

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Walking the Plank

A plank is placed along the pavement. It's a wide sturdy plank with a prize placed tantalizingly at the far end. You are asked to walk along the plank and pick up the prize. Easy! You could run along the plank. You could probably hop along the plank backwards and blindfolded. Now you are asked to repeat the task, but this time the plank is raised eighty foot above the pavement level. It's exactly the same plank but somehow the prize is suddenly not worth the collecting. We are

disabled by risk and by fear.

We are capable of doing great things, but most of us don't come anywhere near meeting our potential. We are afraid to step out of the comfort zone of our well-worn lifestyles, jobs and homes. We are afraid of the unknown, we are afraid of failure, we are afraid of ridicule, disruption and discomfort.

In the face of a sometimes hostile and sceptical world, Jesus asks us to have the courage of our convictions. The Church today is built on the courage of those who refused to compromise their beliefs. We are asked to speak out against injustice; keeping a cowardly silence is a denial. Today's gospel urges us to be courageous. "Fear no one," Jesus advises us. Why fear those who can make life temporarily uncomfortable when God has our everlasting interests at heart.

Of course, that's all very well; we would surely heed Jesus' advice to take courage if we had anything to offer in the first place. After all, it takes a very special kind of person with very special kind of skills to rush around changing the world. Surely it takes a very special kind of person to stand up and campaign for human rights. We convince ourselves that we are born with less worth than others, and by convincing ourselves that we are worth less, it is all too easy for us to rule ourselves out of the equation altogether allowing others to take the risks. Today Jesus convinces us that we each have a special value in God's eyes. Even the sparrows that are two a penny have worth in God's eyes, so how much more worth have we. We have an individual worth to a God who has counted each and every hair on our heads. We all have something to offer no excuses; no exceptions. We all have to walk that plank.

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

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Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds -

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25 JUNE 2017 - 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses - Page 93 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Int. Joan Faulkner
Sunday	9.00 am	Int. People of the Parish
	11.00 am	Int. Holy Souls

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass

Entry 6pm - *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 865 - I, the Lord of sea and sky ...

Offertory Hymn 883 - Longing for light ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

Recessional 11am - *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 965 - As the deer pants for the water ...

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

Weekday Mass Times	(12 th week in Ordinary Time)	[Psalter Week 4]
Mon.	10.00 am	DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL (Feast) - Int. Freda Wilkes
Tues.	No Mass today	Feria
	7.00 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	St Irenaeus - Donor's Int.
Thurs.*	10.00 am	Ss PETER & PAUL (SOLEMNITY) - Josie Waring
	7.30 pm	Int. People of the Parish
Fri.	10.00 am	Feria - Donor's Int.
Sat.	10.30 am	Feria - Donor's Int.
	6.00 pm	13 th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Int. Rev. Tony Green

***PLEASE NOTE THAT THURSDAY, 29TH JUNE, IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.**

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

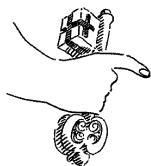
Anniversaries this week: Maureen Jacobs, John Zuhlke, Barry McGrath, Fernando Sentieriro, Anthony Joseph O'Connor and Richard Downing, *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

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, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd, Ellen Flood, Margaret Leggett, Peter Brown, James Maxwell and Robert Anderson.

Money Matters – The collection for the upkeep of the parish last weekend was £431.03 and the retiring collection for The Day for Life amounted to £151.20. Thank you all very much. We missed out on the retiring collection for World Communications Day on 28th May because of the A.P.F. Mission Appeal (the Red Boxes). We will have to have that at a later date. **Today, there is a retiring collection for Peter's Pence.**

Diary Dates for this week –	
Mon. 26 th Jun	AA Group meeting – 7.30 pm in Emmaus Room
Tues. 27 th Jun	Please note the Queen of Peace Prayer Group is meeting at 7.00pm this evening, not 7.30pm.
Sat. 1 st July	Saturday Club meets - 11.00am in Emmaus Room



The Feast of Ss Peter and Paul, 29th June: 'Wanted – Fearless Christians'

The Church exists because Peter and Paul, and fearless Christians like them, acted out their faith despite hostilities and persecution. Christians all over the world still face cruel persecution. In our own nation we face different sorts of problems. We face lethargy, conflicting secular values, and the complexities of scientific debate. Wherever we live, the Church cannot be silenced. Fearless Christians like Peter and Paul are still needed to carry the baton. The messages of love and non-violent peace-making are more relevant than ever.

Alive in Faith Update - £6.95 million has been pledged from 3,900 families and individuals across our Diocese to address local needs in parishes and for the training of seminarians, support of retired priests, and care for the most vulnerable in our communities. More than 210 parishioners from almost every parish have served as volunteers to help share the message about Alive in Faith locally. 50 parishes have completed Alive in Faith, achieving an average of 125% of their initial goal and with an average of 40% of the parish participating.

Parish Confirmations - The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered by Bishop Alan Hopes on **Thursday, July 20th at 7.00pm**. Our candidates have worked hard to prepare for Confirmation and our Catechists have been alongside them throughout their preparation. Please keep the in your prayers for the next few weeks.

U.C.M. Cake Stall Update - The cake stall last weekend (17/18 June), raised £67.18. This will go towards the U.C.M charities. Many thanks to all concerned.

Catholic Grandparents Pilgrimage to Walsingham - The annual Catholic Grandparents Pilgrimage will be held at the National Catholic Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham on **Sunday 23rd July**. For further enquiries regarding the Catholic Grandparents Association please contact us by email: cga@walsingham.org.uk or call us on Tel: 01328 820 217.

Calling all 13 - 29 year olds - What do you think? - Next year, Bishops from all over the world will gather to consider the issue of 'Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment'. Our Bishops in England have asked that as many young people as possible aged 13 - 29 take part in a poll to ensure what they are discussing is relevant and important. Please see www.rcdea.org.uk to take part.

Young Adults Pilgrimage to Santiago - Walking the Camino - The Diocesan Youth Service is organising a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in the last week of July. For those age 18 - 35. For more information see www.rcdea.org.uk/youth

Ignite - The Diocesan Youth Service wishes to appoint new members of the Ignite Team - These are full-time positions, with accommodation offered, sharing the Gospel Message in schools and parishes, in a way young people can relate to. This includes using music, drama and tech. Ideal as a 'gap' year. Please see www.rcdea.org.uk/youth for more information.

Bite Size
 "Courage is the art of being the only one who knows you're scared to death."
Harold Wilson, (1916 - 1995)

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**