



We will be having a Christmas Party on Sunday 7th December from 12 to 2pm.

This is mainly a social event for all, but there will be fundraising activities such as Christmas Craft stalls and a chocolate tombola ticket. Santa will be there and we will have a shared table and refreshments. We will also have a Carol Singing from the children and entertainment, fun and games.

In order to support this event, would all the different communities please contribute to a shared table of refreshments. Thank you.



You are invited to an Exclusive Christmas Gala on Saturday 13th December.

From 5pm to 10pm. with entertainment, music, 3 course meal and dancing.

Dress code will be Formal Attire / Christmas Glam.

We will need donations for the auction. If you have any contacts with businesses or shops or anything you would like to donate yourself to be auctioned, or as a raffle prize for the events, please let Fr. Hans, Hope, Michelle or Sharon know. **Many thanks.**

The cost will be £30 for adults but children will be free. Tickets will be available from Hope or Sharon, Michelle, Sujith or Matthew. (Payment in cash or cheque).

And finally, don't forget to get your Christmas raffle tickets from Hope, Sharon, Mairead, Michelle, Sujith and Matthew - £150 1st Prize!

★ During this Holy Season, let us celebrate together and support Our Parish ★



World Gifts are CAFOD's charity gift range of unusual, ethical presents that will delight your friends and family. They've got something for everyone, with gifts for gardeners, animal lovers, teachers, entrepreneurs - the list goes on! Gifts start from as little as £4 for that special something, all the way up to £4,000 - something to aim for in your community or parish? Shop for World Gifts today at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>.

Stella Maris - Seafarers Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2024




Thank you so much to all who donated Christmas shoe boxes for the Seafarers Mission in Immingham. It is very much appreciated.

Cycle of Prayer during Advent and Christmastide:

Migrants and Refugees

Expectant Mothers



		Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ (0116) 287 5232 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.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			
		First Sunday of Advent 30th November – 7th December 2025	
Sunday 30.11	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Roque Dias & Rosalina Sequeira RIP Francisco & Marta Rosario RIP - Dulio & Belmita Lopes RIP Deceased members of Anita Dissanayaka family Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	Pope's prayer intentions for December 2025 For Christians In Areas Of Conflict Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.
Monday 1.12	No Service		
Tuesday 2.12	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Joseph Varghese RIP & Annamma Xavier RIP	
Wednesday 3.12	05.30apm 06.00pm	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. Francis Xavier, priest (memorial) Special Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees	
Thursday 4.12	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Mrs Monica Bush RIP	
Friday 5.12	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Saturday 6.12	09.30am 10.00am	Silent Adoration Holy Mass	
Sunday 7.12	08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm	Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - Deceased members of the Quinn family Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite	

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY FOR POOR AND NEEDY PARISHES



A Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent

Father, let your hope arise in our hearts! Lift our eyes up to see that you alone are where our hope comes from. Help us to shake off the anxiety, discouragements, and distractions that have filled this year. May we pause to remember that we have hope in you. You know the end of our stories, and we give thanks because you have promised that it will be a victorious ending. Give us the grace we need to wrap up this year joyfully. We invite your Spirit into this beautiful Advent season. Renew our sense of holy anticipation! Let us be those who are waiting eagerly for Jesus to come again. More than anything, we ask that you be glorified in this season of expectation.

Amen.

Background on the Gospel Reading according to Matthew 24:37-44.

Jesus is crucified under the title King of the Jews.

Jesus tells his disciples that the coming of the Son of Man will catch many people unprepared. Jesus tells his disciples that they are to always be ready for the day of the Lord.

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centred on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know *that* our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

THE FOUR WEEKS OF ADVENT. During the first two weeks of Advent, we light the first two purple candles. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for the birth of Jesus on Christmas day is almost over. Rose is a liturgical colour that is used to signify joy, so we light the single pink candle on the third Sunday of Advent. Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the soon-coming birth of the King of Kings. In modern day adaptations, the white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ. The colour white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Saviour.

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 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.

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

300 Club results Sunday 23/11: £50 M Shaw (106). £25 L O'Shea (237), A Turner (151).

Collection Sunday 16th November: £348.60- Second Collection for SPUC £210.93.

Collection Sunday 23rd November: £377.62.

Exploring a School-Based Nursery at Christ the King. Christ the King Catholic School is considering opening a term-time nursery for children aged 3-4 years at our Infant Site. This would provide a nurturing, faith-based environment for early learning within our school community. To help us assess the level of interest, we kindly ask parents and carers to complete a short form. Your feedback is invaluable in shaping this exciting opportunity. **Please click here to complete the form:** [Expression of Interest: Nursery Provision at Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy - Fill in form.](#)

A Journey through Advent with Fr John Farrell OP. Using the daily lectionary readings at mass to guide us through the Advent Season. Saturday December 6th, Saturday December 13th, Saturday December 20th. 10.30am (coffee) to 12.30pm (when some share a light lunch together.) There are no charges, but voluntary donations to defer expenses may be given. The meetings will be held in the Catholic Church Hall in Market Harborough, Fairfield Rd, Market Harborough LE16 9QQ. There will be parking in the School playground. Further information from Father Chris O'Connor, (01858 462359) or Peter Green (01858 414964) email: green853@btinternet.com.

Free retreat day. On Saturday 7th February 2026 1pm onwards, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 12 Goodwood Road, Uppingham Road, Rowlands 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.ndcvs.com/leicester-retreat-day.



Please bring your red MISSIO box to church to emptied and collect your free 2026 calendar. If you would like a Red Box, or give a donation, please speak to Mailla Taylor. Thank you.

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!

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.