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King of Mercy

Our lives are filled with such horrible instances of the abuse of power, that royal imagery seems out of place when talking about Jesus. But the reign of Jesus from the cross is based on a different vision of power altogether. Jesus' authority is nothing about oppression and everything about mercy. His is a power that never seeks to rule or dominate, but rather seeks to serve and lead by example. His is a power that never seeks to rule by causing conflict or division but a power that seeks to unify the world by

promoting understanding, tolerance, justice, sharing and peace. His is a kingdom in which we will all be valued and loved.

This week sees the close of Pope Francis's 'Year of Mercy'. It's apt that the year closes in a week where we consider Christ as a king not of power but of compassion and mercy. What must we learn from the year of mercy, and from the path Jesus chose? It's simple! We might see others as guilty or sinful. Jesus sees those same people as needy and vulnerable. If we have learnt anything this year it should be that there is worth in everyone we meet.

The vision of God's kingdom is a vision we can start living here on earth. We can begin realising it by challenging our own values, in how we treat others and how we respond to the world around us.

In today's gospel, we see a crown of thorns instead of a crown of jewels and a cross instead of a throne. It might seem a bit of a mystery to the non-believers who are governed by self-interest but to those who understand values such as self-sacrifice, love and forgiveness, this is where discipleship begins.

### Bite Size

"Why should man expect his prayer for mercy to be heard by what is above him when he shows no mercy to what is under him?" ~ *Sydney Smith* 

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 [Reg. Charity 278742]

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# 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016 - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Sunday Masses – Page 167 of Parish Mass Book			
Saturday	6.00 pm	Donor's Int.	
Sunday	9.00 am	Int. People of the Parish	
	11.00 am	Int. Manuel De Monte De Abreu	

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass Entry 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 320 – Hail, Redeemer, King Divine! ... Offertory Hymn 271 – Battle is o'er, hell's armies flee ... Communion Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ... Recessional 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 749 – From heaven You came (The Servant King)

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

Weekday Mass Times (34 <sup>th</sup> week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 2]			
Mon.	10.00 am	Presentation of the BVM – Int. N. & P. McPartland	
Tues.	No Mass today	St. Cecilia	
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room	
Weds.	10.00 am	Feria – Int. Patsy Hawkes	
Thurs.	10.00 am	St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Comps. – Int. Mary & Gerald Reeder	
Fri.	10.00 am	Feria – Int. Peggy & George Mealy & Family	
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer	
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)	
Sat.	10.30 am	Feria – Int. Barnwell Family	
	6.00 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – Donor's Int.	

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week. **Anniversaries this week:** Kathleen Burrows, William Goodwin, Gwen Lovelace, Tom Thorpe, Elsie Smart, Florence Thorpe, Emma Jane Talmadge and Evelyn Goodenough. *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, 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 Peter Brown.

**Money Matters** – The collection for the parish last weekend amounted to £401.08. Thank you very much. Today, there is a retiring collection for the Diocesan Youth Service.

Diary Dates for this week -

- Fri. 25<sup>th</sup> Nov. Altar Servers meet 7.15pm 8.15pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. Saturday Club meets 11.00am in Emmaus Room

**National Youth Sunday** - Today is National Youth Sunday. Please do take a newsletter from the Diocesan Youth Service, which tells you more about what they do. There is also a second collection for their work – you may like to put your offering in the envelopes provided, either today or you can bring them back next week.

**Advent 2016** - Advent begins on Saturday evening with the First Sunday and the lighting of the First Candle. You might like to know what the Christmas Mass times will be:

- ◊ Sat. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 6.00 pm & 10.00 pm.
- Sun. Dec. 25 Christmas Day 10.00 am.

The 10.00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve will be the 'Midnight Mass'.

**Dereham Churches Together** invite you to an evening of Praise, Prayer and Fellowship to be held in St. Nicholas Church Rooms, Church Street, Dereham on Tuesday, 20th November at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Please take a leaflet from the back of the church.

**Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith Instruction Ad resurgendum cum Christo,** regarding the burial of the deceased and the conservation of the deceased in the case of cremation. This instruction is available to read on the noticeboard. It is really telling us that cremated remains should be buried in a sacred place such as a cemetery.

**Forty Hours Devotion at Sacred Heart and St. Margaret Mary** - The Icon of Our Lady of Mercy which was produced by the young people who attended the Vigil at the Cathedral last year is visiting every parish and will be coming to Dereham on 18<sup>th</sup> December for a

week. The 40 Hours Devotion of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is expected to take place during the week.

Saint Cecilia - November 22<sup>nd</sup> - The power of music in Christian worship is obvious. Music can have many qualities - spiritual, emotional, theological, intellectual. We may respond in a variety of ways. Militant songs stir our spirits; quiet songs make us reflective; joyful songs cheer us up and so on. But most importantly our hymns are not intended as some kind of entertainment, but

as an integral part of the liturgy. When churchgoers sit back and observe performances, then they are reduced to being consumers instead of participants. On this the feast of St Cecilia, patron saint of music, we are asked to emulate her example. Like any good Christian, Cecilia sang in her heart, and sometimes with her voice. She has become a symbol of the Church's conviction that good music is an integral part of the liturgy, of greater value to the Church than any other art.

Schools Consultation Paper - You may be aware that in early September, the Government launched its consultation "Schools that work for everyone." Part of this consultation contains the proposal to remove the current cap on faith based-admissions in schools. At the moment this cap has meant that the Catholic Bishops Conference has been unable build new Catholic schools, because it could result in the refusal of Catholic children to a Catholic school whilst non-Catholics could be admitted. This is contrary to Canon Law. The Catholic Education Service, on behalf of the Catholic Bishops has fought hard for the removal of the cap, and the Government's proposal to remove it is a huge step forward for Catholic education. The Catholic Education Service (CES) has asked all dioceses to encourage all schools and all individuals that support Catholic education to respond positively to the proposal to remove the cap on faith admissions to schools. This is particularly important, since it is anticipated that humanist and secular organisations will also be encouraging their supporters to oppose the removal. A link to the found at https://consult.education.gov.uk/schoolconsultation can be frameworks/schools-that-work-for-everyone. Alternatively you can submit comments via email at schoolsystem.consultation@education.gsi.gov.uk. The CES have stressed that you do not have to answer all of the questions in the consultation document and can focus on particular sections. The consultation ends on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

**Teaching Vacancy** - St Alban's Catholic Primary school in Cambridge is looking for a KS2 teacher. St Alban's is an outstanding school and is in the heart of the city. We can offer: continuous professional development, a laptop, iPad and parking at the school. St Alban's is an exciting and enjoyable place to work at, and we look forward to welcoming a new member of staff to the school community. We are looking for the successful candidate to start **after the February half term 2017**. The closing date is **Tuesday 6 December at 12.00** and interviews will be held on **Wednesday 14 December**. If you are interested please contact Mrs Caren Munnelly, Office Manager at the school (01223 712148) or visit the school <u>website</u>, <u>http://stalbans.ccceducation.org/</u>. Visits are strongly encouraged.