

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In It Together

We can't go through life without being part of a group, a club, or an organisation. Schools, the workplace, and organised religions are all like being part of a club. Clubs have something in common. When we're in a club we enjoy a sense of belonging, friends, shared values and an agreed way of doing things. But being part of a group also has its dangers. We can tend to see our club as our territory, and woe betide anyone who treads on our patch. We see the newcomer as an outsider.... worse, a mistrusted outsider. A new teacher arrives in school with some radical new views. A new supervisor joins the workplace and changes the coffee breaks. In church, someone arrives from a different parish with their own ideas about how something should be done. We don't like it. Routine gives us a sense of security, and when that routine is changed, particularly by an outsider, we resist. If the outsider is successful at what they do, we resent it even more because we are left feeling threatened. Clubs can be good, but they are not good if we close ranks against someone else working to the same ends.

In today's gospel reading, the disciples complain to Jesus about an exorcist who is working as an outsider to their group. That the exorcist is working successfully is making them feel all the more threatened. Jesus' answer is very plain. "Whoever is not against us, is for us." In other words, if someone is working towards the same end, it doesn't matter whether or not they are in the same 'club', or whether their ways are quite the same as ours.

Jesus' lesson is very relevant to us today. Catholicism is not served by rejecting other religions. Accepting other Christian religions doesn't have to mean a watering down of our own beliefs. God is bigger than any 'club' and by following Jesus' example we are working 'for' each other and not 'against'.

Bite Size

"If you've ever had that feeling of loneliness, of being an outsider, it never quite leaves you. You can be happy or successful or whatever, but that thing still stays within you."

Tim Burton

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

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Notre Dame High School, Norwich Website: <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>

27TH SEPTEMBER 2015 – 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend Masses – Page 138 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Michael Moffatt
Sunday	9.00 am	Tony Goodchild
	11.00 am	The people of the parish

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass

Processional 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 749 – From heaven You came, helpless babe...

Offertory Hymn 908 – Blest are the pure in heart ...

Communion Instrumental Interlude / Sacred silence - at player's discretion ...

Recessional 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 861 – Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go ...

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm

Mass Times for the Coming Week (26th week of the Year) [Psalter Week 2]

Mon.	10.00 am	Tony Goodchild - Feria
Tues.	No Mass today	- SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Tony Goodchild - St Jerome
Thurs.	10.00 am	Donor's Intention - St Therese of the Child Jesus
Fri.	10.00 am	Tony Goodchild - The Guardian Angels [Harvest Fast Day]
Sat.	10.30 am	Donor's Intention - Feria
	6.00 pm	Donor's Intention - 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Parish Newsletter is available to view on the parish website [<http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk>] from Friday onward each week; back copies can also be viewed on the website.

Anniversaries this week: Antony Drury, Joseph Monks, Peter Purcell, Vi (Amelia) Secker and Pope John Paul I. *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 and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call St John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615). 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: Michelle Redmond, Fr Michael Teader, Joan Blakiston, Sylvia Remmen, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Sheila Christie, Robert Nicol, Doreen Kanssen, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Ann & Derek Williams, David & Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith and Rhonda Darby.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £418.94. The retiring collection for Home Mission Sunday was £151.91. Thank you very much indeed. Next Sunday there will be the collection for CAFOD Fast Day.

Diary Dates for this week –

- Fri. 2 Oct – SVP 'First Friday' Monthly Coffee Morning – 10.45 am after Mass
- Fri. 2 Oct – Altar Servers meet – 7.15 – 8.15pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 3 Oct. – Saturday Club meets - 11.00am in Emmaus Room

A Gold Medallist and a Silver Medallist among us. The Arch-confraternity of St. Stephen has awarded the Gold Medal for fifty years of altar serving as a member of the Arch-confraternity to Patrick Monaghan and the Silver Medal for ten years of membership and serving to Stephen Smith. Congratulations to both of them and thanks from all of us for their service at the altar.

Belmont Mass Setting – The people's Mass cards for the Belmont Mass setting have arrived and we will begin learning this setting soon. Remember, the words are the same, only the music is different.

Diocesan Website – Our Diocese has a new website. The new website can be found on www.rcdea.org.uk



St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael - September 29th - Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are called saints because they are holy, but they are different from the rest of the saints because they were not human; they were Archangels. Each Archangel, we are told, has a specific mission or an 'essence'. Archangel Michael is the angel of protection. This powerful being of light, whose name means 'Who is like God', has a purpose to protect as the 'defender of the light and goodness'. Gabriel's name means 'the power of God'. Gabriel is the announcer, the communicator of good news. We can ask him to help us be good communicators as he was. Raphael, whose name

means 'God heals', is invoked when we need healing, not only for ourselves but for others too.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day – Friday, 2nd October – Your support and donations this Harvest Fast Day will enable our partners to work with people across the world to have access to tools and training, and empower them to become self-sufficient despite living in the most difficult of conditions. Additionally, your donations this Fast Day will be used to fund our partners work in Europe and the Middle East to support those affected by the refugee crisis. If you are a UK tax payer don't forget to fill in the 'gift aid' section on the back of the donation envelope.

Feast of the Guardian Angels - 2nd October - Guardian angels are not just for children. Their role is to represent individuals before God, to watch over them always, to aid their prayer and to present their souls to God at death. The concept of an angel assigned to guide and nurture each human being is a development of Catholic doctrine and piety based on Scripture but not directly drawn from it. Jesus' words in Matthew 18:10 best support the belief: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."

Day of Prayer with Magdalen on Saturday, 10th October, 10.00am to 3.00pm – There is a list for names at the back of church. This is just so I can give Magdalen an indication of the numbers attending. Please bring your own packed lunch. I have organised such days before and they benefit people greatly. I have ideas for exposition and silent prayer with evening prayer from the Divine Office as a way of coming together for this later.

Hearing the message of Jesus - At Clare Priory on **Saturday 17th October** 9.30 to 3.30 (*especially for those who work during the week.*) Repeated on Tuesday 20th October 9.30 to 3.30. This event has been planned to give us the opportunity to listen to the words of Jesus from within our hearts. We will focus on the relationship between silence and listening to the word of God in a way that enables us to hear the message it holds for each of us individually. Cost £20 to include a soup lunch. To book a place please ring Kathy at Clare Priory 01787 277326.

'Coming Home'

*Loving Father, we pray for those baptised who no longer or rarely attend Church: that they will understand and experience in their hearts that Christ is the source of unconditional love and reconciliation. We pray for everyone who worships in our parish community: that we may find the right words and means to invite our absent brothers and sisters to return to the practice of their faith.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*