

The Season of Lent 2025

- Ash Wednesday 5th March
- First Week of Lent Sunday 9th March
- CAFOD Lent Fast Day - Friday 14th March
(CAFOD envelopes for your donations will be distributed on Sunday 9th March and collected for the following two weekends).

CAFOD Lent Appeal - Family Fast Day collection. Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

Cycle of Prayer during Lent, we pray for these intentions:

- Candidates for the Sacraments; especially on the Sundays of Lent
- Women; especially on Friday 7th March
- The Needy and Hungry of the World; especially on Friday 14th March
- Penitents and Wanderers
- Victims of Trafficking and those who Work to Combat it.
- The Unemployed, especially on Sunday 2nd March.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PARISH

If you wish to contribute to the Parish Funds, please use these Bank Details. If you are a tax-payer, please request a gift aid declaration form from the parish via email, so that we can reclaim for the parish fund money you pay in tax to the government.

LLOYDS BANK
Mother of God Leicester RCP
SORT CODE 30-94-97
ACC. NO. 01538822



Jubilee Prayer

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

		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  NRC DT - Registered Charity
Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.cktleicester.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			
		Seventh Week of Ordinary Time 23rd February – 2nd March 2025	Special Prayers today for the Unemployed
Sunday 23.02	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	The Pope's prayer intentions for March 2025 For Families In Crisis Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.
Monday 24.02	No Service	Priests' Retreat	
Tuesday 25.02	No Service	Priests' Retreat	
Wednesday 26.02	No Service	Priests' Retreat	
Thursday 27.02	No Service	Priests' Retreat	
Friday 28.02	No Service	Priests' Retreat	
Saturday 1.03	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales (Feast).	
Sunday 2.03	8.30am 10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - For the deceased members of Sweeney & Murphy families Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

Rosary Rally, at 1:30pm. Opposite Sports Direct, Leicester City Centre, Monthly every first Sunday, Contact Maziano on +447737 158224.

Please bring your old Palms to church.

Gluten Free Eucharist is available. If you require it, speak to Terry Knott or Chris Mukopfa.

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 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.

Please take this newsletter home with you.

Background on the Gospel Reading Luke 6:27-38.

Jesus teaches his disciples to be merciful as God is merciful.

Today's gospel reading is a continuation of the teaching that began in last Sunday's gospel. We continue to hear Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. Recall that in Luke's Gospel, this teaching is addressed to Jesus' disciples. This is in contrast to the parallel found in Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus' words are addressed to both the disciples and to the crowds.

These words from Jesus' teaching are familiar to us. They constitute the crux and the challenge of what it means to be a disciple: Love your enemies, turn the other cheek, give to those who ask, do unto others, lend without expecting repayment, judge not lest you be judged.

There are several similarities between Luke's and Matthew's report of Jesus' great teaching. Both begin with the [Beatitudes](#). Matthew includes nearly all the content that Luke does; the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel is longer than Luke's Sermon on the Plain. There are, however, differences in language and nuance. For example, Matthew presents this portion of the teaching as a contrast between Jesus' teaching and the teachings of the law and the prophets. This is in keeping with Matthew's concern to address his predominantly Jewish audience. It is likely that Luke omits this contrast because it was unnecessary for the Gentile believers for whom Luke is writing.

Another point of contrast between Matthew and Luke's presentation is the terminology. In Luke, Jesus contrasts the behaviour of his followers with the behaviour of "sinners." In Matthew, Jesus contrasts the behaviour desired with the behaviour of tax collectors and Gentiles. Matthew concludes the teaching about love of enemies with the admonition to be perfect as God is perfect; Luke concludes by emphasizing God's mercy.

In both Gospels, Jesus' words challenge those who would follow him to be more like God. God loves us beyond our expectations, beyond anything we can possibly imagine. In response to God's love, we are to love as God loves, beyond expectations and with a depth beyond imagining.

300 Club Results 16th February 2025: £50 M H (205). £25 S V (179), J D (139).

Weekly Collection: Sunday 16/2/25 £393.93. Thank you to all.

"300 CLUB DIVIDEND. The 300 Club Committee are pleased to announce the dividend for the year ending October 2024 totals £6,600 - to be split evenly as £2,200 for each of our three churches of Mother of God, Most Blessed Sacrament and St Peter. Thank you to all members and there are more membership numbers available for current members and new members alike - subscription remain as £60 per year/£5 per month. Please contact John Gray for a new Membership Form.

Existing members - You are reminded that winning cheques are sent by post, so please ensure that you advise of any change of address.

A Year of Hope: An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development. Friday 28th February, 5.30pm -10pm. 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.

Mass For Young Adults at St Barnabas Cathedral on Friday 28th February. Bishop Patrick will celebrate Mass at Saint Barnabas Cathedral at 10pm for Young Adults (18-35)

making use of the beautiful lighting in the Cathedral for 'Nottingham Night Light'. If you would like to support the Mass in any way, reading, serving, welcoming, then please contact charles.archer@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

Sing the Mass, a day for parish choirs, cantors and anyone who believes that the one who sings prays twice, will cover: Psalms from the new lectionary; Chants in the missal; and Entrance and communion antiphons. The Day will be held at Saint Wilfrid of York, Coalville, LE67 3JB, on Saturday 15th March, from 10.30am for 11.00am start. Bring a packed lunch, hot drinks are provided. The Day concludes with Sunday Mass at 4.00pm, singing what we have learnt. The facilitators are: Lynda Durcan and Father Colin Patey, and the cost is £5, payable on the day. For enquiries and to book: singthecatholicmass@gmail.com.

Flame takes place on Saturday the 15th March 2025 and is the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. Filled with inspiring speakers, incredible live music, prayer, adoration and young people from across England and Wales it's an event like no other! Booking for Flame 2025 is now open! [Book here](#). If you have any problems placing an order, please email flame@cymfed.org.uk.

Youth2000 - Day Retreat for young adults at The Briars, Crich, DE4 5BW with Bishop Patrick. Saturday, 22nd March 2025. Contact Charles.archer@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

The Leicestershire Eucharistic Ministers Renewal Day for 2025 is on April 5th 2025 at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Leicester Road, Hinckley, Leics. LE10 1LW. Bishop Patrick will be leading most of the day which will begin at 10:30 am with tea and coffee followed our first talk and will finish between 3 - 3:30pm. We realise that some of you may no longer to travel. Please be assured that you will be remembered in our prayers. Registering. (please try to do this by 25th March, if you can - thank you.) You may register as an individual or as part of a Parish group. Please email Mrs M Hunt mchunt2310@btinternet.com.

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill webinar at 6.30pm. Prior to the third Reading on 25th April. Please register at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hard-cases-dont-make-good-law-assisted-suicide-webinar-tickets-1233106176769?aff=oddtcreator.

Our next online Faith and Footprint workshop online.

- 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.

Nottingham Diocesan Jubilee Lourdes Pilgrimage taking place between Monday 14th and Friday 18th July with Bishop Patrick. The Pilgrimage includes a full liturgical programme, with Mass each day; return direct flights from East Midlands Airport to Lourdes; full board for four nights in a three- or four- star hotel; assistance (for those who need it) from the Diocesan Hospitality and Health Team. Prices start from £899, and more details are at: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/lourdes. Young adults (18-35) are also warmly invited to join the Jubilee Lourdes Pilgrimage. For young adults interested in supporting pilgrims, deepening faith, and coming together as a community, contact charles.archer@dioceseofnottingham.uk. or visit www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-nottingham-ya.

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!