



“Habemus Papam” - US Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost has been chosen as our new pope. He will be known as Pope Leo the XIV.
The new pontiff was chosen on the second day of the conclave after white smoke emerged from the Sistine Chapel at just after 5pm (UK time) on Thursday 8th May 2025. "Peace be with all of you!" - the first words of Pope Leo XIV.

Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

Faithful God,
You guide us on the path of life
and your goodness is our constant companion.
Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV,
in his service of the Church.
Fill him with the power of your Spirit,
the peace of your presence
and the compassion of Christ.
May he walk with you,
in wisdom and humility,
and lead us, together with all God's people,
to embody your love for the world.
Amen. (from CAFOD)

Cycle of Prayer during Eastertide, we pray for these intentions:
New Members of the Church. Human Work. Vocations. Survivors of Abuse.
The right use of the Media. The Church.

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
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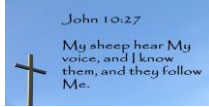
Update from April Parish Council meeting

Finance. The 24/25 financial accounts are currently being finalised. It was highlighted that employing a gardener to mow the grass around the church and hall was very expensive and it was agreed to try and get some volunteers to form a mowing group to save money.

Health & Safety. Although we have lots of medically trained and first aid qualified parishioners, we need to compile a list of First Aiders.

Dates for your diary

Syro Malabar Holy Communion Saturday 7th June.
First Holy Communion Sunday 15th June at 10.30am Mass
Our Ladies Procession Saturday 21st June at 2.00pm.
Patricia Dube RIP Memorial Mass Saturday 12th July.
Jubilee Summer Social Event Sunday 31st August from 12noon to 3.00pm.
International Mass Sunday 28th September.

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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/			
MOG Safeguarding Officer: Michelle Dempster - 07718279920 - michelleleadempster@gmail.com Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914			
		Forth Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday 11th - 18th May 2025	
Sunday 11.05	10.30am 4pm	Holy Mass - Juviline Ndaumukong RIP and Irine Ruzivo Birthday Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	Pope's prayer intentions for May 2025 For Working Conditions Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.
Monday 12.05	No Service		
Tuesday 13.05	No Service		
Wednesday 14.05	No Service		
Thursday 15.05	No Service		
Friday 16.05	No Service		
Saturday 17.05	No Service		
Sunday 18.05	10.30am 4.00 pm	Holy Mass - Margaret and Frank Quinn RIP, Frank Burke RIP & Jean Hidelaratchi RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR THE CLERGY FORMATION FUND.

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, Syria and Sudan and for all the war-torn countries in the world.

Mental Health Awareness Week 2025. Starts 12th May until 18th May. The theme is 'Community.' Let's honour the strength and value of our Christian community and the wealth of resources it offers. Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. Taking care of your mental health is an act of **self-love**. It's really important to us that everything we produce or distribute is genuinely supportive and understanding of people. We can explore the ways we can enhance our mental health and give us the tools to improve our everyday lives for a happier and more connected life to ourselves, our families, communities and God.

"It's okay not to be okay."

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.

Background on the Gospel Reading: John 10:27-30.

Jesus describes his care for his sheep.

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel is taken from the tenth chapter of the Gospel of John. This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge to his authority by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders. Already, the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angered that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see [John 10:31](#) and [10:39](#)). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

Set in a moment of tension and conflict in John's Gospel, today's Gospel reading is Jesus' answer to the question, "Are you the Messiah?" Jesus responds by saying, in essence, "If you have to ask, then you are not one of my sheep." Then Jesus asserts his unity with the Father. At the conclusion of these words, John reports that the Jews intend to stone Jesus for blasphemy, but he escapes arrest.

We may be less familiar with the metaphors of sheep and shepherd than those to whom Jesus spoke. The image of Jesus as Good Shepherd and the community of followers as his sheep has endured over the centuries as a primary image in our faith tradition. Its power to describe the relationship between Jesus and his followers transcends direct experience with sheep. The image speaks to us about the protection, security, and care that shepherds represent for their sheep.

Today's Gospel speaks powerfully about the familiarity and intimacy between Jesus and his disciples, expressed as recognizing and knowing another's voice. Today's Gospel also speaks to the relationship between Jesus and the Father. In the Gospel of John, Jesus identifies so closely with the Father that he tells us that they are one—not just close, but actually one. To know Jesus is to know the Father. Jesus doesn't just bring us closer to the Father, Jesus puts us directly into contact with God the Father, removing all distance between us. Our relationship with Jesus is an invitation to share in the life of God.

300 Club Results 4th May 2025: £50 G H (120), £25 T K (13), F McL (67).

Collection on Sunday 4th May: £388.10. Thank you very much.

The Assisted Suicide Legislation Report has been put back from 24th April to the 16th May. The vote may take place then, or on 13th June. This gives us more time to contact our MPs and request they vote against this evil Bill, and to pray that it will not be passed.

Young Adults' Evening Leicester with Sr Catherine COLW. Join Sister Catherine COLW for an evening of discussion, prayer, food and social time on Thursday 22nd May from 6 to 8pm. Location TBC. Visit dioceseofnottingham.uk/events. For more information and to sign up.

The Health Team who supports the Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage is in need of some additional experienced team members for this year's pilgrimage. If you, or someone you know, is a currently Registered Nurse or trained and experienced Care Worker, who may be interested and can commit to being available for this year's Jubilee Pilgrimage between Monday 14th and Friday 18th July, as well as for a couple of training days on Sunday 15th and Saturday 28th June, please contact Deacon David Knight david@sthughslincoln.org.uk. for more details.

Could you be a Briars Ambassador for 12 months? The Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service (NDCYS) has a wonderful group of volunteers who support The Briars Catholic Youth Retreat Centre through practical support, prayer and fundraising. The Friends of The Briars is hosting an Ambassadors' Day for those interested in becoming a Briars Ambassador, on Saturday 7th June between 10.00am and 3.00pm at The Briars, DE4 5BW. Visit ndcys.com/friends-of-the-briars/ for more information.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival provides young adults (aged 16-35) from across the UK the opportunity to come together and explore faith, build relationships and find hope. Taking place in the grounds of **Ampleforth College from Friday 22nd - Monday 25th August**. This four-day festival includes great speakers, social time, break-out sessions, Daily Mass, 24/7 Adoration and much more! Register your place at youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025. Tickets are also available for priests, religious, families and groups. If you have any questions, please email events@youth2000.org.

Mission Lab Caritas: Monthly inspirations for parish evangelisation and outreach. Mission Lab offers fresh ideas for the future of your parish. In nine online sessions starting in May 2025, we'll showcase how parishes around Nottingham diocese are seeking to build vibrant, attractive, and outward-facing Catholic communities.

Tuesday 20 May: Welcomers and welcoming

Monday 16 June: Intertwining vocations

Tuesday 8 July: What next after RCIAS?

Mission Lab isn't just a 'think tank' for mission, but a 'do tank' as well - a space to discern, plan and equip ourselves to be pilgrims of hope, in the Church of today and tomorrow. We'll:

- learn from good practice around the diocese and beyond
- develop initiatives that can be proposed in our own parishes
- grow personally in confidence, resourcefulness, and leadership
- form a community of practice for parish resilience and renewal.

More details & how to book can be found here:

<https://us14.campaign-archive.com/?u=836fda909b1148aa84bb903fe&id=8464ff33f1>.

**Please do not park at the front of the church,
this space is only for Hearses 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. Please speak to Matthew Nazareth. THANK YOU**



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