

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
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The Season of Ordinary Time(Winter). Cycle of Prayer:

- Peace on Earth; especially on 18th January.
- Openness to the Word of God; especially on Sunday 25th January.
- Christian Unity; especially between Sunday 18th and Sunday 25th January inclusive.
- Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; especially on Sunday 8th February.
- The Sick and Those who Care for Them; especially on Wednesday 11th February.
- The Unemployed, especially on Sunday 15th February.



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

Electronic Newsletter & Newsletter Additions: The Electronic Newsletter is now being sent to those who requested a copy. If you would like to receive a weekly newsletter by email or you have any newsletter additions, please email mogparish@gmail.com

A copy of Start of Term Letter from English Martyrs will be available from the church porch.



~Tea/coffee after the 10.30am Mass every Sunday in the hall. Please join us!



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Parish Priest: Fr Hans Puthiakulangara
e-mail: hansps83@gmail.com
mob: 07344109949

Please note: Fr. Hans' new number.



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



Third Week of Ordinary Time

25th January – 1st February 2026

Sunday 25.01	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - William John O'Brien RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	Pope Leo prayer intentions for January 2026 For prayer with the word of God Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.
Monday 26.01	No Service	St. Timothy & Titus, bishops (memorial)	
Tuesday 27.01	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - James Camilo Birthday	
Wednesday 28.01	05.30pm 06.00pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. Thomas Aquinas, priest & doctor (memorial)	
Thursday 29.01	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Friday 30.01	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Saturday 31.01	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. John Bosco, priest (memorial)	
Sunday 01.02	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

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 Palestine and Israel, Lebanon, Syria and Sudan and for all the war-torn countries in the world. We also pray for the people that have been affected by Environment Disasters.

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. Also note: If 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. Thank you.

Please take this newsletter home with you.

Background on the Gospel reading according *Matthew 4:12-23*.

Jesus begins to preach in Galilee and calls his first disciples. (shorter form Matthew 4:12-17)

Today's Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

300 Club Sunday 18th January: £50 C Cusack (208). £25 S Campbell (287), F Dempsie (22).

Sunday Collection 18th January '26: £407.45. Peace Sunday £133.26. Crib Collection 178.22.

Faith and Footprint on Wednesday 28 January at 7pm. on Zoom. Join our next workshop for anyone praying and working for a greener Church and the world. An online opportunity to connect our faith with care for the Earth, taking a lead from Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si*. Our next workshop, on 28 January, will feature:

- A chance to share your news and challenges around engaging your parish
- An update on opportunities to help the diocese reach net zero
- Opportunities to connect with wider Catholic and ecumenical networks

Click below to register, and we'll send you a Zoom link on the day of the meeting.

We hold three of these get-togethers through the year. The next will be on 23 June and 28 September 2026. Put them in your diary now! [Register for Faith and Footprint, 28 January](#).

Leicester 40 Days for Life Launch Evening is being held at Saint Edward's Parish Hall, 633 Aylestone Road, Leicester LE2 6TF, on Monday 2nd February at 7.30pm. Refreshments are included. This evening is especially for those who would like to find out more about the 40 days for Life Prayer Vigil from 18th February - 29th March. For more information contact Maureen at leicester40daysforlife@gmail.com or visit www.40daysforlife.com/en/leicester.

Catechist Course: This coming January will see the start of the next round of our Catechist Formation Pathways with the Discipleship Catechesis course. This course is great for those who wish to deepen their knowledge of key parts of the Catholic Faith. The sixth sessions are: Jesus Christ, Holy Scripture, Prayer and Liturgy, The Church, Sacraments, Catholic Social and Moral Teachings. The course is delivered on Zoom and the first session will be on Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 7pm. The Catechist Formation Pathways will continue in April with Missionary Catechesis. For further information, please email Susan: formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

Fish & Chip lunch for Seniors: We are holding the fish & chip lunch for Seniors from Blessed Sacrament, St Peters & Mother of God on **Friday 6th February** at Blessed Sacrament Church hall; sitting down after Mass **around 1pm to eat**. Please see the notice boards to book your place and if you have any question, please contact Karen on 07935381771. We look forward to seeing you! **See List in church porch.**

Free retreat day. On Saturday 7th February 2026. 1pm onwards, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 12 Goodwood Road. Uppingham Road, Rowlatts Hill, Leicester LE5 6SG. led by the Briars team, is inspired by the lives of the newly canonised Saints Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati who offer us examples of faith and a life fully lived. Young people attending the retreat day will have the opportunity to explore the lives of Saints Carlo and Pier Giorgio through a series of games, inputs and interactive workshops. The day will culminate in the celebration of Mass with the parish community with music ministry led by the Briars team. Book here: www.ndcys.com/leicester-retreat-day.

National Marriage Week - 7th-14th February 2026 - There will be resources available from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales from mid January. This year's theme is 'The Joy of Love' and resources will include: 'The Joy of Love' launched in 2022 by the Bishops' Conference Committee for Marriage and Family Life explores the key themes of *Amoris Laetitia* on: Joy, Love, Mercy, Realities and Discernment, and Mission. Which can be found here: [The Joy of Love - 2022](#); National Marriage Week Novena; A Reflection on the Marriage of Mary to Joseph in Art and Tradition. If you are signed up to receive the weekly CBCEW newsletter, then you would know that the Marriage Week resources are available - please share far and wide. [Marriage Week - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#).

If you are not signed up to receive the newsletter, I encourage you to do so via this link: [Newsletter Sign-up - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#).

The Leicestershire Eucharistic Ministers Renewal Day for 2026 is on 28th March at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 12, Goodwood Rd., Leicester LE5 6GS. It will be led by Father David Cain and Deacon O'Looskan 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 14th 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.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026. If you are interested in joining as a helper with HCPT Group 512 Ratcliffe pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026 leaving on Friday 10th July and returning on Friday 17th July, staying at Hosanna House, please contact Mairead Collins on 07999542253 for further details. Many thanks.

Winter Night Shelter: The charity, One Roof Leicester, supports people who are homeless. They urgently need volunteers from now until 31 March for evening and night shifts. Full training given; experienced staff always on duty. Tel: 0116 4422007 or E: karyn@oneroof.org.uk for details.

A homeless shelter in Leicester has appealed for warm winter jackets and coats as temperatures drop. **Help the Homeless Leicester** made the plea on Wednesday and said a warm coat provides "protection, dignity and sometimes the difference between coping and breaking" for those sleeping rough. The charity is asking for winter jackets and coats, hoodies and jumpers, as well as hats, gloves and scarves. Please donate items in clean and good condition. **Speak to Maila Taylor for further information.**

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!