GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Picking Up Our Crosses

Today Peter recognises Jesus as the Son of God, but he completely fails to grasp the implications. He certainly doesn't understand the necessity for Jesus to die on the cross and he tells him so. Jesus puts Peter straight. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it."

Taking up our crosses is essential to being a Christian, and far from being a burden, it can be the source of huge happiness and fulfilment. Taking up our crosses, simply means understanding the needs of others, and putting the needs of others first. We need to forget about our own problems and look to the problems of others. We don't have to look far. The news is full of other people's problems at the moment, and it certainly puts our own problems into perspective. Taking up our crosses means imagining how others feel and how we would like to be treated if we were in their shoes. Empathy is key to taking action. Taking up our crosses means giving up our time and our skills and our money for the happiness of others. Jesus didn't need to choose the road to Jerusalem and crucifixion, but he did. In the same way, Christians need to be pro-active about choosing their crosses. Do we see the need of others and take action, or do we sit back and leave things to others?

There are an estimated 2.1 billion Christians on our planet. How different the world would be if each and every one of us picked up our crosses

Bite Size

They gave him a manger for a cradle, a carpenter's bench for a pulpit, thorns for a crown, and a cross for a throne. He took them and made them the very glory of his career.

W.E. Orchard

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

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY

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13th SEPTEMBER 2015 – 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Racial Justice Day)

Weekend Masses – Page 132 of Parish Mass Book				
Saturday	6.00 pm	Albert Foley		
Sunday	9.00 am	Holy Souls		
	11.00 am	People of the Parish		

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting:

Processional 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 720 – Be still, for the presence of the Lord ...

Offertory Hymn 965 – As the deer pants for the water ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence at player's discretion* ...

Recessional 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 456 – Christ is made the sure foundation ...

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm

Mass Times for the Coming Week (24 th week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 4]				
Mon.	No Mass today	- Exaltation of the Holy Cross		
Tues.	No Mass today	- Our Lady of Sorrows		
	7.30 pm Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room			
Weds.	10.00 am	Holy Souls - St Cornelius		
Thurs.	10.00 am	Holy Souls - Feria		
Fri.	10.00 am	Holy Souls - Feria		
Sat.	10.30 am	Holy Souls - Feria		
	6.00 pm	- 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time - <i>Home</i>	e Mission Sunday. A	
		special intention.		

The Parish Newsletter is available to view on the parish website [http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk] from Friday onward each week; back copies can also be viewed on the website.

Anniversaries this week: Annie Cecilia O'Ryan, Sidney Platt, Ferdinand Rupp, William Goulden, Paul Hodak, Stewart Aylin and Peter John Bussey. *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 and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call St John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615). 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 Michelle Redmond, Fr Michael Teader, John Fox, Joan Blakiston, Sylvia Remmen, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Sheila Christie, Robert Nicol, Doreen Kanssen, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Ann & Derek Williams, David & Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith and Rhonda Darby.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £452.06 and in August £357.00 was given by standing order. Thank you very much. Next Sunday (20 September) is Home Mission Sunday for which there will be a retiring collection.

Diary Dates for this week -

- Weds. 16 Sept. SVP meeting 2.00pm in Emmaus Room
- Weds. 16 Sept. Parish Finance Committee meets 7.30pm in the Presbytery
- Sat. 19 Sept. Saturday Club meets 11.00am in Emmaus Room

Presbytery Telephone & Wi-Fi – Telephone line, Wi-Fi, computer and printer are all working normally again. It was a crossed line and I was even crosser!

Racial Justice Sunday - 13th September - Hospitality and Sanctuary for All - We are challenged to make our church and our country a Sanctuary committed to building cultures of welcome and hospitality, especially for those in greatest need and danger. "The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as a citizen among you; you shall love the stranger as yourself" [Leviticus 19: 34].

The Triumph of the Holy Cross - 14th September - We are called to participate in the



struggle against evil in every form: racism, social injustice, oppression, infidelity, dishonesty, and corruption. The Risen Lord wishes to deliver us from all evil. But how? Not by removing every difficulty, but by giving us courage to face it and overcome it. Our sufferings are stepping-stones to victory. We look to the cross as a symbol of triumph over suffering and the promise of eternal life.

Home Mission Sunday – 20 September – Theme: Proclaim God's Mercy – Next Sunday we will be encouraged to pray for the work of evangelisation in England and Wales, remembering in our prayers especially those whom we know are distant from the life of faith. Commemorative prayer cards will be available to take away.

New Evangelisation & Home Mission - Please note: as part of the New Evangelisation each parish has been asked to say the Home Mission Prayer after each Sunday Mass until the First Sunday of Advent. I have decided that we will recite this prayer together as the concluding prayer of the Bidding Prayers during that time. It seems the most appropriate place to have it rather than add it to the end of Mass.

New Evangelisation Procession & Vigil 2nd/3rd October – On Friday, 2nd October, there will be a procession of the Blessed Sacrament in Norwich, led by Bishop Alan, to mark the year of New Evangelisation. After the procession, there will be a prayer vigil throughout the night in St John's Cathedral and a variety of activities for young people (secondary school age) in the Narthex. Starting at 9:30pm, it will be designed so the young people can 'come and go' between prayer and activities, and may come to either for as much or as little as they like. There will also be refreshments available in the Narthex throughout the night. Bishop Alan very much hopes and expects young people from parishes, especially Altar Servers, (as well as schools) to come and be a part of this.

Saturday 10th October - 10.00am to 3.30pm in the Church - An Introduction to Silent Prayer, led by Magdalen Houlihan - This day will offer you a pathway into silent prayer and towards a deeper relationship with God. A full programme for the day is posted on the notice board at the back of church and copies for those wishing to attend are available at the back of church.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome. 6th **to 10th June 2016** - To ensure a place please make sure that your completed booking form and deposit is received in the next two weeks. There are still a few places left, for more details please email info@pilgrimagepeople.org or call 0800 6123423 and give your name and address.

Prayer for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of Her becoming the longest reigning Monarch in British History



- V. O Lord, save Elizabeth our Queen.
- R. And hear us on the day we call upon you.
- V. Lord, hear my prayer.
- R. And let my cry come before you.
- V. The Lord be with you.
- R. And with your Spirit.

Almighty God, we pray that Elizabeth your Servant and Our Queen, who, by your providence has received the governance of this Realm, may continue to grow in every virtue, that, imbued with your heavenly grace, she may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil, and being blessed with your favour may, with her Consort and all the Royal Family, come at last into your presence, through him who is the Way, the Truth and the Life, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.