

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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5th February 2023 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A
[5th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 1]

MASSES in the PARISH		
Saturday 4th February		
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 5th February		
09.00	MASS	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Racial Justice Day) Annamma +
11.00	<i>MASS Live streamed</i>	For Sarah Dean (who is sick) (RD)
Thursday 9th February		
10.00	Service of the Word & Exposition	Feria.
Saturday 11th February		
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Feria. (World Day of Prayer for the Sick) Joan & Barry Evans + (PM)
Sunday 12th February		
09.00	MASS	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Elizabeth Geoghan (PM)
11.00	<i>MASS Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 17.30
EXPOSITION: Thursday after Service of the Word

Anniversaries this week: Marian Longhorn, George Howell, Brenda Secker, Joan Rooney, Ralph Keatley, Molly Sayer, Colin Halstead, Madeline Stanley, Maria Rupp, William Green, Henry Raw, Patrick Flynn. *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, Frances Saville King, Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, Collette Barro-Nessian, Betty Reavey, Marion Ring-Davies, Fr. Brendan, William Dunn, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Marco Johnson.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £298.79. Thank you.

For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: **Catholic Church of Dereham**. The Sort Code is: **40-20-08** and the Account number is: **11311115**. If you are a tax

payer, please also consider **Gift Aid**. **Gift Aid forms** are available at the back of church. This will help to maximize our donations in the Parish.

130 Club Renewals - Would members please collect their renewal envelopes from the back of church. Members are kindly asked to ensure that their renewals are returned as quickly as possible and before the end of March at the latest. Thank you.

Parish Events this week		
Tues. 7 Feb.	14.30	SVP Conference Meeting – Emmaus Room
Weds. 8 Feb.	17.00-18.00	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room
Fri. 10 Feb.	19.15-20.30	Altar Servers Group – Emmaus Room
Sundays	After 11.00 Mass	Youth Table Tennis – Emmaus Room

*Please note that the **Saturday Youth Tennis and Tuesday Chess** sessions are taking a winter break and will resume again in March 2023.*

Weekend Masses – This weekend we warmly welcome back Fr. Michael Stack for a second weekend. For the next following two weekends (11-12 and 18-19 February), Fr. John Ablewhite will be kindly standing in for Fr. Jay.

Ash Wednesday: 22nd February – There will be two Masses on Ash Wednesday – at 10.00am: Celebrant Fr. John Ablewhite; and at 17.30pm: Celebrant Fr. Michael Stack.

Columban Annual Mission Appeal 2023 – The Columban Missionaries will be making their Annual Mission Appeal in the Parish on the weekend of **25th and 26th February 2023**, to share with us their cross-cultural mission work in Asia, the Pacific and Latin America and to seek our prayers and support for the spread of the Gospel overseas. More information on their work can be found on their website at www.columbans.co.uk.

Inviting all young people in Year 9 and above to FLAME – This bi-annual national youth gathering at Wembley Arena will take place on **Saturday, 4th March 2023**. The Diocesan Youth Service is excited to be taking a group to ‘Flame’ on 4th March. Flame is the largest Catholic gathering of young people in the UK, coming together to experience the best in international speakers, artists, and performers. For details and to book a ticket and place on the coach, please see www.sjbcathedral.org.uk/flame-23-rise-up/. The cost is £38 per person and bookings must be received by **12th February**.

Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking: 8th February – This day is also the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, the Sudanese Saint who at the age of nine was kidnapped and sold into slavery. She suffered terribly at the hands of her kidnappers so much so that she forgot her birth name. Her kidnappers gave her the name ‘Bakhita’ which means ‘Fortunate.’ On this feast day, we are asked to combat human trafficking and modern-day slavery. Human trafficking and modern-day slavery affects men, women and children. It is amongst the fastest growing of international crimes and one of the largest sources of income for organised crime. And yes... it’s happening in the UK!

World Day of Prayer for the Sick: 11th February – “Illness is part of our human condition. Yet, if illness is experienced in isolation and abandonment, unaccompanied by care and compassion, it can become inhumane. When we go on a journey with others, it is not unusual for someone to feel sick, to have to stop because of fatigue or of some mishap along the way. It is precisely in such moments that we see how we are walking together: whether we are truly companions on the journey, or merely individuals on the same path, looking after our own interests and leaving others to “make do.” For this reason, on the thirty-first World Day of the Sick, as the whole Church journeys along the synodal path, I invite all of us to reflect on the fact that it is especially through the experience of vulnerability and illness that we can learn to walk together according to the style of God, which is closeness, compassion, and tenderness.” ~Taken from Pope Francis’s Message for World Day of the Sick

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for February 2023 - Pope Francis insists on the idea of parishes continuing along the path of being a centre of welcome and listening. Parishes



aren’t an exclusive club, “They have to become once again schools of service and generosity, with their doors always open to those who are excluded. And to those included. To all.” This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis’ prayer intention “... that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.”

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Shining Example



We often hear folk proclaim that their faith is a very private affair, something strictly between themselves and God. Of course there’s a place for private worship, but at the end of the day, what good is a religious conviction that rarely impacts others and fails to make the world a better place?

Today Jesus tells us that if we live by our faith we will become ‘the salt of the earth’ and the ‘light of the world’. How wonderful to be worthy of such compliments, but lest we get carried away, Jesus warns of us of the pitfalls. If the salt is to lose its taste it will become worthless, and if we are to hide the light beneath a bowl it will obviously fail to serve its purpose. What a silly idea! Why on earth would we go round hiding lights underneath bowls yet we do it all the time.

We deny the salt and hide the light every time we keep our faith to ourselves. It isn’t fashionable to be a Christian nowadays and hiding God’s light gives us a get out clause. Hiding the light means we can choose the comfortable or the easy option. Hiding the light means ignoring someone who is alone, or suffering. Hiding the light means keeping quiet and erring on the side of popular opinion. Hiding the light means keeping quiet in the face of injustice or intolerance.

Today we are invited to remember all those who Jesus might have described as the ‘salt of the earth’. We all remember someone who has motivated and inspired us. We all remember someone who has stood out against the crowd. Today we ask, “Are we guilty of practising our faith quietly and only when it’s safe, or are we shining examples.”

Bitesize - ‘A good example is like a bell that calls many to church.’ ~Danish Proverb



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 Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson
Parish Music team: Judy Reid, Kathleen Edmunds & William Preddy.
Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds

For Live Streamed Masses Search for Dereham Catholic Church on YouTube, or use the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-qWs-B40VTvbzeZ83MxQ/videos?view=2&flow=grid>

The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.