

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Praying With X Factor

Whether you're a fan or not, few can have avoided tuning into the 'X Factor', ITV's quest to make new stars. In watching the auditions you will be struck by the candidates' persistence. In an attempt to realise the ambition closest to their hearts, candidates will do almost anything to earn a favourable judgement. Whilst not always applauding their talent we have to give the would-be stars top marks for nerve. It appears that success is more about not giving up than anything else. So what if we adopted the same attitude when it comes to matters of faith and prayer?

All too often we lack persistence when it comes to prayer, sometimes losing faith in it altogether. We give up on prayer for lots of reasons. We give up on prayer because we have stopped believing that God is really listening. We give up on prayer because we think that we are unworthy of God's attention, or that God must be busy doing other things. We give up on prayer because we have an immature expectation, and can't understand why God doesn't pander to it. Whatever reason we have for giving up on prayer we need to re-think, because at worst, giving up on prayer can mean giving up on our relationship with God.

Today Jesus urges us to persist in prayer. However disillusioned we might feel, we are urged not to give up. Just because God hasn't granted a prayer in the past doesn't mean God won't grant a future prayer. The key is to remember that God isn't a magician giving us quick fix answers whenever we're feeling at a loss. God sees the overall picture, and as long as our prayer fits that picture how much more readily will he answer us, than the unjust judge gives in to the widow in today's parable.

We are encouraged to pray with a genuine desire to build our relationship with God. We are encouraged to pray with persistence and 'x factor'.

Bite Size

"For prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God."

~ *Saint Teresa of Avila*

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]

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16 OCTOBER 2016 - 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses - Page 152 of Parish Mass Book

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

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Belmont Mass

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

Offertory Hymn 940 - Lord, for tomorrow and its needs ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

Recessional 11am - *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 952 - You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord

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

Weekday Mass Times (29th week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 1]

Mon.	10.00 am	St Ignatius of Antioch - Donor's Int.
Tues.	No Mass today	St Luke, Evangelist
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Feria - Donor's Int.
Thurs.	10.00 am	Feria - Donor's Int.
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.	10.30 am	Feria - Donor's Int.
	6.00 pm	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Int. Francis Perrin

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

Anniversaries this week: Elaine Smith, Monica Hodac, James Reavey, Michael Hogan, Barbara Kellett, Bertha Credland, Rosina Izzy, Percy Thompson and Catherine Foley. *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, Margaret Leggett, Ken May, Muriel Harmer and Joy Bussey.

Money Matters – The Collection for the parish last weekend was: £407.04. CAFOD Harvest Fast Day: £697.61 and Direct Debits to the parish during September was £442.00. Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity.

Next Sunday (23rd October) is World Mission Day and there will be a retiring collection for *Missio* (formerly known as APF). Gift envelopes are available at the back of church.

National Mass Count – The third of the four national Mass counts during October takes place this weekend.

Diary Dates for this week –

- Fri. 21st Oct – Altar Servers meet – 7.15-8.15pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 22nd Oct – Saturday Club is on half term holiday. Classes resume on 5th November.

Saint Luke - 18th October - Luke wrote as a Gentile for Gentile Christians, and this gives his Gospel a distinctive slant. Material found in Luke's Gospel and not elsewhere includes much of the account of Our Lord's birth and infancy and boyhood, and some of the most moving parables, such as that of the Good Samaritan and that of the Prodigal Son. In Luke's account of the Gospel, we find an emphasis on the human love of Christ, on His compassion for sinners and for suffering and unhappy persons, for outcasts such as the Samaritans, tax collectors, lepers, shepherds (not a respected profession), and for the poor. The role of women in Christ's ministry is more emphasized in Luke than in the other Gospel writings.

Week of Prayer for World Peace - 16th - 22nd October - This is an interfaith initiative which always comes one week before 'One World Week'. This week we are encouraged to use some imagination and see the world through the eyes of others. We are asked to pray and act with empathy.

The Parish Fabric Committee - Six people have agreed to form this new committee they are: Michael Fenton, Hilary Bushell, Stephen Smith, Anne Maskell, Paul Wade and John Richardson. I am grateful to all of them and their efforts will help us achieve the renovations of the church and car park which were suggested at our Open Parish Meeting, in the Quinquennial Report and highlighted as necessary in the Alive in Faith Programme.

Church Cleaning – Are there any volunteers willing to help with cleaning our Church? Cleaning is done on a 7-week team rota, normally done after Mass on Thursdays (but this could be flexible), and involves light domestic-type cleaning. We usually work in twos. Please phone Catherine on 699334 if you feel you could help.

Notre Dame High School has a vacancy for a Finance Manager to join its finance team at the school in the centre of Norwich. The school has recently become part of a multi academy trust covering seven schools and this post will play a pivotal role in supporting the financial management of the schools. Visit www.ndhs.org.uk for full details and application form, or see the poster at the back of church. Closing date for applications is 30th October 2016.

Dereham Local Plan - Dereham Town Council will be holding a public meeting to hear views on the latest round of Local Plan Consultation and the Dereham Transport issues. The meeting will take place on the on Monday the 24th October between 7:00pm and 9:00pm at the Memorial Hall Norwich Street. The meeting will give members of the public a better understanding of the Transport Study and how it relates to the Local Plan and give elected councillors a chance to hear views and concerns from members of the public.

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**