

WORDS OF THE HOLY FATHER

Today throughout the world there resounds the message proclaimed two thousand years ago from Jerusalem: "Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has been raised!" (...)

Jesus Christ is risen! He alone has the power to roll away the stones that block the path to life. He, the living One, is himself that path. He is the Way: the way that leads to life, the way of peace, reconciliation and fraternity. He opens that path, humanly impossible, because he alone takes away the sin of the world and forgives us our sins. For without God's forgiveness, that stone cannot be removed. Without the forgiveness of sins, there is no overcoming the barriers of prejudice, mutual recrimination, the presumption that we are always right and others wrong. Only the risen Christ, by granting us the forgiveness of our sins, opens the way for a renewed world. Jesus alone opens up before us the doors of life, those doors that continually we shut with the wars spreading throughout the world. (...)

The tomb of Jesus is open and it is empty! From this, everything begins anew! A new path leads through that empty tomb: the path that none of us, but God alone, could open: the path of life in the midst of death, the path of peace in the midst of war, the path of reconciliation in the midst of hatred, the path of fraternity in the midst of hostility.

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

- New Members of the Church
- Human Work; especially on Thursday 1st May
- Vocations; especially on Sunday 11th May
- Survivors of Abuse; especially on Tuesday 20th May
- The right use of the Media; especially on Sunday 1st June
- The Church; especially on Sunday 8th June.

**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.
We also pray for the people of Myanmar, after the devastating earthquake.**





Please note that there will be no Children's Liturgy and no refreshments in the hall TODAY Easter Sunday. Both events will take places as usual next Sunday.

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|  | <p><i>Mother of God</i> Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> | <p>Parish Priest: Fr Hans Puthiakulangara e-mail: hansps83@gmail.com mob: 07428658756</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  NRC DT - Registered Charity </p> |
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Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ckleicester.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

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|  | <p>Easter Sunday</p> <p>20th - 27th April 2025</p> |  |
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| Sunday 20.04 | 8.30am 10.30am | Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Juviline Nadamukong Epse Awasum RIP | <p>The Pope's prayer intentions for April 2025</p> <p>For The Use Of New Technologies</p> <p>Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.</p> |
| Monday 21.04 | No Service | | |
| Tuesday 22.04 | 9.30am 10am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Jean Hidelaratchi RIP | |
| Wednesday 23.04 | 5.30pm 6pm | Silent Adoration Holy Mass | |
| Thursday 24.04 | 9.30am 10am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass | |
| Friday 25.04 | 9.30am 10 am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass | |
| Saturday 26.04 | 9.30am 10am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass | |
| Sunday 27.04 | 8.30am 10.30am 4.00 pm | Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite | |

Easter Collection this year will be towards paying for the heating system.

EASTER PRAYER

Gracious God,
We praise you for the light of new life made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life that shone on the first witness of resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today.
We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy, will live in us each day; and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others. Amen.



Background on the Gospel Reading: Luke 24;1-12.

The women go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body and are greeted by two men who announce that Jesus is risen.

Each of the four Gospels reports the discovery of the empty tomb after Jesus' death. At the Easter Vigil each year, we read from one of the Synoptic Gospels. This year we are in Lectionary Cycle C and we read from the Gospel of Luke. On Easter Sunday, the Gospel reading is always taken from the Gospel of John.

In each of the four Gospels, we learn that it was the female followers of Jesus who first went to the tomb. Luke reports that the women from Galilee go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body, bringing with them the spices they had prepared. Luke names three women who found the tomb empty: Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary, the mother of James.

Upon arriving at the tomb, the women find that the stone has been rolled away from the entrance. They enter the tomb but do not see the body of Jesus. Before the women have drawn any conclusions about this, they see two men dressed in dazzling garments. The women are said to be terrified. When these men speak to the women, they announce that Jesus has been raised from the dead. As if to prove their announcement, the men recall Jesus' own words to them. The women leave the tomb and report to the others what they have seen and heard. These women disciples were faithful followers of Jesus who had probably served Jesus in many ways during his journeys. Luke tells us that they remained present with Jesus on his way to the crucifixion site and witnessed his death. They came to the tomb that morning expecting to serve Jesus once again by anointing his body. Instead, they were sent to minister in a different way, as messengers to Peter and the apostles.

Yet the apostles do not believe the women. Luke reports that the women's story seemed like nonsense. It is odd that Peter goes to the tomb at all. Perhaps Peter knew these women well enough to give their story credence. Perhaps he remembered something that Jesus had said that led him to hope that the women's story was more than nonsense. Without explaining why, Luke tells us that Peter goes to the tomb to investigate the women's story. He looks into the tomb, sees the burial cloths alone, and then goes home amazed.

We see in Luke's Gospel that the Twelve (who now number eleven because of Judas' betrayal) are identified as separate from the other disciples. These men were identified as Jesus' inner circle; they hold a position of authority in the community of disciples. At the start of his ministry, Luke tells us that Jesus chose the Twelve and named them apostles ([Luke 6:12-16](#)). The word apostle means "one who is sent." During his lifetime, Jesus prepared these apostles to be his witnesses by sending them to heal the sick, to exorcise demons, and to proclaim the Kingdom of God.

Peter is singled out from among the Twelve. The authority of Peter and the other apostles will continue to be described in the Acts of the Apostles, which was written by the author of the Gospel of Luke. We can trace our faith in Jesus' Resurrection to these witnesses. Their teaching, their ministry, and their bold proclamation of Christ's saving death and Resurrection are the beginning of the Church's witness to salvation through Christ.

300 Club Results 13th April 2025: £50 C F (238). £25 A B (114), D Mc (181).

Weekly Collection: Sunday 13th April £396.62.

**Please do not park at the front of the church,
this space is only for Hursts or Ambulances.**

**We need a list of First Aiders: if you have a First Aid Certificate or Medical
Registration, please speak to Sharon Pritchard.**

**We also need volunteers to join a garden group which will help towards
reducing the costs of grass cutting.**

THANK YOU

NEW ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR COLLECTION!

**Please collect your new set of envelopes from the table in the church porch.
Please pick boxes with the appropriate name as your number might be different
from what you previously had.**

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.

Third Reading Vote on Assisted Suicide Bill. Our nation stands at a crucial juncture regarding how we value human life, particularly the lives of people in the most vulnerable situations. If this significant proposal to introduce assisted suicide becomes law, thousands of individuals will be placed at risk in the coming years. Mounting evidence from the small number of places around the world that have legalised assisted suicide shows that these laws are incremental, that safeguards do not work, and that the changed law can have devastating consequences. It is therefore imperative that this Assisted Suicide Bill is defeated at third reading. **Please take one of the postcards available at the back of Church and post it to your MP as soon as possible,** The Bill is expected to occur on Friday 25th April. One of the most effective ways to persuade MPs to oppose this dangerous Bill is through physical letters or postcards from constituents asking them to vote NO to the Bill. Thank you.

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 20-22 June www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983. Out of 21 couples who joined the Retrouvaille programme in February, two couples have turned away from divorce, and others have now found hope to restore their marriages. Your bulletin announcements, referrals, and prayers made this possible.

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.**

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