

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 Africa? 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 all 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.

The parable is intended to make us listen and learn while we still have the chance. 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.

Archangel's Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael - 29th September

Archangels are believed to be messengers of God sent to direct, guide, defend and protect us. The following is a daily prayer written in honour of the three archangels we remember on this feast day: "Heavenly King, You have given us archangels to assist us during our pilgrimage on earth. Saint Michael is our protector; I ask him to come to my aid, fight for all my loved ones, and protect us from danger. Saint Gabriel is a messenger of the Good News; I ask him to help me clearly hear your voice and to teach me the truth. Saint Raphael is the healing angel; I ask him to take my need for healing and that of everyone I know, lift it up to your throne of grace and deliver back to us the gift of recovery. Help us O Lord, to realize more fully the reality of the archangels and their desire to serve us. Holy angels, pray for us. Amen."



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.

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson

Parish Music team: Judy Reid, Kathleen Edmunds & Paul McIntee.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Paul McIntee & Kate Meehan

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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Sunday 28th September 2025 – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Sundays Year C, 26th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 27th September 18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	St Vincent de Paul For the People of the Parish
Sunday 28th September 09.00 MASS 11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	26th Sunday in Ordinary time Jose Kachapiuy + (intentions) Lily Jose + (CC)
Monday 29th September 10.00 No Mass today	SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, Archangels. Feast.
Tuesday 30th September 10.00 MASS	St Jerome
Wednesday 1st October 10.00 MASS	St Therese of the Child Jesus
Thursday 2nd October 10.00 MASS & ADORATION	The Holy Guardian Angels
Friday 3rd October 10.00 No Mass today	Feria (HARVEST FAST DAY)
Saturday 4th October 18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	St Francis of Assisi Maria de los Angeles Coto + (SS)
Sunday 5th October 09.00 MASS 11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time For the People of the Parish Eileen McGann + (RM)

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

Rosary & Morning Prayer are said weekdays before Mass from 09:15.

Please note the 18.00 and 11.00 weekend Masses are normally sung.

For Live Streamed Masses Search for Dereham Catholic Church on YouTube, or use the link on the parish website.

The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.

Anniversaries this week: Antony Drury, Pope John Paul I, Joseph Monks, Grace Brown, Vi (Amelia) Secker. *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, Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, Colette Barrow-Nessian, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy, Richard Allison, Marion Ring-Davies, Patsy Thompson, Ann McWilliams, Margaret Glendon-Doyle, Mila Kaunaite, Elaine Wilkes, Anne Sibley, Terri Sanderson.

Money Matters: Offerings for the week were as follows:

Sunday 21st September Plate £289.09

Second Collection: (Home Missions): £91.95.

There will be a Second Collection for CAFOD Sunday 5 October 2025.

For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary Catholic Church. The Sort Code is: 40-20-08 and the Account number is: 11311115. If you are a tax payer, please consider Gift Aid (forms are available at the back of church). This will help to maximize our donations in the Parish.

Upcoming Parish events:

Diary for week Sunday 14th September - Saturday 20th September 2025	
Sunday: 1100	Children's Liturgy - For children in Y1 to 1 st Holy Communion.
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room.
Tuesday: 1830	RCIA Meeting – Emmaus Room.
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Friday: 1915	Altar Servers Meeting – Emmaus Room
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

The Bi-Annual Parish General Meeting will be held on 15th October at 1730 in the Emmaus Room. Please join us and contribute to the conversation for the good of the Parish.

An Opportunity to Receive Support and Get Involved

Zoe, Manager of Dereham Cancer Care, will speak at the 0900 Mass on 16th November about the support available and how we can help the wider Dereham community.

Foodbank Items Needed:

Foodbank is currently short of tinned beans, tinned tomatoes, and tinned or packet soup. If able, please consider donating these items during the week.

Proposed Parish Winter Soup Initiative - 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' [Mt 25:40]

Our Parish Winter Soup will hope to provide food to our brothers and sisters in the wider community in Dereham who are in need. With the generous support of our friends and volunteers, we hope to run this initiative starting in November. The exact dates will depend on the availability of our volunteers, probably twice a month for an hour or so, so we warmly invite everyone to help make this possible. Volunteer sign-up form available at back of the Church.

Parish Pickleball Club

For those joining the Parish Pickleball Club, please meet at the Church on 18th October at 1230 PM. We will head together to the Leisure Centre for a 1300 PM start. Paddles and balls will be provided at the venue. The registration fee is £4 for two hours of play. Please remember to wear your sports trainers.

A Lifeline for Troubled Marriages. Help is available.

Marriage support - Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? Next in-person programme 17th - 19th October 2025 in Welwyn Garden City. For more information visit: www.retrouvaille.org.uk
Tel: +44 7887 296 983

Take Note of this Space: Restructuring of the Parish Committees.

In the coming months, we shall be making some changes to the Parish Committees. This is an opportunity to strengthen our parish community, and we look forward to your support and participation as we move forward together.

Opportunity for Catholics in Healthcare and Life Sciences to Support Ethics Project:

The Diocese invites doctors, nurses, pharmacists, researchers, and other professionals to contribute to an ongoing project applying the Church's recent teaching on human dignity to the increasing challenges of living the Catholic faith in these professions. Your reflections will assist a forthcoming panel of ethicists and theologians in considering these lived experiences and how to support those facing them. Beginning in spring 2026, the panel's insights will be shared through additional workshops and accompanying published materials. To contribute, please visit <https://forms.office.com/e/CfJ6sM4m5L>.