

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Listen, Reflect, Respond

Today's gospel reading focuses on how we listen, and more importantly how we respond to God's Word. The parable of the sower and the seeds illustrates the different ways in which God's Word is received or not received. The seed sown on the path that grew quickly but was stolen by the birds represents those of us who hear the Word but fail to understand it. The Word eludes us. The seed sown on the rocky ground represents those of us who hear the Word and receive it at once, but because the seed has no roots it is short lived. When trial and tribulation rear their ugly heads our commitment to God's Word is abandoned because our faith wasn't deep rooted to begin with. The seed sown among thorns represents those of us who hear the Word and would like to act upon it, but are so overwhelmed by worldly anxieties and diversions that the Word bears no fruit. Lastly, the seed sown in rich soil represents those of us who hear the Word, act upon it and realise results. The Bible, and the teaching contained in it, is God's legacy to us, so how do we go about listening? Do we listen to the Sunday readings in a negative state of mind? Are we expecting to be bored by the readings, confused or indifferent before one word is even read? Do we ever take home the Mass sheet to reflect on the readings we have heard at Mass? Do we ever consider how the readings should be impacting our lives? Do we ever leave Mass determining to lead our lives a little differently? It's obvious that a seed needs fertile ground to grow. Similarly, it's obvious that we need fertile hearts and open minds for God's Word to seed and bear fruit. Today's challenge is to listen with an open mind, reflect and respond.

Sea Sunday - 12th July 2026

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. Sea Sunday, on Sunday 12th July, is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. This Sunday's Second Collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work, so please give generously. Thank you.

Bitesize - 'An idea not coupled with action will never get any bigger than the brain cell it occupied.' - *Arnold H. Glasgow*



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



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Sunday 12th July 2026 – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Sundays Year A, 15th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 3]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 11th July	Feria
18.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 12th July	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sea Sunday)
09.00 MASS	
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Peter & Kathleen Edmunds Wedding Anniversary
Monday 13th July	Feria
- No Mass	
Tuesday 14th July	Feria
10.00 MASS	Fr Peter Dwyer (Westminster Diocese) +
Wednesday 15th July	St Bonaventure
10.00 MASS	
Thursday 16th July	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
12.30 MASS	Funeral Mass for Mary Lloyd +
Friday 17th July	Feria
- No Mass	
Saturday 18th July	Feria
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	
Sunday 19th July	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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: Kay Vincent, Patrick Monaghan, Dennis Crossland Mallam, Margaret Owen, Anne Tinney, Gretta Cummings. *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, Mad Knight.

Money Matters: Offerings for the week was as follows:
Plate Collection 5th July 2026: £240.30.
BACs Offertory giving for June = £2,220.
Giving via DONA (across all selections) = £370.92 (after fees deducted).

This Sunday 12th July (Sea Sunday) there is a Second Collection for Stella Maris.

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 rex baker27@btinternet.com). This will help to maximize donations.

Upcoming Parish events:

Diary for week Sunday 12 th July - Saturday 18 th July 2026	
Sunday: 1100	Childrens' Liturgy
Monday: 1400	Tea Buddies - Monthly get together for a cuppa & a chat (all welcome). Emmaus Room 
Monday: 1900 - 2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1700	Film Showing - Presbytery
Thursday: 1800	Gardening Evening - Church Grounds
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

Altar Servers Day Out - 29th August 2026, 1130.

+Mary Lloyd - The Funeral Mass for Mary Lloyd will be held on Thursday 16th July 2026 at 1230 in the Parish. Please pray for the eternal repose of the soul of Mary and for the consolation of her family and loved ones in their time of sorrow.

Parish Film Showing: 15th July 2026, 1700 at the Presbytery - **Project Hail Mary**, starring Ryan Gosling.

Parish Gardens - Sonia & Jo are asking for volunteers to help the garden team clean up the church car park area, which has become rather weedy. Will be the evening of Thursday 16th July, starting at 1800 hours. Contact Sonia/Jo or just turn up on the evening. Please bring your own hand tools (forks/secateurs) and gloves.

Permanent Diaconal Ordination - Paul Gilbert and Richard Rahim, 18th July 2026, at the SJB Cathedral at 1130.

Discussion on the Encyclical Letter *Magnifica Humanitas* of Pope Leo:

We are warmly invited to read and reflect on the recent Encyclical Letter *Magnifica Humanitas* of Pope Leo, particularly its reflections on Artificial Intelligence and the future of humanity. This will be on 6th August at 1830 in the Emmaus Room.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage - 21st - 28th August 2026. You can find more information on the diocesan website <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage-21-28-august-2026/> and on the Catholic Association website: <https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/calourdes125>

March For Life on 5th September in London - Join Bishop Peter at this year's 5th September in London. For more information go to: marchforlife.co.uk. To book a place on the coach <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/norwich-ipswich-coach-trip-to-march-for-life-uk-2026-tickets-1991053694197?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Parish Pastoral Council Formation (PPC) - We shall be forming our PPC in September 2026. In preparation, please nominate a capable candidate from within your cultural community, whom you believe has the talents & commitment.

Parish Diocesan 50th Anniversary Celebration Family Day. A meeting was held Wed 8 Jul 26, to start planning for this event. Date set for Saturday 5th September 2026. Venue will be the House of the Divine Will, Neatherd Moor (Convent). Will start with Mass at 2pm (followed by Adoration until 3pm for those that want to participate), with various fun activities (such as inflatable football, Rosary workshop, prayer balloons, painting and Bible stories for the children, Tombola & quizzes) from 3 - 5pm, then food will be served from 5 - 6pm (provided by our own communities - *food contributor volunteer lists will be provided in church*), more activities (such as open mike/karaoke/talent show) from 6 - 7.45pm, then ending with a final prayer and release of helium filled prayer balloons at 7.45pm. *Ideas for additional activities most welcome, so please think creatively.* It's early days, but tempus fugit!