



**CHRIST
IS RISEN**

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH, LEICESTER

St. Joseph's Church, Uppingham Road : The Rosary Church, Armadale Drive

Priest serving the parish : Father John Daley I.C.

Parish House, 12 Goodwood Road, Leicester LE5 6SG : Tel. 0116 241 5159

Website: www.stjoseph-leicester.btck.co.uk. Use the "Contact us" form on our website to email us

For our YouTube streamed mass - simply search "St Joseph Leicester Live

(Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity number 234064)

Watermead Apostolate, St. Joseph's, 12 Goodwood Road, Leicester LE5 6SG : Telephone 0116 220 7881

Sisters of St. Joseph, The Convent, Uppingham Road, Leicester LE5 6RA : Telephone 0116 241 6255

Schools : St. Paul's Comprehensive, Spencefield Lane, Leicester LE5 6HN : Telephone 0116 241 4057

and St. Joseph's Primary, Armadale Drive, Leicester LE5 1HF : Telephone 0116 241 6197

Dear People,

It is 13 years today since Madeleine McCann was abducted. Every week since then, Madeleine and the family and all missing children have been in our parish newsletter prayer box. The pain doesn't lessen. In her book, Kate writes that when she wakes up every morning her first thought is of Madeleine. When I read that sentence I could not go on reading. I knew in that moment what a two-edged sword is and I could not go on. Every morning. First thought. Thirteen years.

Will there ever be an answer that we understand? I long ago lost trust in the glib spiritual writers who assure us that God is always answering our prayer. Where? How? I hope I've never falsely reassured people. All that pain, all those years, for Kate and Gerry and the family and friends. All those families who have known the similar horror of losing their children. It is right to ask where God is.

At the age of nine I knelt in our crowded parish church at the end of World War II in Europe. We were there to thank God for victory. I couldn't share the prayer. For six years that war had raged, the suffering had been terrible, the agony of invasion and conquest and concentration camps (I was old enough to read and understand the newspapers), the extermination of the Jews, the hatreds, and now we were in church to say thank you.

No, God, I said. I'm not blaming you for the war but I'm not thanking you for victory. In Germany there are Catholic boys my age who won't be in church thanking you for victory. What prayer do you expect from us? Are we tribes or a church?

I love God. But I don't play prayer games. I want to be honest with God. God doesn't answer prayer in the way that we understand answering. Since nine I've known that.

We pray with Gerry and Kate and everyone in whatever agony. Over the page are their prayer for you to share sadly, angrily, confusedly, smoothly, unthinkingly, faithfully. The second prayer is by William Wilberforce, composed in the Wanlip village church, just a few miles from here, as part of his preparation to challenge the slave trade in parliament. The McCann family and friends have made it their prayer when they gather on the 3rd May to remember Madeleine and all missing children. Would you like to join them at 7.00 pm this evening? God will be there, as at the crucifixion, helpless against the evil now as then. We wonder, but trust and believe.

God bless the broken-hearted, every one,

Fr. John

3rd May 2020 (Prayer Week 3)
"God calls each of us - vocation"

STREAMED MASS DETAILS

Fr John continues to celebrate mass privately in church as given in "Mass Times and Intentions" and this is being broadcast on our YouTube channel

(Links on the parish website and parish Facebook page)

Mass Times and Intentions

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

SUNDAY 3rd MAY, 10.30 am

(Intentions for Sunday Mass)

for Madeleine & the McCann Family

Peg & Dave Beatty,

MONDAY 4th MAY

(The English Martyrs)

10.00 am for Gerald Nann, Noreen Nann

TUESDAY 5th MAY

10.00 am for Dean Gate Drive & Deepdale

WEDNESDAY 6th MAY

10.00 am for Judith & Kevin Brennan

THURSDAY 7th MAY

10.00 am for Assumpta Cummins

FRIDAY 8th MAY

(VE 75th Anniversary)

10.00 am for Davenport Rd, Danbury Place

SATURDAY 9th MAY

10.00 am for Mothers

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

SUNDAY 10th MAY, 10.30 am

(Intentions for next Sunday's Mass)

for Nicolau, Nacemanta, Anthony & Mario Rodrigues

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL (10.45 am - 6.30 pm)

The Blessed Sacrament is in the chapel and can be seen through the open inner door if you pass by on your allowed daily walk and would like to stop for a moment to pray.

Our Easter tomb is also there and the weekly newspapers are in the outer porch, along with some parish newsletters.

Spiritual Communion

Jesus, Lord, today we cannot receive you in Holy Communion. Please come into our hearts that we love and serve you and one another, and be united in holy communion.

World Day of prayer for Vocations

Pope Francis uses four key words in writing about vocation: (1) **Gratitude** - for being able to answer and follow God's call in whatever paths of life we believe best; (2) **Encouragement** - to face the difficulties that every good life will know, courage to make wise decisions; (3) **Fatigue** - that we all know in the carrying of our responsibilities and helping and guiding others accept and bear theirs; (4) **Praise** - of the God who has created and called us, praise for the loved ones who are with us.

He offers Our Lady as a lovely example of accepting (her) vocation and indicates the joy and suffering she knew as mother of God's son and mother of her dying son.

To see God in all paths of life is Pope Francis' vision for Vocations Day.

From this week's Tablet editorial . . .

" . . . The epidemic is still raging unchecked, with the number of cases increasing exponentially in care homes across the country. It was to such homes that many elderly and infirm patients were discharged from hospital when, in a state of near panic, the order was given to clear hospital wards for an expected flood of Covid-19 cases from the general public . . .

. . . A third of all coronavirus deaths in England and Wales are now happening in care homes. Numbers are rapidly rising and there is no reason to expect things to improve in the near future. Official statistics show that in the two weeks to 24th April care homes reported 4,343 deaths from coronavirus. Half of them came in the last five days. It looks as if the lives of the elderly have been sacrificed to protect the political reputations of government ministers. That is shameful and intolerable."

Parish Finances

THANK YOU to everyone who has transferred money to the St Joseph's account (details below) and who has posted offertory envelopes through the parish letter box.

WEEKLY (MONTHLY) OFFERINGS can be submitted (1) By POST (cheques only) to Fr John at the parish house (see over) and (2) Through your BANK as a standing order.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES Until you receive your envelope can you please supply your gift aid number however you send money, so that we can keep our gift aid register up-to-date. When paying by BACS (details below) use your Gift Aid number as the reference for your payment.

BUILDINGS APPEAL If your donation is intended for this appeal will you please indicate this on your offering and if possible Gift-Aid it (the form to download is on the parish website).

GIFT AID FORMS for new donations can be downloaded from the parish website.

Parish Bank Account **BACS** details are:

A/C Name: **St Joseph Leicester RCP NRCDT**

Sort Code **30-94-97** Acc.No. **51763560**

Please continue to notify us (email, telephone or through the parish website "Contact Us") of any direct payments.

Prayer Box

Please pray for:

**Families of the parish
and our loved ones living and dead
especially for those who have recently died:**

Assumpta Cummins (RIP),

Declan, Bridie, Jonathan, John, Chris, Maria, Kath, Mary, Anna, Patrick, Olven, Sheila, Cristiano, David and all who are sick

Prayers for: Lisa, Jenny, Noreen,
and many suffering the consequences
of the Coronavirus

The McCann family and all missing children

THE PEOPLES OF OUR COUNTRY,
OUR FRIGHTENED PANDEMIC WORLD,
COUNTRIES WHERE CONFLICTS CONTINUE

Sunday 3rd May, 7.00 pm



**ANNIVERSARY UNION OF PRAYER
FOR THE THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN
WHO GO MISSING EVERY YEAR**

God, our Father,
your Son, Jesus Christ, as a child
was lost in the chaos of a great city
and was restored to the love of his family;
watch over all of the children now missing,
for whom we pray
and protect them with your love.

Be near to those who are anxious for them;
let your presence change
their sorrow into comfort,
their anxiety into trust,
their despair into faith,
that they may know your loving purposes.

And thus we ask
in the name of Jesus, Our Lord,
who loves and lives
and cares for all your children.
Amen

THE ROTHLEY PRAYER

Almighty God, who through Jesus Christ
and the Holy Spirit has proclaimed freedom
for prisoners and release for the oppressed,
comfort and liberate those,
especially young children, who have been taken
away from their families against their will.

Give courage to grieving families
and help us to continue the historic tradition of
this village to combat the exploitation
of any person by another. Amen

PENTECOST THE BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH



**A lock-down project that our community can
share to celebrate the feast of Pentecost**

We mentioned last week that Watermead is starting a new recording project - a lock-down recording of a new hymn for Pentecost (called "Witnesses") - and if anyone has the facility to record themselves singing (on mobile phone, ipad, etc.) and would like to be involved, contact Alison on 0116 2207881 or email music@watermeadapostolate.com.

But what else can we do to celebrate?
Would children like to draw pictures of the symbols of Pentecost to decorate the Chapel porch?
Keeping within regulations, how can we make this a special day of celebration from a distance?
All ideas and suggestions greatly appreciated.

POSTBAG

HELP OFFERED FROM AND TO THE IRISH COMMUNITY IN LEICESTERSHIRE

The Emerald Centre has received funding from the Irish government to help support Irish people in Britain during the COVID-19 crisis.

Please contact Brendan on 07948803743 or email him at leicesteririshforum@gmail.com or tonyatemeraldcentre@yahoo.co.uk for further information or to advise of those where support would be appreciated.

CAFOD has sent a reminder to the parishes how much help they need to continue their work in the poorer parts of the world. Please contact them directly (locally or nationally) if you would like to contribute to their work.

Bishop Patrick has asked us to share with you a message from the Metropolitan Archbishops of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. A link to the letter, titled 'A People who Hope in Christ' is on our parish website.

Keeping in touch . . .

Parish Contact Details The best contact is through the "Contact us" page on the parish website or by telephoning Fr John's number 0116 2415159 and he will give you our email address.

Communication We hope that we are managing to keep you informed and connected as we manoeuvre current restrictions and guidelines (GDPR/Church /Government/ Safeguarding, etc.) in getting information to you.

NEWSLETTER Please do feel invited to contribute your prayers, letters, news, etc. each week. Also note that there are printed newsletters available in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel's covered porch, along with the Catholic newspapers - for those who walk this way on their allowed exercise. Email a request to join the newsletter email circulation if this would be useful to you or tell us and we shall post. We also continue to communicate with each other directly using social media (monitored for safeguarding purposes from the parish office).

FACEBOOK If you already have a Facebook account and want to chat virtually with each other you can ask to join our group (search "St Joseph"). A Facebook information page is also available and kept up-to-date with information and parish links.

WHATSAPP This group is for sharing prayer and encouragement. To join, read the consent form on the parish website and then email your consent along with your mobile phone number. This is proving a very helpful and spiritual initiative.

PARISH WEBSITE This isn't interactive but messages can be sent and it is updated weekly.

Watermead The "Old Stable" Centre SHOP BY MAIL ORDER

You can still obtain items from our shop at St Joseph's (rosaries, crosses, cards, religious gifts and resources) through our internet shop or by arranging a collection.

Whatever you require please contact us on **0116 2207881** or **2207880** (and leave a message) or send email to orders@watermead-shop.co.uk with requirements and we will contact you back.

Our internet shop website detail is
www.watermeadshop.co.uk/
and there are other resources and much to read on
www.watermead-apostolate.co.uk