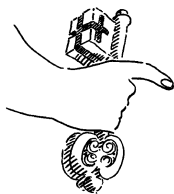


## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### The Key

Who do you think Jesus is? As small children we are told that Jesus is the Son of God, and we accept it readily. When we are children God is a kindly father figure who lives in Heaven and listens to our night prayers. When we are small, Jesus is the baby we see in the Christmas Nativity scene. When we are a little older, Jesus is the teller of all those intriguing parables. Once we are young adults, we see Jesus as a great teacher, a healer, a worker of miracles and a revolutionary. For some of us, doubts creep in. Is Jesus really the Son of God or simply a good man and a great prophet?

In today's gospel Jesus asks his disciples "Who do you say I am?" "You are the Christ," replies Peter promptly, "the Son of the living God." But this wasn't Peter's opinion from the start. Peter and the other disciples first met Jesus as a fellow human being. By working with Jesus and following his ministry daily, Peter and the other disciples gradually came to the extraordinary conviction that God was working through Jesus; speaking, healing, working miracles and offering eternal salvation.

Today we listen again to Jesus' question. "Who do you say I am?" It seems that the question is stretching over the centuries. It seems that the question is aimed not just at the disciples but at us. Jesus doesn't want us to give the answer we've been taught to give ... our answer has to be from the heart. Our answer might be, "I don't know!" Our answer might be, "I'm not very sure right now." Or our answer might be a resounding, "You are Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus knows that faith is a journey and our answer reflects at exactly what stage of that journey we have reached.

It may be that we think of Jesus as little more than a good man and a great prophet. If this is what we believe, the Bible becomes little more than a book filled with good stories and sound philosophy. If like the disciples we are convinced that Jesus is the Son of God, all at once we are opening ourselves to great possibilities.... all at once we have found the key to life's greatest adventure.



**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 Safeguarding – <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding/>  
 Diocesan Website – <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>  
 Notre Dame High School, Norwich – <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>  
 Daily Liturgy Website – [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt – Telephone: 01362 694066

Email: [Brendan.Moffatt@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:Brendan.Moffatt@rcdea.org.uk)

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

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

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

Email: [martin.sanderson@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:martin.sanderson@rcdea.org.uk)

Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: [michaeljwking@gmail.com](mailto:michaeljwking@gmail.com)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds:

Email: [kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com)

### 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2020 – 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A

[21<sup>st</sup> Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 1]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 22 Aug	6.00 pm	21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time	Mark Blows & William Crump Holy Souls The People of the Parish
Sun. 23 Aug	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 24 Aug	10.00 am	S Bartholomew	The Sick and Housebound of the Parish
Tues. 25 Aug	-	Feria	<b>No Mass today</b>
Weds. 26 Aug	10.30 am	Requiem Mass & Funeral for Margaret Grimster	
Thurs. 27 Aug	10.00 am	Requiem Mass & Interment of Ashes for Kath Davis	
Fri. 28 Aug	10.00 am	S Augustine	Sick & Housebound of the Parish
Sat. 29 Aug	-	The Passion of S John the Baptist	<b>No morning Mass</b>
Sun. 30 Aug	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time	Ron Thurstance Barbara Abela (May) The People of the Parish

**Anniversaries this week:** Adrian Sheath, Damian Ring-Davies, Mary Hayter, John McGowan, Jack Stearman, Marley Coe, Jenetta Elizabeth Smith, Francis Gray, Doris Jarvis, Patrick McMahon. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

**MASS LIVE STREAM** – Search for **Dereham Catholic Church** on **YouTube**,

Or use the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-qWs-B40VTvbezZ83MxQ/videos?view=2&flow=grid>

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

**Hospital Visits:** If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn (QEII), 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 call the NNUH Hospital Chaplaincy direct on 01603 287470 for people needing urgent spiritual attention, or for visits to QEII Hospital, call Fr. Peter Rollings on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament or Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

**Sick & Housebound** [with GDPR Permissions] – **Please pray for:** Janet Yardley, Jenny Rudd, Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Una McWeeny, Derek Williams, Teresa Kendall, Greta Cummings.

**Money Matters:** Thank you for your offering of £147.80 last weekend for the day-to-day running of our parish.

For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: **Catholic Church of Dereham**. The Sort Code is: **40-20-08** and the Account number is: **11311115**. If you are a tax payer, please also consider **Gift Aid**. This is a great way for the parish to get additional funds from the tax reclaim benefits scheme; with this scheme you do not need to commit to a fixed amount as it will just be based on your total annual contribution. Let Fr. Brendan know if you would like to sign up to Gift Aid.

**130 Club Draw for May 2020** - 1<sup>st</sup> Prize £20 – Ticket No. 56, Anne Sibley; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 – Ticket No. 10, Steve Rymarz; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 102, Silvia Sillence; 4<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 97, Kristina Blake; 5<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 72, Rita Knocker.



**Newsletter by Email** - Please let Fr. Brendan know if you would like to receive the parish's weekly bulletin by email. We have a GDPR compliant list of names for this purpose.

**Diary Dates for this week** - All parish group meetings remain suspended.

**Please note** the changed Mass time on Wednesday.

**Readers:** Thank you to all of you who have responded to my note about the Ministry of Reader at Mass. There is still not a Rota. At each Mass I try to have a male and a female voice. I tend to ask the first reader who arrives. As I do not know who attends which Mass, may I suggest that you arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass is due to start if you would like to read and ask me if I have readers for that Mass? Thanks.

**Collection:** We cannot take up the collection for the maintenance of the parish in the usual way because of the Coronavirus precautions. Please put your offering in the plastic bucket on the table at the back of the church. Your offerings are needed and appreciated as much as ever.

**International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition: 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

- The date is not just an invitation to remember the transatlantic slave trade, but to learn lessons and combat modern day slavery.



**World Water Week 2020: August 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>** - Right now, some of the world's poorest and most marginalised people don't have clean water to drink, decent toilets or hygiene. Without these basics, overcoming poverty is just a dream. When you help to dig a well or install a tap stand in a community, you're changing the lives of children for the better. You can help by donating

online at [www.wateraid.org/uk/donate/donate-to-wateraid](http://www.wateraid.org/uk/donate/donate-to-wateraid).

**Saint Monica, Patron of domestic violence, 27<sup>th</sup> August** - On the feast of St Monica we pray for the needs of those who have suffered domestic violence ... whether it be men, women or children.

**The Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride: Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020** - Pump up your tyres, dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route from your own door to visit as many of the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can. \*PLUS, you can join with others in your parish to win £1,000 for your church by becoming the parish with the most improved amount of money raised.



Simply get sponsored for each building you visit or make a donation - find out more at [www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride](http://www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride). **Volunteers will also be needed to greet participants visiting Sacred Heart and to stamp their forms. There will be a rota for this placed at the back of church.**



**Funny Money** - If you were lucky enough to get away this year you may have come home with a pocketful of foreign coins. It probably seems neither here nor there, but if you can imagine every other home coming holiday maker in the country doing exactly the same thing, you can easily see how that kind of money adds up. Most big-name charity shops now accept donations of foreign coins, so find out which ones and pay them a call.

**Bitesize** – God puts rainbows in the clouds so that each of us — in the dreariest and most dreaded moments — can see a possibility of hope.

