

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Any Witnesses? There are those in our society who stand head and shoulders above the rest of us ... great entrepreneurs, politicians, writers, scientists and humanitarians. We look up to these people and wish that we were more like them. When interviewed, these great people might pass some of the credit for their success on to a teacher who has made a big impression on them, an influential mentor, or a family member.

Bearing witness is essential. Without witnesses we would know nothing of Jesus. Without John the Baptist, without the disciples, without the writers of the gospels, we would not have Jesus' teachings today. Without our parents and teachers, we would never have learned our first bible stories. Yet there are plenty of people in our world that would still benefit from Jesus' philosophy for living. There are plenty of people still consumed by greed, hate, crime obsession and misery. There are plenty of people who could still benefit from Jesus' teaching if only we as Jesus' witnesses could bring it about.

So why do we hesitate to bear witness? Well, first of all there's something about bearing witness that makes us feel uncomfortable. No one wants to be the man in the city centre wearing the biblical billboards. No one wants to be the woman with her foot wedged in the front door predicting the end of the world. Yet these people are well meaning and trying to get God's message across in the best way they know how. If these aren't the ways that we would choose then perhaps we can find other more imaginative ways, rather than do nothing at all. The challenge we are offered today is to reach those people who remain unaffected by God in ever new and more imaginative ways.

Bitesize – “We look forward to the time when the ‘Power of Love’ will replace the ‘Love of Power’. Then will our world know the blessings of peace.”
~ William E. Gladstone



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.

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15th January 2023 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A
[2nd Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 14th January		
18.00	First MASS of Sunday	Jim Fahy+ (NF)
Sunday 15th January		
09.00	MASS	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Peace Day) Annie & James Whittingham+ (SG)
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Ellen Harrington+ (HH)
Monday 16th January		
10.00	MASS	St Fursey Ellen Harrington+ (DH)
Tuesday 17th January		
10.00	MASS	St Anthony Stearman+ (Foundation Mass)
Wednesday 18th January		
10.00	MASS	Feria English Family (Foundation Mass)
Thursday 19th January		
10.00	MASS & ADORATION <i>Live streamed</i>	Feria Bill Moreton+ (PG)
Friday 20th January		
-	No Mass today	Feria -
Saturday 21st January		
18.00	First MASS of Sunday	St Agnes Jim Fahy+ (PF)
Sunday 22nd January		
09.00	MASS	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time T. & M. O'Donoghue+ (Foundation Mass)
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday after 10.00 Mass and Saturday at 17.30
EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION: Thursday after Mass

For *Live Streamed Masses* Search for **Dereham Catholic Church** on **YouTube**, or use the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-qWs-B40VTvbzezZ83MxQ/videos?view=2&flow=grid>
The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.

Anniversaries this week: Louise Bennett, Ellen Carey, Lily Rawding, Nell Jones, Stanley Meadows, Amy Garvey, Arthur Longhurst, Frances Kelly, Joan Blakistone, Robert Anderson, Perpetua Cecine Triggs. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits: If you or any member of your family is admitted to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and would like to have a visit from a Catholic Priest, please inform a nurse on the ward and contact will be made through the Chaplaincy. If you are admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn, please contact Fr. Peter Rollings at the Presbytery on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick before going into hospital, please contact Fr. Jay either by phone or by email.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – Please pray for: Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, Collette Barro-Nessian, Betty Reavey, Marion Ring-Davies, Fr. Brendan, William Dunn, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Marco Johnson.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £406.65. Thank you. There is a retiring collection after all Masses this weekend for the work of SPUC.

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.** **Gift Aid forms** are available at the back of church. This will help to maximize our donations in the Parish.

130 Club Draw for January 2023 - 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 85, Nora Fahy; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 102, Silvia Sillence; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 127, John Richardson; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 145, Rose Fenton; 5th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 173, Judy Reid.

White Flower Appeal 2023 – A retiring collection after all Masses this weekend for the Society for the Unborn Children (SPUC) charity. Materials are available at the back of the Church. Their work is vital through education and protection of life from the moment of conception.

Peace Day: 15th January 2023 – Pope Francis urges reflection on what lessons can be learned three years after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. “What new paths should we follow to cast off the shackles of our old habits, to be better prepared, to dare new things? What signs of life and hope can we see to help us move forward and try to make our world a better place?” He feels, “the greatest lesson we learned from COVID-19 is the realisation that we all need one another.” *Taken from Message for World Peace Day 2023*

Peace Actions for January 2023

- The Holy Father's 2023 Message for World Peace Day is: *“No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace.”*



- Make this year's Christian Unity Week (18th-25th January) an opportunity to start exploring initiatives on Christian websites other than our own. This year's theme is Do Good; Seek Justice (cf. Isaiah 1:17). In its introduction to the theme, the organisers write: “Today, separation and oppression continue to be manifest when any single group or class is given privileges above others.
- Take time to learn about someone else's religion on 'World Religion Day' (17th January)
- Mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18th-25th January 2023 - For this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we are guided by the churches of Minneapolis as we seek to explore how the work of Christian unity can contribute to the promotion of racial justice across all levels of society. Through this resource, the CTBI writers' group has also focussed our attention on the 30th anniversary of the murder of Stephen Lawrence, which we mark in 2023. The work of restoring hope through justice undertaken in Stephen's memory continues to inspire and change lives for the better. As we join with other Christians around the world for the Week of Prayer, we pray that our hearts will be open to see and hear the many ways in which racism continues to destroy lives, and to discern the steps we can take as individuals and communities to heal the hurts and build a better future for everyone.



Parish Events this week		
Weds. 18 th Jan.	17.00-18.00	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room
Fri. 20 th Jan.	1915 -2045	Confirmation Group – Emmaus Room.
Sundays	After 1100 Mass	Youth Club Table Tennis – Emmaus Room.
<i>Please note that the Saturday Youth Tennis and Tuesday Chess sessions are taking a winter break and will resume again in March 2023.</i>		

Bishop Alan's Farewell Mass: We are invited to the thanksgiving and farewell Mass for Bishop Alan Hopes on **Tuesday 24 January 2023 at 11:30 am at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist, Norwich.** If you are coming, please inform the Parish by Monday. Light buffet lunch will be served after the Mass.

FLAME 2023 - This bi-annual national Youth gathering at Wembley Arena will take place on **Saturday March 4th 2023.** More information is awaited. Meanwhile Hamish and the Ignite Team are making arrangements to take the young people of our Diocese to this event.

Parish Pastoral Council – The Parish will discuss organising the Parish Pastoral Council in March 2023. Though consultative in nature, this will help to facilitate decisions regarding the day-to-day operation of the Parish.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME – Watch this space...