
Unfortunately, with regret, the Christmas Gala has been cancelled for this Christmas. All tickets will be refunded. The raffle will take place on Sunday 14th after mass in the church hall to which you are all welcome to join.

We will look to hosting another fundraising gala event in the New Year and welcome any suggestions for this. Please see any member of the Parish Council for details.

Sunday 14th December - Third Sunday of Advent, Cycle A - Gaudete Sunday.
Sunday 21st December - Fourth Sunday of Advent, Cycle A - Jesus tells John the Baptist of the signs of the kingdom that are being worked through him and praises John as more than a prophet.
Thursday 25th December - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Mass at Dawn - The shepherds found Mary and Joseph and the infant in the manger.





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.

Throughout Advent and Christmas, we are asked to pray for the following intentions:
Migrants and Refugees. Expectant Mothers.



Prayer for the Advent Wreath

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ,
 for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people.
 He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us.
 He is the Saviour of us all. O Lord,
 let your blessing come upon us
 we light the first (purple) candle of this wreath.
 May the wreath and its light be a sign
 of Christ's promise of salvation.
 May He come quickly and not delay.
 We ask this in His holy name.
 Amen.

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|  | | 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 - michelleleadempster@gmail.com Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914 | | | |
|  | | Second Sunday of Advent 7th - 14th December 2025 |  |
| 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 | 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 8.12 | 9.30am 10am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Patron of Our Diocese (solemnity) | |
| Tuesday 9.12 | 09.30am 10.00am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass - Mrs Monica Bush RIP | |
| Wednesday 10.12 | 05.30apm 06.00pm | Silent Adoration Holy Mass | |
| Thursday 11.12 | 09.30am 10.00am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass | |
| Friday 12.12 | 09.30am 10.00am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass | |
| Saturday 13.12 | 09.30am 10.00am | Silent Adoration Holy Mass - St. Lucy, virgin and martyr (memorial) | |
| Sunday 14.12 | 08.30am 10.30am 04.00pm | Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite Holy Mass - David Collins RIP Holy Mass Syro-Malabar rite | |

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR POOR AND NEEDY PARISHES

Today we will be having a Christmas Party in the Hall from 11.45am to 2pm.
Please join us!

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.

We would like to thank all that have contributed with food, gifts and also worked hard to organise the Party.

Christmas raffle tickets are still available from Hope, Sharon, Mairead, Michelle, Sujith and Matthew - £150 1st Prize!



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



Background on the Gospel Reading according to Matthew 3:1-12.

John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In fact, the description of John found in this reading is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah (2 Kings 1:8). In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.



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/>.

300 Club results Sunday 30/11: £50 S O'Brien (228). £25 R Hughes (231), K Leung (182).

Collection Sunday 30th November: £426.62.

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

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.

Carols by Candlelight with Bishop Patrick on Friday 12th December at 7pm. Join the Cathedral Choir and the Children's Choir for a Carol Service led by Bishop Patrick and Canon Malachy. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available in the Cathedral Hall following the Service.

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.ndcys.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.