing 2024 at The Immaculate Conception Church, Oadby on Sunday 6th October 2024 at 4pm. This is a fantastic opportunity to share our faith and celebrate our talents through music and singing. We are inviting all young people, families, friends and parishes with their own music groups and choirs, to come along and be involved in the liturgy with their voices and instruments. We welcome anyone who plays an instrument to join our folk group and bring along percussion instruments to use during the event. Parish choirs/folk groups are welcome to sing/play favourite hymns. If you have any questions about the event or would like to be involved in playing with the folk group or singing as a choir, please contact: Pauline Payne email - paulinepayne@hotmail.com - tel: 07885 187374 or Jo Shearer - joshearer@hotmail.com.

Church at the Edge on Saturday 12th October, 11.15am- 4.00pm, in Corpus Christi Church, Cleethorpes, the 2024 Diocesan Justice and Peace Assembly. Join Caritas for a day to build parishes which reach to the margins of society. Starting with Mass with Bishop Patrick, the keynote speaker is Lord Maurice Glasman, director of the Common Good Foundation, also afternoon speakers on seafarers' chaplaincy, visiting migration detainees and growing greener churches. For details visit bit.ly/churchattheedge.

Caritas is working with Adult Formation to offer four interactive sessions to explore how we can reach those at the edge of our parish communities. **Pastoral Peripheries webinars. Each Monday in October at 7.00pm on zoom.** There are many people who visit our parishes, or have had some contact with us but feel distant from the community. How do we reach them? How do they know we care? How can we help them feel Christ's presence in our community? Each session will focus on a different group and what parishes are doing to help them feel part of the community and encounter Christ. The Sessions will be on **Families, The Bereaved, Neurodiverse Parishioners, The Socially Isolated.** Register on bit.ly/4dPPII7.

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