

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Choosing the Better Part

"Don't just stand there gawping," we're told as children, "... do something!" We have grown up knowing that we all must pull our weight, and so when the overworked Martha complains to Jesus that her sister Mary has not helped with the meal, we get understandably hot under the collar when Jesus condones Mary's choice to sit at his feet in conversation. There is of course a big danger in the story of Martha and Mary. The danger is that we

feel the need to side with one sister, thereby judging the other wrong. In truth, both sisters have something to teach us.

Martha we are told, was concerned with many things, but we're led to believe that all of them were finite and transitory. If we took time to make a list of the concerns in our own lives we might find that we have a lot of Martha in us. We worry about work, we worry about money and we worry about how we are going to fit our chores in. If we look back at our anxieties of last year, or last month, or even last week, we might be forced to admit that most of those worries had no lasting significance, yet they still managed to dominate our lives and rob us of what was important. Mary on the other hand was only concerned with one thing, ... the Kingdom of God ... finite, ultimate and lasting.

It is important to note that Jesus was not reproaching Martha, after all without Martha there would have been no meal on the table that night. Without the Marthas of the world nothing would get done. On the other hand, it doesn't matter how hard we work, without God at the centre of our lives, our actions are hollow. Mary chose 'the better part', but we all need a little of Martha too.

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.**

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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17th JULY 2016 - 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses - Page 112 of Parish Mass Book

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

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass

Entry 6pm - *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 970 - Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart ...

Offertory Hymn 920 - A new commandment I give unto you ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

Recessional 11am - *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 941 - There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord ...

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm

Weekday Mass Times (16th week in Ordinary Time) [*Psalter Week 4*]

Mon.	10.00 am	Donor's Int. - Feria
Tues.	No Mass today	- Feria
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Donor's Int. - Feria
Thurs.	10.00 am	Donor's Int. - Feria
Fri.	10.00 am	Donor's Int. - St Mary Magdalene
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	No morning Mass	- St Bridget, Patron of Europe
	6.00 pm	Dane Burbiene - 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Anniversaries this week: Anne Tinney, Peter Lindsay, John Davies and Tomasz Wyrwik. *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 and Diana Cater.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £641.22 and £492 was given to the parish by Standing Order in June. The collection for the Apostleship of the Sea last Sunday came to £172.40. Thank you very much for your continued generosity.

Red Missionary Boxes – If you have not already done so, a reminder to bring your boxes to church, so that there can be another count and the monies sent to Missio (Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF)). Thank you.

Diary Dates for this week –

- Sun. 17th Jul. - Baptism of Rory McCormack today at 1.30pm.
- Sat. 23rd Jul. - Saturday Club is on summer holiday until September.

Saturday Morning Masses - Please note that there will not be a Saturday morning Mass for the foreseeable and therefore we will need to think about how to set up the chairs for Saturday evenings.

Future Events - Forthcoming events to note in your diaries –

- **Saturday, 10th September** – Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride. See the flyer at the back of church. Riders and sponsors needed. Additional information can be found online by visiting: www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/sponsored-bike-ride
- **September Parish BBQ** – Organisers are asked to please advertise this in good time to ensure success.

Church Cleaning - Are there any members of the congregation, including 'husbands and wives teams', who feel they could help with cleaning our Church? It would be once every 7 weeks. It is not heavy work, just normal housework. We normally fit it in after Mass on Thursdays but this could be flexible. We usually work in twos. Please phone Catherine on 699334 if you feel you could join the team

Nelson Mandela Day - 18th July - This year the launch of Mandela day will highlight each of the three pillars of the initiative: Education and Literacy, Food Security, Shelter and the Environment. Use the day to choose one of the three pillars, and commit to one small act that might leave your mark on the world as Mandela did.

Who was St. Mary Magdalene? - 22nd July



Poor old Mary Magdalene, dubbed as a prostitute and a sinner, but who was she really? Mary Magdalene is mentioned in each of the four gospels in the New Testament, but not once does it mention that she was a prostitute or a sinner. At some point Mary Magdalene became confused with two other women in the Bible: Mary, the sister of Martha and the unnamed sinner from Luke's Gospel (7:36-50). In 1969 the Catholic Church declared that Mary Magdalene was not the penitent sinner of Luke's Gospel but the reputation still lingers.

50th Anniversary of St. George's Catholic Parish, Norwich - The internationally acclaimed Sheringham Shantymen perform at St. George's Catholic Church, 223, Sprowston Road, Norwich. NR3 4HZ on **Saturday 23rd July at 7.30 pm**. Tickets: £8.00 adults, £3.00 under 18s and £18.00 family (2 adults and up to 3 under 18s). Available from Prelude Records, St. Giles Street, Norwich. Tel 01603 628319 to order. Please see the poster on the notice board.

"All Things Bright and Beautiful" – An exhibition of vestments and treasures to be held at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Sheringham, commencing with a private viewing and reception from 8pm to 9.30pm on Saturday, 30th July (limited number of tickets available at £5 each), followed by opening to the public (free entry, donations welcome) at 2pm on Sunday, 31st July (until 5pm) and then daily opening from Monday, 1st August to Friday, 5th August, 10am to 6pm. See the poster & and pick up a leaflet at the back of church.

World Youth Day Online Updates - Follow regular updates on what East Anglia WYD pilgrims are doing in Poland from 20th July - 1st August by going to www.rcdea.org.uk. You can also follow on social media at <https://twitter.com/igniteyea> and <https://www.facebook.com/igniteyea/>

Spectacles Collection – Peggy Mealy is collecting unwanted eye-glasses to send to the Missions in Africa. If anyone has any old spectacles that they'd like to donate, there will be a box at the back of church next week-end for this purpose.

Bite Size

"There are those who look at things the way they are, and ask why? ... I dream of things that never were, and ask why not?"

~ Robert Francis Kennedy, 1968 presidential campaign