

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Commitment - Today Jesus gives us a lesson in commitment, and a bit of practical advice. "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." Are we inspired by this advice? Are we queuing around the block to become disciples? Well no, probably not! Even for those of us who have a genuine desire to be disciples, these demands seem much too hard.



So how are we supposed to take Jesus' advice? It's worth remembering that everything we've ever achieved in life has begun with some kind of commitment. However small a goal, we have first had to commit and may even have sacrificed something in order to achieve the desired result. For those of us who have ever committed to anything, we will already know that commitment doesn't just mean an involvement, it means laying everything on the line. Jesus' words may seem harsh, but what he is saying is that to be his disciple we must first understand the magnitude of the commitment that is required, and that we must be prepared to be totally single minded in our pursuit of results.

Later in the same reading, Jesus gives advice for those of us who make a commitment, but are not able to keep that commitment. "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? " Jesus is giving very practical advice on weighing up the costs before making a commitment. Jesus does not need quitters! Each of us has individual God given talents that we need to apply to our individual brand of discipleship. Jesus tells us to sit down in a business like way and calculate what this individual brand of discipleship is going to cost us. Whichever way we choose to be Christ's disciples, whether it is travelling half way across the world to look after AIDS orphans, or by fundraising on a home PC, Jesus reminds us that nothing less than a hundred percent commitment will do.

Jesus asks us to decide on our brand of discipleship and to go for it. After we have made our commitment we mustn't waver. The very nature of commitment means that we are ruling out other choices. If there is a conflict of choice to be made between God and worldly gain we have to choose God. We of course are not going to turn our backs on our family and loved ones, but we are asked to be single minded and unerring in our discipleship.

PARISH PRAYER - Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new consecration to your service; that your love might grow among us and your Kingdom come. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Useful links: Diocesan Website: <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>
Notre Dame High School, Norwich: Website <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY [Reg. Charity 278742]

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt - email: brendanmoffatt@yahoo.co.uk

Address: The Presbytery, 35 London Road, Dereham NR19 1AS

Telephone: 01362 694066.

Parish website: <http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk>

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson – Tel: 01362 822590

email: dcnmsanderson@hotmail.com

Parish Music Leader: Michael King – email: michaeljwking@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds –
email: kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com

4TH SEPTEMBER 2016 – 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses – Page 133 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Hilda Pritchard
Sunday	9.00 am	People of the Parish
	11.00 am	Donor's Int.

Music for Sunday Masses - *Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass*

Entry 6pm – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 955 – O God, our help in ages past ...

Offertory Hymn 877 – Will you come and follow me ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

Recessional 11am – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 788 – Praise to the Holiest in the height ...

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 5.30pm, or on request / by appointment

Weekday Mass Times (23rd week in Ordinary Time) [*Psalter Week 3*]

Mon.	10.00 am	Feria – Int. Michael Murphy
Tues.	No Mass today	Feria
	7.30 pm	United Service
Weds.	10.00 am	Feria – Donor's Int.
Thurs.	10.00 am	The Nativity of the BVM – Int. John Merrick (<i>*Fdn.</i>)
Fri.	10.00 am	Feria – Donor's Int.
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	No morning Mass	Feria
	6.00 pm	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Fdn. = Foundation Mass*

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week.

Anniversaries this week: Evelyn Maguire, James Robins, Eleanor Finnimore, George Hill, Joan Foster, Maurice Finnimore and Michael Carey. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits – If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital (QEII), King’s Lynn, and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St John’s Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or Fr Peter Rollings (01553 772220) for visits to QEII. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick List - Please pray for: Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Robert Nicol, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd, Ellen Flood, Patrick Monaghan, Margaret Leggett, Diana Cater, Ken May and Muriel Harmer.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £536.23. Thank you all very much. Next weekend (10th/11th September), there will be the annual retiring collection for the Catholic Education Service.

Diary Dates for this week –

- Sat. 10th Sept. – Saturday Club meets – 10.30am in Emmaus Room

United Service on Tuesday Evening, 6th September at 7.30pm – This is the first time that we have been able to host this Service at Sacred Heart since I came here just over 18 months ago. I would like to encourage as many of our parishioners as possible to come and be part of the Ecumenical Worship. We will use the form of Evening Prayer of the Church (Vespers) with as much singing as possible.

Advance Notice to UCM members - Our next meeting is due on 14th September. We will meet for Mass on that day, with our meeting following at 11am. We will end our meeting with a shared lunch: so please bring along a small amount of food to share. It will be a good opportunity to catch up with the news after the summer break!

Calling all peoples! – Michael King, our Parish Music Leader, is looking for volunteers to augment the music at each Mass. Regardless of skill, whether you want to play or sing, Michael would like to hear from you. His contact info is at the front of the newsletter, and if you are able to talk to Fr. Brendan or Michael at the end of Mass, that’s even better. Remember: those who sing pray twice!

First Communion & Confirmation Candidates – A reminder, if you have not already signed up, that preparation classes will be starting in September for First Holy Communion and Confirmation in 2017. Children for first Holy Communion must be in Year 3 or above and be aged 8 in July 2017 and Confirmation candidates should be aged 13 and above in September 2016 for Confirmation in 2017. Application forms are available from Fr Brendan or Robbie Meehan (Catechist).

Survive-Miva Special Appeal: 18th September – A special appeal is to be made at all Sunday Masses on the weekend of 18th September in support of Survive-Miva, a Catholic lay Association providing funding for essential transport for health outreach work in rural areas, and for the Church’s pastoral care in places of difficult access.

Walsingham Appeal: Rebuilding England’s Nazareth - On the 24th September we shall be celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham, and on that weekend the Bishops have asked all parishes to have a second collection to help in the developments of England’s National Shrine to Our Lady. We are looking to upgrade existing buildings and build new facilities, to help us serve the increasing numbers of pilgrims, who continue to walk in the Walsingham Way, since the shrine was established in 1061. Our aims are to update our facilities, and to make provision for sick and disabled pilgrims and to have facilities for young people to come on pilgrimage. Full details are given on our website www.walsingham.org.uk Thank you for your generosity. *Mgr. John Armitage, Rector.*

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for September 2016 - We are the only creature on the earth gifted with the intelligence to explore and understand the environment. Humankind alone develops technologies and economies that impact the environment and the planet’s future. This gift brings with it responsibility and consequences in everything we do, for ourselves, for each other and for our societies. This responsibility is not just the domain of our politicians. It is the responsibility of us all. This month Pope Francis invites us to join with his monthly prayer “.....**That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the centre.**”



Bite Size

“Many people don't focus enough on execution. If you make a commitment to get something done, you need to follow through on that commitment.” ~ *Kenneth Chenault*

The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. **R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. **R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary

V. And the Word was made Flesh. **R. And dwelt among us. *Hail Mary***

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. **R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

LET US PRAY: **Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may, by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.**