

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Finding the Best Way

Prisons are full of people who have never set out to be bad. Our path in life is often set from childhood. Our futures are often decided for us by our upbringing, by good parents or by bad parents, by mistakes we have made and never corrected, or by exams that we have either passed or failed. But our past doesn't have to equal our future. If we want God to prepare us a place in heaven, we have to live by God's teaching, and that starts with a simple decision. We only have one life, and we have to find the best way to live it.

If you have faith in God, you also have faith that Jesus is preparing a place for each and every one of us. So how do we find our way to that place? Jesus' only advice is, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." To the early disciples Jesus must have sounded like he was talking in riddles, but to have tied up all the loose ends for the early disciples would not have helped us future generations. We have to find our way to the Father through Jesus without maps or answer books. How could Jesus have left specific answers two thousand years ago on subjects like embryology for instance, cloning, or IVF? Jesus simply trusts us to work things out in the light of his teaching, just as he trusted his first disciples.

"No one comes to the Father except through Jesus". There are many rooms in God's house ... room enough for everybody who acts in good faith room enough for everyone who lives their life the way Jesus has taught.

Bitesize - "Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. God is awake." - *Victor Hugo, French dramatist, novelist, & poet (1802 - 1885)*



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@sacredheartdereham.org.uk)

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

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Paul McIntee



Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary

Parish Priest: Fr Jay T. Magpuyo
35 London Road, Dereham, Norfolk, NR191AS
Tel: 01362 694066. Email:
edsacredheart@gmail.com
Registered Charity No. 278742
www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk



Sunday 3rd May 2026 – 5th Sunday of Easter

[Sundays Year A, 5th Week of Easter, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 1]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 2nd May	St Athanasius
18.00	Terri Sanderson + (AS,BW,TK,JH)
Sunday 3rd May	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
09.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Luz Sudaria + (MK)
Monday 4th May	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS (Feast) – Diocese Walsingham Pilgrimage
- No Mass	
Tuesday 5th May	Easter Feria
- No Mass	
Wednesday 6th May	Easter Feria
10.00 MASS	C Coyne + (Fdn)
Thursday 7th May	Easter Feria
10.00 MASS	Funeral Mass Catherine C Wheeler +
Friday 8th May	Easter Feria
11.00 MASS	Funeral Mass Collette Barow-Nessian +
Saturday 9th May	
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 10th May	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
09.00 MASS	Michael Manley + (P & S)
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Terri Sanderson + (JD)

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: Thomas Delahunt, Philomena Hutton, Hubert Barker, Winifred Gaylard, Patrick Charles Coyne, Julian McMahon, Lynda Dicks, Eileen Barker, Ellen Harding, Tim Lynch, Molly Herbert, Trixie Gibbons, Istvan Toth, Frederick Dance. *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, 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, Hillary Bushell, Ann Williams, Matthew Williams, Ken Wood, Frank Crawley, John Salmon.

Money Matters: Offerings for the week was as follows:
Plate Collection 26th April 2026: £283.00.
Sunday 26 April 2026 Second Collection for Vocations: £126.93.

Bank Details. Our new banking details are: The Sacred Heart Church, S/C 52-41-29, A/C 44725132. The change-over occurred 1st April 2026. When amending your Standing Order details please use **Offertory** as the only entry in the **Reference** box. Please only use **Stipend** or **Donation** for payments that are extra to your regular offering. Any queries please send to 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). This will help to maximize donations.

Upcoming Parish events:

Diary for week Sunday 3rd May - Saturday 9th May 2026	
Sunday: 1100	Children's Liturgy
Monday: 1900 - 2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1830	Parish General Meeting – Emmaus Room
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

Fifty Days of Easter - Easter Day is certainly the most important day of the church year, but the Easter celebration lasts a full 50 days, until Pentecost.

Catholic Diocese of East Anglia Walsingham Pilgrimage will take place Monday 4 May 2026, commencing at 1030 am at the Shrine and Basilica. See poster.

No Mass on Tuesday, 5 May 2026 - Fr Jay is taking his day off instead of Friday.

Upcoming Church Calendar Events:

- **6 May** - Parish Bi-Annual General Meeting at 1830 in the Emmaus Room.
- **24 May** – Pentecost Sunday. Following the 1100 Mass, we are warmly invited to a small celebration for the Solemnity of Pentecost Sunday in the Parish Garden of Healing. All are welcome, and bringing food to share would be greatly appreciated. A list for food contributions is available at the back of the Church.

Upcoming Funerals:

+Catherine Carmel Wheeler - 7th May at 1000 Mass
+Collette Barrow-Nessian - 8th May at 1100 Mass
+Pat Sutton - 12th May at 1100 Mass
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord... We commend them to our Lord Jesus Christ, entrusting them to His mercy, and we pray for the consolation and strength of their family and loved ones.

+Pat Cook and +Dcn William Dimelow - May they rest in peace. We include in our prayers the repose of the souls of Pat Cook, wife of Dcn Geoffrey Cook of Cambridge, who died last Friday at Addenbrooke's Hospital, and Deacon Bill Dimelow, a retired deacon from Our Lady & St Walstan, Costessey.

National Day of Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse - 5th May 2026. In 2026, the Church in England and Wales is marking this day on Tuesday, 5 May. Drawing from the words of Jesus, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly," (John 10:10), the theme for this year looks at the scourge of domestic abuse which causes pain and fear that prevent its victims from living the life Jesus came to bring.

Parish Family Day – Deacon Rick is beginning to organise the Parish Family Day, probably to be held in September, to celebrate our Diocese's Jubilee year. Please contact him if you would like to help in the planning and execution of the event, in person or by email: deaconrick@sacredheartdereham.org.uk.

Parish Plant Sale - Helen Wood will be holding a plant sale in the Church car park on the weekend of 16th/17th May 2026, to raise funds for the Parish. If you can donate spare plant pots, please leave them in the Presbytery garage.

Coffee and Tea In-charge - Starting in June, at the 1100 Sunday Mass, we'll introduce a suggested rota for tea and coffee servers. The 1st Sunday will be hosted by the Indian community, the 2nd Sunday by our regular Church kitchen volunteers, the 3rd Sunday by the Filipino community and the 4th by our Altar Servers.

Vacancy at St Edmund's and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools.

Head of School required for St Edmunds and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools, please see diocesan website for more details:
<https://www.rcdea.org.uk/schools/school-vacancies/>