

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Righteous or Self Righteous?



Can you remember the thrill of a good exam result? The trouble with exam results is, that despite the knowledge that exams are about measuring our own potential, we still like to compare our marks against those of our classmates. Our success is made all the more meaningful by the fact that others have done less well. If this mentality stopped at exams this wouldn't be so bad, but what happens when the same attitude spills over into the rest of our lives? Do we feel superior to others because they have more menial jobs, because they're on benefits, because they don't go to church or haven't given as much to charity as we have? Do we look down on those who have made mistakes in life, who drink too much, take drugs or end up in prison? When this mentality afflicts us, we are in danger of becoming smug, unfeeling and self-righteous.

There's a big difference between being righteous and self-righteous. The Pharisee in today's parable is a good man, but his mistake is in thinking that he is a better person than the sinner who prays next to him. The Pharisee fails to see the sinner's worth and he completely fails to see his own shortcomings. It comes as no surprise that it's the sinner's humble prayer that God hears and not the Pharisee's proud boasts. Is God going to love us more because we are getting things right? Is God going to love the vagrant or the criminal less because they have made mistakes or enjoyed fewer privileges?

As we forge our individual relationships with God, we are asked to do it not by comparing our progress with those around us, but by keeping a careful eye on our own failings.

Bitesize – "It is well to remember that the entire population of the universe, with one trifling exception, is composed of others." ~Andrew J. Holmes, *Wisdom in Small Doses*



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

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

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Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: michaeljwking@gmail.com

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27TH OCTOBER 2019 – 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C

[30th Week of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 2]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 26 th Oct.	6.00 pm	30 th Sunday in Ord. Time [Parish Mass Book p155]	Deceased members of the Jones & Kendall families Michael Reavey The People of the Parish
Sun. 27 th Oct.	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 28 th Oct.	10.00 am	SS Simon & Jude, Apostles	Roger Whatley
Tues. 29 th Oct.	-	Feria	No Mass today – PP's day off
Weds. 30 th Oct.	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for James Gallagher	
Thurs. 31 st Oct.	10.00 am	Feria	<i>Tba</i>
Fri. 1 st Nov.	10.00 am 7.30pm	ALL SAINTS DAY Holy Day of Obligation	The People of the Parish James Gallagher
Sat. 2 nd Nov.	10.30 am	All Souls Day	<i>Tba</i>
Sun. 3 rd Nov.	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	31 st Sunday in Ord. Time	Roger Borthwick The People of the Parish Joao Lobo & Thanksgiving

Music for 30th Sunday in Ord. Time – Setting: New People's Mass

Entry: 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 779 – O God, you search me and you know me ...

Psalm: (11am sung) *R.*: This poor man called; the Lord heard him.

Offertory: Hymn 941 – There is a longing in our hearts ...

Memorial Acclamation C – Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Recessional: 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 821 – The kingdom of God is justice and joy ...

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday at 5.30pm, or by request/appointment

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

Anniversaries this week: George Marshall and Thomas Bane. *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, 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, Rita Smith, Carol Whitesides, Robert Nicol, Eileen Brocklesby, Shirley Liebenhals, Catherine Carter, Alf Charlton, Frances Saville King, Una McWeeny, Derek Williams.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £389.88 last weekend for the maintenance of our parish and for £129.38 for Mission Sunday. The Annual Mission Appeal will take place on 2nd and 3rd November.

Diary Dates for this week -		
Tues. 29 th Oct.	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Emmaus Room
Weds. 30 th Oct.	6.30pm	Music selection & practice – Presbytery & Church. All volunteers welcome to make a joyful noise to the Lord!
Thurs. 31 st Oct.	7.15-8.45pm	Confirmation Group meeting – Emmaus Room
Sat. 2 nd Nov.	11.00am	Saturday Club - Emmaus Room

Thank You – Thank you very much for your contribution to last week's World Mission Sunday collection. Your prayers and donations will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the work of *Missio* and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To continue supporting mission throughout the year, please go to www.missio.org.uik or call 020 7821 9755.

Mission Appeal: Saturday & Sunday, 2nd/3rd November 2019 – At Masses next weekend, we welcome Andy and Mary Clark from Network for a Better World, a lay missionary group which operates from a rural mission parish in southern Malawi. They will speak about the work of the organisation and how we can all be involved in the mission of the Church overseas. There will be a collection also.

The Diocesan Catechist's course (which is for anyone who wants to be confident in talking about Christ and Church teaching) begins at the end of October. This is a distance-learning course spread over two school years. Bishop Alan has asked that every parish in the Diocese should have someone who has completed the course! – if you think you might be

interested, visit www.theannunciation.org.uk or email Carol Ann Harnett on catholic1812@gmail.com

Working with Missionaries of the Poor - Fr Michael Johnstone is again taking a group to Kingston, Jamaica in January to work as Volunteers with the Missionaries of the Poor. Anyone age over 18, male or female is welcome to join the group. Further information from Fr. Michael, Tel. 01603 664118. Email fr.mcjohnstone@gmail.com

Handbag Project for Homeless Women – UCM members will be taking part in the handbag project for homeless women again this year. We have enough handbags and toiletries this year, but we need warm hats, scarves, gloves and women's socks please. If anyone could donate, we should be very grateful. Thank you. The UCM Ladies.



All Saints, 1st November - Following in the footsteps of the saints is not about becoming a saint overnight. Saints are just real people who have struggled through crisis and frustration to live their faith. Like the concert pianist who began his career with simple scales, so following God's blueprint for discipleship is about starting out with small steps. Take one element from the Beatitudes and practice it. You might choose to be more patient with your relatives, gossip less at work, or heal a family rift. Today, take one small step towards making the Beatitudes your way of life.

Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, 2nd November - Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "*Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me. I wish that where I am, they also may be with me.*" We remember this proclamation particularly on the Feast of All Souls. On this day we remember all those who have died. We remember their kind deeds, the things they did for us and for other people; we remember how we loved them and how they loved us, and we pray we will be united with them again on the last day. We also pray for those who have died that we never knew. We pray for those who have died for our freedom, and we pray for all those who have died alone with no one to remember or pray for them. By remembering those who were loved, they are never really gone from us.



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 worth 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.