

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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Cycle of Prayer during Ordinary Time, we pray for these intentions:
A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Human Life; Europe; Seafarers

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, Sudan, Iran and The Middle East and for all the war-torn countries in the world. We also pray for all the people that have been affected by Environment Disasters.



A Prayer for our Parish Community
Almighty God,
we pray for your blessing on all who
share in the life and work of our Church and Parish:
In the ministry of word and sacrament,
in teaching and pastoral care,
in service to the Diocese and Deanery.
The community and those in need,
in ecumenical fellowship and co-operation.
We pray for all members of the congregation,
that in their life and work they may advance
your kingdom and bear witness to your love,
shown in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Bishop Patrick has recorded three short-guided meditations, each lasting just twenty minutes. You can listen at home, while walking, or with headphones on your journey to work. Listen alone or with friends, family or fellow parishioners. There is nothing to prepare and no set way to pray: Bishop Patrick will guide you through the prayers. All you need is a little time. [Go, Make Time: Print and Pray Version.](#)

Mother of God Prayer Devotions. A group of people are organising a monthly prayer group on the second Friday of every month, from 6.30 to 7.30pm which will include saying the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and other Devotional Prayers. We would love you to join us as everyone will be very welcome.



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NRC DT- 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



Twenty-First Week of Ordinary Time

23rd – 30th August 2026

Sunday 23.08	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Jake Camilo birthday & Newton Dsouza good health & birthday blessings Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	Pope Leo prayer intentions for August 2026 For Evangelization in the City Let us pray that in large cities, often marked by anonymity and loneliness, new ways to proclaim the Gospel are discovered, fostering community and connection
Monday 24.08	No service	St. Bartholomew, apostle (feast)	
Tuesday 25.08	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Wednesday 26.08	05.30pm 06.00pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Thomas Kochuveetil RIP	
Thursday 27.08	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. Monica (memorial)	
Friday 28.08	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. Augustine, bishop & doctor (memorial)	
Saturday 29.08	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - The Passion of St. John the Baptist (memorial)	
Sunday 30.08	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Thanksgiving Mass Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

We celebrate the International Mass on September 13th.

The Bishop will preside at this celebration which is now an annual celebration for our parish. There will be two Choir and Reading Practices for Mass.

They will be on August 20th and August 27th. They will be held at 7.00pm in the church - entry via the Sacristy door. There will be a rehearsal after Mass on Sunday 6th September. Shared table in the hall after International Mass, please wear your National dress or colours if possible. We want the Mass to reflect and celebrate the diverse cultures that make up our parish, so these two events will help prepare for the Mass. Please come.

MOG Church Summer Fête - Saturday 19th September, 11am-3pm.

Enjoy a fun-filled day of community, refreshments, games, and activities for all ages. This is a fundraising event, with all proceeds helping to support our church and its work. We would love to see as many people there as possible, so please come along and bring your family and friends. If you would like to run a stall or help in any way, please speak to Michelle after Sunday Mass. We look forward to seeing you there!

Background on the Gospel reading according to

Simon Peter acknowledges Jesus as the Christ and is given the key to the Kingdom of Heaven.

It is important to read today's Gospel and next week's Gospel as two parts of a single story. These readings are a turning point in Matthew's Gospel. This week we hear Jesus name Simon Peter as the rock upon which he will build his Church. Next week we will hear Jesus call this same Simon Peter "Satan" when he reacts negatively to Jesus' prediction about his passion and death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about his identity. The disciples indicate that most people believe that Jesus is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks his disciples who they believe that he is. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Jesus commends Simon Peter for this profession of faith, indicating that this insight has come from God. Because of Simon Peter's response, Jesus calls him the "rock" upon which Jesus will build the Church. This is a word play on the name Peter, which is the Greek word for "rock." Peter is then given special authority by Jesus, a symbolic key to the Kingdom of Heaven. Peter will play an important role in the early Christian community as a spokesperson and a leader.

In today's Gospel, Peter's recognition of Jesus' identity is credited to a revelation by God. This will contrast sharply with Jesus' rebuke of Peter in next week's Gospel. When Peter rejects Jesus' prediction of his passion and death, Peter is said to no longer be thinking as God does but as humans do.

The use of the term *church* in today's Gospel is one of only three such occurrences in Matthew's Gospel. Peter in this Gospel is being credited as the foundation for the Church, a privilege granted to him because of his recognition of Jesus' identity. The Church continues to be grounded in the faith that Jesus Christ is Lord.

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.

300 Club Sunday 16th August: £50 A Lomas (177). £25 P Cusack (214), J Feeney-McKay (245).

Sunday Collection 16th August £295.04.

We are very grateful for your contributions. We need around £40,000 towards church repairs. We will provide special envelopes towards the repairs, please use it if you are a tax payer. Otherwise, you can put your contribution in the collection basket.

March for Life UK 2026. Diocese of Nottingham coach to March for Life UK, Saturday 5 September 2026, at The Emmanuel Centre, Westminster, London. Theme: Abortion Hurts the Family. Family-friendly event from 10.30am - 1pm. Every year, thousands of people travel to London for March for Life UK, not to condemn, but to grieve, to witness, and to affirm something simple: that every life, from conception, has value. This year's theme is *Abortion Hurts the Family*. It speaks to something often left unsaid that abortion's impact reaches beyond the immediate decision, into fractured relationships, hidden grief, and guilt that can last a lifetime. The day brings together a Pro-Life Family Summit, a Youth Summit, and the March itself, in a family-friendly setting that holds space for those who have been touched by loss in any of its many forms. The Diocese of Nottingham is running a coach to and from the march. For prices and to reserve a seat, contact Marie Langford: marielangford@live.co.uk or 07948 151264. To find out more about the day itself, visit marchforlife.co.uk or email info@marchforlife.co.uk.

Please contact your MP to oppose assisted suicide. The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is back in the House of Commons and seeks to legalise assisted suicide. It will have its Second Reading and vote on Friday, 11 September 2026. Please write to your MP to make your voice heard and oppose the Bill. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading." The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop this flawed Bill progressing through parliament. For more information and resources, visit: cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote.

Introducing synodality to our parishes. A workshop for everyone! On Saturday 12 September: 10am to 3pm. At the Frassati Centre Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, Leicester LE1 6HW. Pope Leo asks everyone (all the baptised) to build new relationships in the Church. This means YOU. Even if you don't usually speak, if you usually 'just go to Mass' (or used to), as well as if you have a position of leadership or responsibility, clergy or lay. To explore how to hear together the voice of the Holy Spirit and carry out God's mission in today's world; to continue the work of the Synod on Synodality. By being synodal - 'walking together', listening to each other, discerning the voice of God in the people of God. Synodality is about the Church becoming a listening, inclusive community where everyone helps shape its path forward. Click below to book your place, and invite your parish priest and fellow parishioners. Bring a packed lunch: tea and coffee provided. Suggested donation: £20. [Book your place](#).

Catholic Medical Association. Whether you are a doctor, nurse, student, or allied profession; if you are a Catholic in healthcare join the Catholic Medical Association to grow in fellowship, prayer, and formation. For more information visit <https://catholicmedicalassociation.org.uk>.

Mount Saint Bernard Abbey. All are invited to a Family Mass and Picnic at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey on Sunday 13th September. Bring a chair or picnic blanket, and arrive for Mass at 2pm, with a Marian Procession and Adoration too. Details from jnoakes@englishmartyrs.com.

CAFOD RUNNERS. Could you run 10k / half marathon for CAFOD on Sunday 11 October. We need 9 Runners. Please join the CAFOD team. For more information and details please contact: cgallagher@cafod.org.uk.

Retrouville has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd - 4th Oct. www.retrouville.org.uk/info Tel: 0788 7296983.

A Week of Guided Prayer for those affected directly or indirectly by abuse in the Church is being offered by the Jesuits between Sunday 18th and Friday 23rd October. For more details visit www.jesuitinstitute.org/events.

Dates for your diary: 13th September: International Mass.

19th September: Summer BBQ. 6th December: Christmas Party.

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!