

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

### 'Christianity Rules!'

The reign of 'Christ the King' from the cross is obviously not about jewels or palaces or great treasure. So why do we refer to Jesus as King, and why do we refer to Paradise as God's kingdom? In the context of Christ we have to disassociate riches from our notions of 'king' and 'kingdom' and think in terms of leadership. Being a king is more about authority than wealth and this is why Jesus is King. We're not of course talking about Jesus having the authority to rule or dominate but the authority to demand peace, tolerance justice and sharing. Key to Jesus' authority comes in today's gospel reading where we are taught that Christian authority begins with the ability to love and to forgive.

'Love' and 'forgiveness' are words that trip off our tongues easily but might take a life time to achieve. The criminal who was crucified next to Jesus realised his mistakes just in time to find salvation, but we can't bank on leaving things this late. Jesus wants us to start realising his kingdom right here on earth and that means thinking very hard about how we love and how we forgive. To love or not to love is a decision. It's easy to love those who are attractive or who like us ... but not easy to love those who we hardly know or actively dislike or mistrust us.

It's easy to imagine Judgement Day and Christ the King's Kingdom as a long way off. It's easy to think that we will start living differently tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow, but what makes us believe that we will start living our lives any differently at 95 than we did when we were 25? If Jesus had just been a very good person, we might be tempted to sit back and let him get on with things. That Jesus is a king means that we are his followers and that we are all called upon to fight his cause.

Love and forgiveness takes practice starting in the here and now, starting with little acts of love and forgiveness on a daily basis. The Feast of Christ the King. It's not so much about the future than our commitment to build a culture where Christian authority rules.

#### Bitesize

"Authority without wisdom is like a heavy axe without an edge, fitter to bruise than polish." *Anne Bradstreet*



**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 Deacons:** Revs Martin Sanderson & Richard Jones (deaconrick@gmail.com)

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

**Parish Safeguarding Representatives:** Paul McIntee

## Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 – 34<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
[Sundays Year C, 34<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

### MASSES in the PARISH

<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>St Cecilia</b>
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Jones and Kendall Families (TK)
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	<b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (SOLEMNITY)</b>
09.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>St Andrew Dúng-Lac P &amp; Comps</b>
- No Mass today	
<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 MASS	John Keating + (JM)
<b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 MASS	Elizabeth McGee + (JM)
<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 MASS	Father Jim Lynch + (JM)
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b>
- No Mass today	
<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b>
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Tony Richardson + (AM)
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
09.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	

**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:** Bridget Moorcroft, Florence Thorpe, Rita Smith, Emma Jane Talmadge, Evelyn Goodenough, Winifred Lovesay, Joseph Barker, Madeline Lambert, Mary Lambert, Frederick Shelock, Charles O'Kane. *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, Ann Williams, Richard Grout, Peter Duffield.

**Money Matters:** Offerings for the week was as follows:  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2025 Plate: £277.89.

For 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, or contact for Rex Baker: Telephone 01362 694801 or email [rexbaker27@btinternet.com](mailto:rexbaker27@btinternet.com)).

**Upcoming Parish events:**

<b>Diary for week Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b>	
Sunday: 1100	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>
Monday: 1200 - 1400	<b>Soup Kitchen</b> - Emmaus Room. All help with soup preparation or socialising welcome. Every Monday.
Monday: 1900 - 2030	<b>AA Group Meeting</b> - Emmaus Room
Tuesday: 1830	<b>RCIA Meeting</b> – Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1430	<b>Queen of Peace Prayer Group</b> – Emmaus Room.
Thursday: 1730 - 1830	<b>First Communion Session</b> – Emmaus Room
Friday: 0830 - 1730	<b>Day of Prayer</b> – Chapel
Friday: 1915 – 2030	<b>Altar Servers Meeting</b> – Emmaus Room
Saturday: 1100 - 1500	<b>Advent Recollection Retreat</b> – Emmaus Room
<b>Parish Garden Club</b> – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

**Appeal for Help for Typhoon Victims in the Philippines:** A 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection will be taken at all Masses this weekend 22/23 Nov 25 to support our brothers and sisters in the Philippines who have been affected by the recent typhoons.

**November Payers for the Dead.** The intentions will be said for the whole month.

**Funeral Service - Libby McGee, 28<sup>th</sup> November.** The funeral service of Libby McGee will take place on 28 Nov 25, at Breckland Crematorium. We pray for the repose of her soul and ask God to comfort her family and all who mourn her loss.

**Posada:** Rotation starts 1 Dec 25 - A list to sign up is at the back of the Church.

**Parish Winter Soup** – Mondays from 1200 - 1400 (POC = Jo Hurst 07809016600).

**A Day of Prayer and Preparation for the Season of Advent** - An opportunity for thanksgiving and Intercession in our church on Friday 28 Nov 25, 0830 to 1730. A rota consisting of half hour slots for the day is at the back of the church

**Advent Retreat:** On Saturday 29 Nov 25 Deacon Rick will be leading the Parish Advent Recollection between 1100 and 1500 in the Emmaus Room. Do come. Sign-up on the sheet at the back of the church and bring a packed lunch on the day.

**Blessing of the Our Lady's Grotto and Fr Jay's 8<sup>th</sup> Sacerdotal Anniversary 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - The Blessing of Our Lady's Grotto will take place on 8 Dec 25, at 1700, followed by Mass at 1730, as Fr Jay joyfully celebrates his 8<sup>th</sup> Sacerdotal Anniversary in gratitude and prayer for Christ's wonderful gift of grace.

**Simbang Gabi** (Filipino Christmas Dawn Masses): Please join us for this Mass on the 17<sup>th</sup> December at 1900 in the Parish.

**Parish Christmas Party** - This year's Parish Christmas Party will be on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at Yaxham Hall, straight after the 1100 Mass. Come and celebrate.

**Pilgrimage to Rome 2026 - September 2026.** We're considering a Parish pilgrimage to Rome in September 2026. If you're interested in joining this spiritual journey, please sign-up on the sheet provided at the back of the Church.

**Parish Prayerline** - If you would like someone to pray for your personal intentions, Silvia, a parishioner, is kindly offering her time in prayer. You may contact her at: [sil17sill@hotmail.com](mailto:sil17sill@hotmail.com). All requests will be treated with complete discretion.

**Sacred Statues Spotlights** - We thank Mila and Graham Frost for their generosity in installing the spotlights for the Sacred Heart Statue and Our Lady's Grotto.

**Christmas Day Film Showing - 1430 at the Emmaus Room**  
On Christmas Day at 1430 in the Emmaus Room, we shall be showing the animated film David (2025, Angel Studios). All are warmly invited to join us.

**Christmas Mass Schedule - 24 Dec 25** Christmas Eve: 1800 Carols; 1830 Mass, 2230 Midnight Mass; **25 Dec 25** Christmas Day: 1000 Mass.