

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Rock the Boat

What gives you that sinking feeling? What is it that you are most afraid of? Could it be starting a new job or a new relationship? Could it be public speaking, confrontation, ridicule, illness, failure, rejection or death? There's no doubt about it, life is a big tumultuous sea full of hidden dangers. Is it any wonder we seek to carve a little niche in which to tuck ourselves away and live life safely?

In today's gospel, Peter displays some odd behaviour. The disciples have gone ahead of Jesus and are sitting alone in a small fishing boat. Suddenly a storm brews up and the disciples are terrified for their lives. Just then, Jesus walks over the water telling them, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Surely any of us at this point would have decided to sit tight and wait to be rescued. Not Peter! Peter scrambles out of the boat and begins in all faith to walk towards Jesus. The great news is that when Peter suddenly got frightened and his faith faltered, Jesus was there with a strong arm to hold him up.

Just as Jesus called Peter from the boat, so Jesus calls us over life's storms. What is it we might venture to do? We might venture to change our jobs for something more worthwhile. We might venture to take on some kind of voluntary role that we might not previously have considered or initiate a local community project a global one even! We might think it makes more sense to stick to what we know, but if Peter hadn't had obeyed the call to walk on water, he might never have had the great opportunity to experience God's life changing support. So too if we spend our lives splashing around in the shallows, we are in danger of missing the opportunity to truly recognise God and so deepen our faith.

It's said that the safest place to be is not in the boat at all; the safest place is out on life's seas, because that's where Jesus is!

St Maximilian Mary Kolbe - 14th August - *"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends"* John 15:13.

In 1941, Maximilian Kolbe was arrested by the German Gestapo and was eventually transferred to the prison at Auschwitz, where he carried on ministering to his fellow prisoners in secret and gave his life in place of a married prisoner chosen for execution. He is honoured as the patron saint of drug addicts, political prisoners, families, journalists, prisoners, and the pro-life movement.

Bitesize 'You block your dream when you allow your fear to grow bigger than your faith.' - Mary Manin Morrissey



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 9th August 2026 – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
[Sundays Year A, 19th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 3]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 8th August	St Dominic
18.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 9th August	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	
Monday 10th August	ST LAWRENCE (Feast)
- No Mass	
Tuesday 11th August	St Clare
10.00 MASS	
Wednesday 12th August	Feria
10.00 MASS	
Thursday 13th August	Feria
10.00 MASS	Jerry Legmaowski + (MC)
Friday 14th August	St Maximilian Mary Kolbe
- No Mass	
Saturday 15th August	Feria
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	
Sunday 16th August	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Solemnity)
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: Frederick Faulkner, Betty Evans, Barbara Abela, Mark Blows, Roland Leslie Hutchinson, Gavin Wiggins Gemmell, Patricia Ann O'Connor, William Barton, Edwin Ronald Thurstance. *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, Frank Crawley, John Salmon, Mad Knight, Paul Holdsworth, Joss Holdsworth, Patsy Tracey.

Money Matters: Offerings for the week were as follows:
Plate Collection 2nd August 2026: £260.69.

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 9 th August - Saturday 15 th August 2026	
Monday: 1400- 1600	Tea Buddies - Monthly get together for a cuppa and a chat (all welcome). Emmaus Room 
Monday: 1900 - 2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Tuesday: 1900	Unwrapping the Feast Days - Old Hall, Dereham
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578	

Unwrapping the Feast Days: Come and explore the meaning of key Church Feast Days with Kevin and Rachel at the Old Hall, Dereham (07974 393470). Ring for directions and confirm you are coming. All are welcome. Next meeting is:

- Tue 11 Aug 26 at 7 pm - Unwrapping the Feast of the Assumption of Mary.

Our Lady of Peñafrancia Filipino Prayer Group - Saturday 15th August 2026 at 1300 in the church.

Wedding - Daniel Aidoo and Alexis Pereira will be married on 22nd August at 1400.

Parish Pastoral Council Update: The formation of the Council is almost complete and the names of the members will be announced in due course. Copies of the Promulgated Diocesan Policy on PPC are available at the back of the Church.

130 Club Draw for July 2026:

1st Prize £20 – Ticket No.31, Silvia Sillince; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No.161, Jan Duffield; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No.74, Silvia Sillince; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No.80, Pat Grout.

130 Club Draw for August 2026:

1st Prize £20 – Ticket No.63, Silvia Sillince; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No.16, Rick Jones; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No.189, Eleanor Teal; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No.11, Anne Nicol.

Parish Diocesan 50th Anniversary Celebration Family Day - A Parish Family Day, in celebration of Diocesan Jubilee, will be in early September at the Walsingham Sisters Convent. Latest provisional details are (*please note the date has changed*):

- **Date** will be Saturday **12th September 2026**.
- Venue will be the **House of the Divine Will**, Neatherd Moor (Convent).
- **Arrival from 2.30pm** to be in place before 3pm.
- At **3pm Sunday Vigil Mass** (followed by availability of Adoration).
- Following Mass, **food**, provided by our own communities (*food contributor volunteer sign-up sheets are at the back of the church*), will be served.
- Then various **fun activities** will proceed until about 7.45pm, when the event will end with a prayer.

Ideas for additional activities most welcome, so please think creatively.

Mass Coordinators for the Three Sunday Masses:

- Weekday and Saturday 1800 Mass - Theresa Pitcher
- Sunday 0900 Mass - Rex Baker
- Sunday 1100 Mass - Gerry McCarthy

For any queries regarding Mass preparation, including setting up before Mass, tidying and putting things back in order afterwards, ensuring the correct readings are prepared, and coordinating assigned lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, please liaise with the appropriate Mass Coordinator.

First Holy Communion for 2026/7 - Forms are now available at the back of the church for preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion for 2026/7. Children must be entering Year 3 and above at school. There will be a meeting for parents in September and classes start in October. Please return forms to Fr Jay.

Prayers - We pray for the safety of our fellow parishioners travelling at this time.