

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Seeds of Faith

In the face of the seemingly impossible demands of discipleship, it is easy for our faith to falter. This is probably how the apostles feel when they approach Jesus and make the plea, "Increase our faith!" Now if we were hearing this story for the first time, how would we expect Jesus to respond? We'd expect Jesus to work a miracle of course. A miracle would certainly have increased the faith of those who could have witnessed it first hand, but would it have had the same impact for the rest of us? Jesus refrains from working a miracle to increase the faith of his apostles, instead he gives a piece of wisdom which is as inspirational and as motivational for us today as it must have been all those years ago.

Jesus tells us that if we only have faith the size of a tiny mustard seed we have enough. In other words, faith is so powerful that we don't need very much of it to do great things. This is good news for all of us who have long felt our faith is flagging. Suddenly the challenge is not to strengthen or develop our faith, but to have faith in the little faith we've already got.

So how can we use our mustard seed of faith to do great things? Jesus tells us that all we have to do is take our mustard seed of faith and act. We should stop worrying about how little or how much faith we have, and got on with God's work. Like the tireless servant who comes in from the field and prepares his masters' evening meal before his own, so we must live our lives faithful to Jesus' teachings. When we live our lives faithful to God how can we fail to see results, and once we begin to see results how can our seeds of faith fail to grow?

Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.



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

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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Sunday 5th October 2025 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Sundays Year C, 27th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 3]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 4th October	St Francis of Assisi
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Maria de los Angeles Coto + (SS)
Sunday 5th October	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Eileen McGann + (RM)
Monday 6th October	Feria
10.00 No Mass today	
Tuesday 7th October	Our Lady of the Rosary
10.00 MASS	Osyth Hawke + (Fdn)
Wednesday 8th October	Feria
10.00 MASS	Jose Thomas & Family (intentions)
Thursday 9th October	ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN (Feast)
10.00 MASS & ADORATION	
Friday 10th October	Feria
10.00 No Mass today	
Saturday 11th October	Feria
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 12th October	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	Bruce & Dorothy Wheeler - Wedding Anniversary (E)
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Teofilo Montero + (SS)

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: David Peek, Reginald Rayner, Richard Hayter, Joseph Hart, Maud Juby, John Pearson, Sheila Flanagan, Joe Stasiowski, Maybel O'Donnell. *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, Pat Sutton, Hillary Bushell.

Money Matters: Offerings for the week was as follows:

Sunday 28th September Plate: £351.67.

CAFOD Second Collection will be held this Sunday 5 Oct 25 in all Masses.

If there are any parishioners who pay tax and are not part of the gift aid scheme, please let Rex or Father Jay know. Contact details for Rex Baker are: Telephone 01362 694801 or email rexbaker27@btinternet.com.

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 5th October - Saturday 11th October 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.
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

RCIA Session this Tuesday at 1830 in the Emmaus Room. Come and journey with us, refresh your Catholic faith and encourage those who are seeking Christ and the fullness of His truth in the Catholic Church.

Nicole Langhan Interment - 31st October 2025 at 1100. Nicole, once a parishioner of our community, moved to France in 2019 and sadly passed away on 14th November 2024. Her interment will take place on 31st October 2025 at 1100 in Dereham Cemetery. Parish friends who knew her are warmly invited to join us in prayer and remembrance at the interment.

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.

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.

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]

We are delighted to launch our Parish Winter Soup Initiative on Monday, 17th November, from 1100 am to 1230. From then on, it will continue every Monday at 1100. You are warmly invited to support this project - either by preparing soup or by helping to welcome and serve those who come to share a meal with us. You may contact Jo Hurst for further details: 07809016600.

Parish Remembrance Sunday – 8 Nov 25, 1800 Mass - As a community of prayer we gather to remember our beloved dead, especially those whose Funeral Masses or services were celebrated in the Parish this year. We commend them to God's mercy and pray for the consolation of their families.

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.

50th Wedding Anniversary of Kate and Tim Crowley - 4th October 2025

We congratulate Tim and Kate Crowley as they celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 4 October 2025. We pray to Our Lord for His continued blessing upon them and their family.

Parish Garden Renovation - A big thank you to Scott Frosdick and Chris Bingham for transforming our Parish Garden. With a new self-binding gravel pathway and a space for food, we now have a fresh venue for parish events. The project cost is £3,574.

Free Apples - Please help yourself to apples from the tree at the back of church.