



The Season of Lent 2026

- **Ash Wednesday - 18th February** - a day of fasting and abstinence
- **First Week of Lent - Sunday 22nd February**
- **CAFOD Lenten Fast Day envelopes will be distributed on Sunday 22nd February.**
- **CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 27th February**
- **Collection of CAFOD envelopes - Sunday 1st March.**

The Big Lent Walk

You can join CAFOD for the Big Lent Walk in 2026! Challenge yourself to walk 200km over 40 days and raise money to bring life-saving water to people around the world and help our neighbours around the world who face poverty.

We are incredibly excited about the Big Lent Walk 2026, and would love for you to join us as we walk, run, roll or stroll 200km in the 40 days of Lent.

In 2026 we are continuing to work with SCIAF, as we take the Big Lent Walk to the whole of Great Britain! Put your faith into action this Lent. Walk, Pray, Fast and Give.

Your steps - as an individual, school or parish community group, together with the generosity of your sponsors, and your prayers - are building a better world. A few sponsorships form available from the church porch.

A bit of extra motivation

200km is the equivalent of:

- running across 1,953 football fields
- climbing the Shard 645 times
- walking up and down the Channel Tunnel four times. [Sign up now!](#)

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon; where there is error, the truth;

where there is doubt, the faith; where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand;

to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

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.



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



Mother of God
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✉ mogparish@gmail.com
www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk

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.ctkleicester.co.uk/](http://www.ctkleicester.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



Sixth Week of Ordinary Time

15th - 22nd February 2026

Day of Special Prayers for the Unemployed

Sunday 15.02	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Otilia Mumbweni RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite
Monday 16.02	10am 5.30pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite
Tuesday 17.02	9.30am 10am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass
Ash Wednesday 18.02	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Holy Mass - Jean Hidelartchi RIP Holy Mass Reception of the body of Mrs Eileen Pratt RIP
Thursday 19.02	9.30am 10am 11am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass Funeral Mass of Mrs Eileen Pratt RIP
Friday 20.02	10am 5.30pm	Holy Mass followed by Stations of the Cross Tino and Nyasha RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite followed by Stations of the Cross
Saturday 21.02	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass
Sunday 22.02	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite

Pope Leo prayer intentions for February 2026

For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Please bring your old Palms to church.

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.

Cycle of Prayer for The Season of Lent.

- Candidates for the Sacrament; especially on the Sunday of Lent
- Women; especially on Friday 6th March.
- The Needy and the Hungry of the World especially on Friday 27th February.
- Penitents and Wanderers.

Please take this newsletter home with you.

Background on the Gospel reading according to Matthew 5:17-37.

I have not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfil them.

Matthew continues the Sermon on the Mount with a three-part instruction by Jesus on the Way of Life in the kingdom of heaven. Today's reading is part one and deals with the Law. Part two deals with worship and religious practice and contains the Lord's Prayer. Part three deals with trusting God and deeds of loving service to our neighbour.

When Matthew speaks of "the Law and the prophets" he means the whole Scripture. When the Messiah brings the fullness of the kingdom none of scripture will be done away with. Instead, it will be fulfilled. Matthew's Jesus does not overturn the Law of Moses, nor does he set his followers free from the Law. He requires his followers to go beyond the Law by doing more than the Law requires.

The Law condemned murder. Jesus condemns anger. The Law condemned adultery. Jesus condemns even lustful looks. As Jewish Christians who had always been faithful to the Law Matthew's community need a way to understand the difference Jesus and the kingdom he brings have made. They affirmed that God had always been at work in history through "the Law and the prophets." But God's work goes beyond that to be embodied by the Messiah who reveals the definitive will of God. The written scriptures and their interpretation in tradition are surpassed by Jesus whose life and teaching are the definitive revelation of the will of God.

300 Club Sunday 8th February: £50 S Pritchard (77). £25 J Waldron (227), M Collins (156).

Sunday Collection 8th February: £280.07.

300 CLUB DIVIDEND. Thank you to our 300 Club Members. The dividend for the year ending October 2025 is £7,200 to be split evenly between our three churches of Mother of God, St Peter's and Blessed Sacrament. **NOT A MEMBER?** Please call Bernadette on (07910 971 260) or Marian (07982 489 995) - or see John Gray for new memberships, or queries.

Mrs Eileen Pratt RIP Funeral details: Reception of the body into the church on Wednesday 18th February at 7pm. Funeral Mass on Thursday 19th February at 11am followed by graveside committal at Kirby Muxloe Cemetery. Our deepest and sincere condolences to her family and friends.

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

The Nottingham 40 Days for Life, praying for an end to abortion, runs between Wednesday 18th February and Sunday 29th March. During these 40 days of Lent pro-lifers will be: praying for an end to abortion in our community near the main abortion clinic in Nottinghamshire; offering peaceful witness to God's love and the possibility of healing; offering practical, non-judgemental help to women who may want to consider an alternative to abortion, and offering support for post-abortive women. More information is at: 40daysforlifenotts@gmail.com.

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 be able 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.

Faith and Footprint. An online opportunity to connect our faith with care for the Earth, taking a lead from Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si. 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! Keep in touch with Caritas. If you would like to keep in touch with news and other opportunities from Caritas Diocese of Nottingham, sign up for our 'Grapevine' newsletter at the link below, where you can also read back issues:

<https://us14.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=836fda909b1148aa84bb903fe&id=9c4d41d585>

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.

The Diocesan Youth Service (NDCYS) is taking a group of young people and young adults to Lourdes, France as part of the Diocesan Pilgrimage in July 2026. If you are aged 16+ and unable to go with your school, or a young adult who would like to be a small group leader, we encourage you to download the information pack and apply at ndcys.com/Lourdes.

Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026 with Bishop Patrick. Departing from East Midlands airport on Monday 13th July, enjoy five days in Lourdes with over 200 people from across our diocese. Those with additional needs will be cared for by our health team and helpers' team. Mary invites us all to come to this holy place. More details from the tour operator:

<https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-nottingham/>

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@onerof.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 our local news a few weeks ago, 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.**

Vacancy: Nottingham Cathedral is seeking an outstanding organist and inspiring educator to assist the Director of Music in developing the Cathedral's growing Music Foundation. As a key member of the Cathedral staff team, the Assistant Director of Music will, in collaboration with the Director of Music, be responsible to the Cathedral Dean for the management and provision of music at the Cathedral. This is a permanent position commencing as soon as possible after Easter 2026. It is a part-time (0.23) role with a salary of £7,700 per annum (FTE £33,333). The contract is initially offered for a fixed-term of three years with the intention to renew. Preliminary informal conversations about the role are welcome; please contact the Director of Music on peter.siepmann@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

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.

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!