

Peace Sunday

Since its establishment in 1967 by Pope St Paul VI, the Popes have taken the World Day of Peace on the 1st January as an opportunity to offer a message on peace related topics. Every year, with the support of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, England and Wales, we promote Peace Sunday on the second Sunday in Ordinary Time as a way of observing the World Day of Peace and promoting the Pope's message for that year.

In 2025, Peace Sunday will fall on **Sunday 19th January** and our hope is that as many parishes as possible across the country will mark the day. Every year we publish resources to help parishes and groups observe Peace Sunday. This year's resources are available to download below and you can order them by emailing peacesunday@paxchristi.org.uk Pope Francis' message for the World Day of Peace has been published and his theme is 'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace'. The message speaks of how we must listen to the 'pleas of an endangered humanity', how the year of Jubilee inspires us to seek the liberating justice of God in our world and how by '*opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, we will restore God's justice on earth*' and '*move forward to achieve the goal of peace*'.

You can download a copy of the full message from the link below.

[Pope Francis' Message for the World Day of Peace 2025.](#)

SPUC Membership Appeal: Please phone 0207091 to make a donation or to become a member.

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.



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!

Please take this newsletter home with you.



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NRCDT- Registered Charity

**Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctlleicester.co.uk/
 English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/**

MOG Safeguarding Officer: Michelle Dempster - 07718279920 - michelleadempster@gmail.com

Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914



The Baptism of the Lord

12th – 19th January 2025

First Week of Ordinary Time

Sunday 12.01	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Delaine Mukopfa RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	<p>The Pope's prayer intentions for JANUARY 2025</p> <p>For The Right To An Education Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.</p>
Monday 13.01	No Service		
Tuesday 14.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Makangu Family Thanksgiving	
Wednesday 15.01	5.30pm 6pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Francis P J RIP	
Thursday 16.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Mathew K T RIP	
Friday 17.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Ansamma Thomas RIP St. Anthony, abbot (memorial)	
Saturday 18.01	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 19.01	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Patricia Dube RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS.

Please keep in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish. We continue to pray for Ukraine and its people, for the people of Israel and Palestine, Lebanon and Syria and for all the war-torn countries in the world. Let's also pray for all the people that have been affected by climate change and have lost their home and livelihood.

Cycle of prayer during Ordinary Time (Winter).

- Peace on Earth; especially on Sunday 19th January.
- Openness to the Word of God; especially on Sunday 26th January.
- Christian Unity; especially between Saturday 18th and Saturday 25th January inclusive.
- The Sick and Those who Care for them; especially on Tuesday 11th February.
- Victims of Trafficking and those who Work to Combat it; especially on Saturday 8th February.
- The Unemployed, especially on Sunday 2nd March.

Background on the Gospel Reading Luke 3:15-16,21-22.

Jesus is baptized by John.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another "epiphany." On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.

300 Club Results 5th January 2025: £50 L V (8). £25 L H A G (219), G B (220).

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

A Year of Hope: An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development. 2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? How will the Church be celebrating it? How can I get involved? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa) and more in this lively start to the Jubilee. Hear highlights of how we're celebrating as a church and how we can be tangible signs of hope and build a better world together throughout this holy year. With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse.

Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday, online. Register here for free: cafod.org.uk/jubilee
There's a shorter article below if the above is too long for your newsletter. This event will include Luke 4:16-21, ('The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...') a core passage for the Jubilee which will be the Gospel for Sunday 26th January.
Please see our [\[cafod.org.uk/jubilee\]](https://cafod.org.uk/jubilee) page for more resources and information around the Jubilee.

AFCM UK Awakening Evangelisation & Healing Conference on 25th January 2025, 9am - 4pm. Bethel Convention Centre, West Bromwich, B70 7JW. Join us for a powerful day of spiritual renewal as we focus on renewing our parishes in this Jubilee Year. We warmly invite all Catholics in Leicester to come and experience a deeper relationship with God. Led by Fr. Xavier Khan Vattayil (renowned International preacher and retreat leader). A coach is available from Holy Cross Church, Leicester to the Bethel Convention Centre, making it easy for you to join us. To reserve your spot on the coach or for more information, please call or message Daly at +44 7823783427 or Arun at +44 7392928576. FOR ANY INFO : WWW.AFCMUK.ORG.

Our next online Faith and Footprint workshop online, Monday 17th February 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'll:

- Introduce the **Laudato Si Animators'** programme which starts on 28 April - it would be great to have a group from Nottingham Diocese following it together
- Share plans for the **2025 Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope** which converges on Nottingham in September
- Exchange 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](#)
[Find out about the Laudato Si Animators' programme.](#)

Cathedral Hall, Nottingham, Thursday 13 February 1.00 - 5.00pm, If you're involved in, or would like to set up, a parish-run community café, warm space or drop-in join us at this event to get inspired, connected and equipped. Volunteers and organisers are very welcome from across our diocese. The event is organised by the ecumenical network Transforming Notts Together which Caritas belongs to. It is an opportunity to hear inspiring stories from projects like your parish's, find mutual support and encouragement, connect with NHS and other partners, and be equipped for your service with training and insight from leading experts. Speakers include:

- David Barclay, Warm Welcome Spaces Campaign Director and Partner in the Good Faith Partnership
- Nigel Adams, Places of Welcome co-ordinator for Notts, founder of Hope Nottingham, author of 'Communities of Hope' [Ask for further details on 'What next for Warm Spaces'](#)



God our Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, awaken in us this Jubilee Year a missionary heart
for the coming of your Kingdom. May the gift of your grace
transform us, Pilgrims of Hope, into your missionary disciples,
blessed with the gifts and talents you give us.
Strengthen us to share our Saviour's message of love, joy, and peace
with all the people we meet this year,
so that we may help build up your Kingdom on earth.
To you our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be glory and praise for ever and ever.
Amen