

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

### Believing Jesus is the Son of God

Jesus is the Son of God, but there are those who have other opinions. Perhaps, they say, he was just a very good man with a gift for teaching and healing. Perhaps he was just a prophet. Perhaps he was just a charismatic leader, a social worker, a philanthropist, a rebel or some kind of religious genius.

Today Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain to pray. And as Jesus was praying the appearance of his face is changed, and his clothes become a dazzling white. Suddenly they see two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They have appeared in glory and are speaking of his departure, which he is to accomplish at Jerusalem.

What the Bible is saying here is that Jesus of Nazareth was no ordinary human being. Jesus was no ordinary carpenter from Galilee. Jesus was not just a miracle worker, not just a teacher, not just a healer. In the 'Transfiguration' Jesus reveals his true identity. Jesus is the Son of God, the only Son of God'. It's no wonder that Peter wants to erect three tents to hold onto this truth. How privileged the early disciples were to have been given this vision. We have not been given first hand experience of the Transfiguration, but what we do have is the evidence of how the disciples' lives were changed by the Knowledge of Jesus' identity. The disciples had the memory of the Transfiguration to motivate them through the difficult times ahead. We have the memory of Peter's commitment and influence to motivate us similarly.

There are those who think it is good enough simply to believe Jesus was a good man. For those of us who believe Jesus is the Son of God, we will never attend the funeral of a loved one with thoughts of never seeing them again. Believing in God, means believing that one day we will share in Jesus' glory.

### Pope Leo's Prayer Intention: March 2026 - *For disarmament and peace*

Pope Leo's March intention invites us to pray for disarmament and lasting peace. This month Pope Leo invites us to pray "... **that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.**"

**Bitesize** - 'Some things have to be believed to be seen.' ~*Ralph Hodgson, The Skylark and Other Poems*



**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 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

[Sundays Year A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 2]

#### MASSES in the PARISH

<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>
09.00 MASS	Anisha Cyriac + (CC)
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Elaine Wilkes + (A & M W)
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>
- No Mass	
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>
1000 MASS	Kathleen Doyle & Michael Mealy + (GM)
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>
1100 MASS	Funeral of Shirley Liebenhals +
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>
1000 MASS	John Booth + (JAB)
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria (World Day of Prayer)</b>
- No Mass	
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b>
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>
09.00 MASS	Hannah (Birthday Intentions) (CC)
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Maria de los Angeles Coto + (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:** Dorothy Anne Gordon, Michael Joseph Carroll, Thomas Arbuthnot, Billy Reavey, Thomas Donaghue, Francis Langham, John Gaylard, Ernest B Shaw, Archbishop Peter Smith (2<sup>nd</sup> Bishop of East Anglia), Esther Rawe, Robert Patrick, Kenneth Gaylard. *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:** Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, Colette Barrow-Nessian, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Katherine Vella, Frank Vella, Pauline Organ, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy, Richard Allison, Marion Ring-Davies, Patsy Thompson, Ann McWilliams, Margaret Glendon-Doyle, Mila Kaunaite, Anne Sibley, Terri Sanderson, Pat Sutton, Hillary Bushell, Ann Williams, Matthew Williams.

Money Matters: Offerings for the week was as follows:  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 Plate: £393.31.

**Bank Details.** Our new banking details are: The Sacred Heart Church, S/C 52-41-29, A/C 44725132. Please use these details for any new BACS payments. There is no need to alter your standing orders yet - your current standing orders will be forwarded automatically. Watch the newsletter for information in January. Any queries please send to [treasurer@sacredheartdereham.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@sacredheartdereham.org.uk). If a tax payer, please consider Gift Aid (forms at back of church, or contact Rex Baker: Telephone 01362 694801 or email [rexbaker27@btinternet.com](mailto:rexbaker27@btinternet.com)). This will help to maximize donations.

**130 Club Envelopes** - Please hand to Fr Jay or drop them at the Presbytery.

**Upcoming Parish events:**

Diary for week Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March - Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	
Sunday: 1100	<b>Childrens Liturgy</b> - Presbytery
Monday: 1900 - 2030	<b>AA Group Meeting</b> - Emmaus Room
Thursday: 1730 - 1830	<b>First Communion Group</b> – Emmaus Room
Friday: 1130	<b>Stations of The Cross</b> – Chapel (followed by Lenten Soup) – All welcome
Friday: 1915 - 2030	<b>Altar Servers Meeting</b> – Emmaus Room
Saturday: 1100 - 1600	<b>Parish Lenten Retreat</b> – Emmaus Room
<b>Parish Garden Club</b> – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

**+Richard Grout** - With sadness we announce the passing of Richard Grout. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. Our prayers and condolences to his family.

**+Shirley Liebenhals - Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord...** - The Funeral Mass for our beloved Shirley will take place on 4th March at 1100. In the meantime, we continue to pray for the repose of her soul, and for the comfort and consolation of her family at this difficult time.

**Lenten Alms** - This year, our Lenten Alms will be directed to support the vital work of Aid to the Church in Need, helping to support persecuted and suffering Christians around the world.

**Stations of the Cross During Lent** - We encourage everyone to join us for Friday Stations of the Cross, at 1130 on Friday mornings during Lent. The Stations observance will be followed by a Lenten soup lunch. Any monetary donations from attendees will be given to the charity 'Aid to the Church in Need'. If anyone would like to volunteer to make soup, could they please contact Donal. If you prefer to pray privately, **Walk With Me** booklets are available at £1 per copy.

**World Day of Prayer** - There will be a Ecumenical service for the World Day of Prayer on Friday 6th March 2026 at Trinity Methodist Church, Dereham.

**Deanery Lenten Station - 17<sup>th</sup> March at SJB Cathedral at 1800.**

**Chrism Mass - 31<sup>st</sup> March SJB at 1130** - We are encouraged to join the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral on 31<sup>st</sup> March at 1130 in St John the Baptist Cathedral. If you could arrange your own transport to Norwich, that would be great.

**A Mass for the Repose of the Souls of +Kathleen Doyle and +Michael Mealy** (siblings of George Mealy) will be offered on 3rd March at 1000.

**Parish Retreat** - The Parish Retreat day for Lent will be on the Saturday 7 Mar 26, with Deacon Rick, from 1100 – 1600 hours in the Emmaus Room. Come and take some time out for God in Lent, to learn more about and contemplate on how we can make the most of this Lenten season. All welcome. Please bring a packed lunch, as no food provided. Tea & coffee will be provided.

**Easter Triduum (April)**

- 2 Apr 26 Maundy Thursday: 1930 Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 3 Apr 26 **Good Friday:** 1030 Children's Stations of the Cross  
1500 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 4 Apr 26 Holy Saturday: 2000 Easter Vigil
- 5 April Easter Sunday

**Volunteers Required for Holy Week and Easter Vigil** – Gerry McCarthy will leave a list at back of the church from which to choose your preferred time/s.