

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Exam Result Mentality

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 look down on 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? Do we measure our own righteousness against the poor decisions of others? 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 one eye on our own failings.

Saint Jude and Saint Simon - October 28th

Saint Jude of Thaddeus, not to be confused with Judas Iscariot, is invoked in desperate or hopeless situations because his New Testament letter **stresses that the faithful should persevere in the environment of harsh and difficult circumstances.** Saint Simon was surnamed the 'Zealot' for his enthusiastic adherence to the Jewish and Canaanite laws.

Bitesize

"If thou desire the love of God and man, be humble, for the proud heart, as it loves none but itself, is beloved of none but itself. Humility enforces where neither virtue, nor strength, nor reason can prevail." *Francis Quarles.*



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 26th October 2025 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
[Sundays Year C, 30th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 25th October	Feria
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 26th October	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	Hilda & William Pritchard + (CP)
11.00 <i>MASS Live streamed</i>	Frisian Paul Fernandez (Thanksgiving) (FF)
Monday 27th October	Feria
10.00 No Mass today	
Tuesday 28th October	SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE (Feast)
10.00 MASS	Elaine Wilkes (Healing) (JM)
Wednesday 29th October	Feria
10.00 MASS	
Thursday 30th October	Feria
10.00 No Mass today	
Friday 31st October	Feria
10.00 No Mass today	
Saturday 1st November	Feria
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 2nd November	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	John Perkins + (CP)
11.00 <i>MASS Live streamed</i>	Harold William Cater + (LH)

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: Thelma Jones, George Marshall, Frederick Beaven, Thomas Bane. *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 19th October Plate: £299.53.
Second Collection for MISSIO 19 Oct 25: £73.

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 26th October - Saturday 1st November 2025	
Monday: 1100	Baptism – Yazmin & Jayden Pereira
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group 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.	

Mass and Baptism - Jayden and Yazmin Pereira

We rejoice with Jayden and Yazmin Pereira, who will be baptized on 27th October at 1100. We pray that God keeps them in His grace, filling them with the Holy Spirit, as they begin their lifelong journey of faith in Christ.

Nicole Langhan Interment - 31st October 2025 at 1100. Nicole's interment will take place on 31st October 2025 at 1100 in Dereham Cemetery. Parishioners are invited to join us in prayer and remembrance at the interment.

Parish Remembrance Sunday – 8th November 2025, 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.

November – Prayers for the Dead. Envelopes are now available at the back of the Church. The intentions will be said for the whole month.

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 1200 – 1400 and from then on will continue every Monday at the same time. You are warmly invited to support this project - either by supplying soup, fresh ingredients 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. Posters are available at the back of the church, to be given out.

Deanery Requiem Mass - Cathedral of St John the Baptist, Norwich - The annual Requiem Mass for the deceased clergy of the Norwich deanery will be celebrated on Wednesday 5th November at the Cathedral, at 1100. Parishioners from across the Deanery are invited to attend this Mass, as we pray for the many priests and deacons who have served our parishes in the past.

Blessing of the Our Lady's Grotto and Fr Jay's 8th Sacerdotal Anniversary 8th December at 1700 - The Blessing of Our Lady's Grotto will take place on 8th December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, at 1700, followed by Mass at 1730, as Fr Jay joyfully celebrates his 8th Sacerdotal Anniversary in gratitude and prayer for Christ's wonderful gift of grace.

RCIA Course. The RCIA course is now on a break and will resume 11 Nov 25.

STELLA MARIS: Regional Port Chaplain for East Anglia Ports

Stella Maris (SM) is seeking to recruit a Regional Port Chaplain who will in care for all seafarers and fishers by helping to meet their pastoral and spiritual needs. They will recruit, train and support SM staff and volunteers for the port and will maintain good relations with local parishes and the local diocese, working ecumenically with members of other Christian maritime societies. More information can be found at: <https://www.charityjob.co.uk/organisation/stella-maris>

Donation for Portable PA System: A donation box is at the back of the church for anyone who wishes to contribute to the purchase of a portable PA system.