

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A Warning from the Grave?

We are always being told what to do to improve our lives. We are forever being told what to eat to make us healthier, and live longer. We are told what to put on our skin and hair to look better. We are given advice on how to invest and how to improve our homes. This is all well and good, but could all this advice be making us self-obsessed? Are we more worried about our receding gum lines than the orphans in Syria? Are we more concerned with interest rates than the plight of refugees fleeing war? Today we are asked, 'What would it take to show our fellow man some compassion?'

Lazarus is a poor man who lies at the door of a rich man hoping to feed on the crumbs from the rich man's table. Sadly the rich man never notices Lazarus and Lazarus dies. Lazarus is taken to heaven, but then the rich man dies and is taken to hell where he suffers terrible torment. The distraught rich man begs to send a ghost to warn his brothers that damnation is a reality, only to be told that he should have listened to the prophets when he'd had the chance.

We'd like this story to be about the super-rich, but it's about each and every one of us. After all, how rich is rich and how poor is poor? Jesus never tells us how much we are allowed to earn before we're in trouble! What really matters is what's in our heart. The rich man in the story isn't necessarily a bad man; he's simply indifferent to the poor. We are in trouble when we see need around us and fail to respond.

At the end of the day, this parable isn't primarily about rich people being barred from heaven and poor people sailing in ahead of us. The parable is intended to make us listen and learn while we still have the chance. We will probably never have the benefit of ghosts coming back to warn us of the fate that will befall us if we remain indifferent to the suffering of the poor. We have the Bible and the words of Jesus to set us on the straight and narrow. We ignore the Bible's wisdom at our peril.

Bite Size

"If you haven't any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble."

~ Bob Hope

**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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25th SEPTEMBER 2016 – 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses – Page 143 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Int. Zofija Juozas
Sunday	9.00 am	Int. People of the Parish
	11.00 am	Int. Manuel do Monte de Abreu

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Belmont Mass

Entry 6pm – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 762 – At the name of Jesus ...

Offertory Hymn 887 – God, whose almighty Word ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

Recessional 11am – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 767 – Majesty, worship his Majesty ...

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

Weekday Mass Times (26th week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 2]

Mon.	10.00 am	Feria – Int. Michael Moffatt
Tues.	No Mass today	St. Vincent de Paul
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Feria – Int. William Rowan
Thurs.	10.00 am	SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael – Int. Michael Murphy
Fri.	10.00 am	St Jerome – Donor's Int.
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	10.00 am	St Therese of the Child Jesus – Donor's Int.
	6.00 pm	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Int. People of the Parish

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

Anniversaries this week: Agnes Tyce, Bernadette Buxton, Francis Dunn Soddy, Antony Drury, Pope John Paul I, Joseph Monks and Grace Brown. *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, Diana Cater, Ken May and Muriel Harmer.

Money Matters – The collection for the parish last weekend amounted to £450.61. The response to the appeal for Survive Miva came to £669.25. The Gift Aid quota in this was £345.20 That is an additional £86.30 from HMRC. There is still more to be added to the total for Survive Miva. Thank you for your wonderful generosity. Today, there is a retiring collection for the Walsingham Appeal.

Alive in Faith - Attached to the bulletin this week is a copy of the Bishop's letter in acknowledgement of your generosity to the Alive in Faith Fundraising. Our total for Alive in Faith is £115,538 pledged over five years.

Diary Dates for this week –

- Fri. 30th Sept. – Altar Servers meet – 7.15-8.15pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 1st Oct. – Saturday Club meets - 11.00am in Emmaus Room

Walsingham Appeal: Rebuilding England's Nazareth – This weekend, we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham on Saturday, 24th September, and the Bishops have asked all parishes to have a second collection to help in the development of England's National Shrine to Our Lady. Our aims are to update our facilities, and to make provision for sick and disabled pilgrims and to have facilities for young people to come on pilgrimage. Full details are given on our website www.walsingham.org.uk Thank you for your generosity. *Mgr. John Armitage, Rector.*

National Mass Count – Next weekend, there will be the first of the national mass counts which take place over four weekends in October each year in every parish.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers - I would be very grateful if you could keep me informed with regard to the sacramental needs of the people you visit. If anyone would like the Sacrament of Reconciliation or the Sacrament of the Sick, please let me know and arrange with me to go with you for a visit.

Mass Intentions - I always try to celebrate Mass for a requested intention on the date people ask. This is not always possible and sometimes it has to be as near as possible. If you really want a particular date for a Mass, please book it well ahead. Please remember that one Sunday Mass has to be offered for the people of the parish every Sunday and Holyday.

Calling all peoples! – Michael King, our Parish Music Leader, is looking for volunteers to augment the music at each Mass. Regardless of skill, whether you want to play or sing, Michael would like to hear from you. His contact info is at the front of the newsletter, and if you are able to talk to Fr. Brendan or Michael at the end of Mass, that's even better. Remember: those who sing pray twice!

Awareness Month of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - The St Vincent de Paul Society ("SVP") is an international Christian voluntary organization dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing direct practical assistance to anyone in need. September is the month the society traditionally uses to promote support and services, since September sees the saint's feast day (27th September).



You can get involved by:

- Becoming an SVP member
- Volunteering to help with local SVP projects
- Offering your professional expertise to support any of the management committees.
- Praying for the work of the SVP
- Becoming a Friend of the SVP
- Making a contribution towards the society's work
- Telling somebody else about the SVP

There is more information at www.svp.org.uk (England and Wales), or speak to Deacon Martin about the work of the Sacred Heart Conference in this parish.

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.**