

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Moving Mountains




We live in an age where everything has to be 'seen to be believed'. If we haven't heard it on Breakfast News or read it on the front page of 'The Independent', then it can't be true. For a scientist to act in faith rather than on proven fact, or for a detective to make an arrest without hard evidence would be deemed negligent. Faith is the domain of the non-scientific. Faith is reserved for when we follow our hearts and our instincts. The solely

scientific see no validation for faith, and yet we are told that faith has the power to move mountains.

The story of 'Doubting Thomas' is interesting in that it addresses doubt in the first place. If Jesus wasn't expecting us to suffer doubts, why address the subject in the first place? We are brought up to think of faith as good and doubt as bad, but would God really want us to bury our doubts and fake our religious experience? For all of us who do not have the benefit of Thomas's first-hand experience, the good news is that doubt and faith are opposite sides of the same coin. Honest doubt can ultimately lead to a stronger faith. Doubt leads to questions, and whereas questions don't always lead to answers, they almost always lead to spiritual growth.

Today we are encouraged to believe without seeing. No, we're not being asked to silence our doubts or to leave our brains at the church door! The reality of our faith boils down not to what we are able or not able to believe, but who we believe in. Can trusting Jesus give us faith enough to move mountains?

Bitesize – 'Doubt is a pain too lonely to know that faith is his twin brother.'
~ Khalil Gibran



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

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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Sunday 16th April 2023 – 2nd Sunday of Easter – Year A
 [2nd Week of Easter, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

MASSES in the PARISH		
Saturday 15th April	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	
Sunday 16th April	09.00 MASS	2nd Sunday of Easter (<i>Divine Mercy</i>)
	11.00 <i>MASS Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish
Monday 17th April	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria
	Tuesday 18th April	Tony Whittle + (<i>APB</i>)
	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria
	Wednesday 19th April	Martin Letterig + (<i>APB</i>)
	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria
	Thursday 20th April	Easter Feria
	10.00 MASS & ADORATION	For the Intentions of APB
	<i>Live streamed</i>	
Friday 21st April	- No Mass today	Easter Feria
Saturday 22nd April	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Easter Feria
Sunday 23rd April	09.00 MASS	3rd Sunday of Easter
	11.00 <i>MASS Live streamed</i>	For Rosemary Oakes (<i>CP</i>)
		For the People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday after 10.00 Mass and Saturday at 17.30
EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION: Thursday after Mass

For Live Streamed Masses Search for Dereham Catholic Church on YouTube, or use the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-qWs-B40VTvbzezZ83MxQ/videos?view=2&flow=grid>
 The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.

Anniversaries this week: Enid Whatmore, Bernard Reddington, Edwin Gatt, Margaret Warner, Frederick Hetherington, Tony Lannon, Pamela Clark, Brenda Winandy, Thomas Nally, William Robertson. *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, Ena Marie Mifsud, Jose Pereira.

Money Matters: 2nd Collection for the Holy Land Shrines: £126.28. 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.

Word of Thanks – Fr. Jay wishes to thank everybody for the generous Easter offering. *Mabuhay (long live!).*

A Culture of Vocation – There is a mandatory collection for the formation of our diocesan seminarians on the weekend of Sunday, 30th April 2023 at all Masses.

'Love Dereham' Initiative for Divine Mercy Sunday - There is an opportunity to do something beautiful for God in our town. The Christian project 'LOVE DEREHAM' invites us to help those who find themselves in a disadvantaged situation here in Dereham. Please take a leaflet with you today and contact Athena Poole for any volunteering opportunities or advertise the initiatives to those who may need help.

Parish Events this week		
Weds. 19 Apr.	17.00-18.00	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room
Thurs. 20 Apr.	11.45	Parish Gardening Club – Parish grounds & garden.
Fri. 21 Apr.	19.15-20.45	Confirmation Group – Emmaus Room
Saturdays	10.00-11.30	Youth Club Tennis – Dereham Leisure Park
Sundays	After 1100 Mass	Youth Club Chess & Table Tennis – Emmaus Room.

Nominations for PPC Chair – We have three capable candidates for the PPC Chair which emerged from the initial counting of the ballots, namely: Phil Borthwick, Kevin Pugh and Donal Hannon. The final round is now ready to cast. Hopefully we shall have the new PPC Chair by the 1st week of May.

Ignite Festival: 29th-30th April at Sacred Heart School, Swaffham – A weekend for those Year 8+. The weekend will include live music, talks, prayer and workshops, all aimed to help young people encounter Jesus in a new way. The festival officially ends on the evening of Sunday 30th April but participants are encouraged to stay until Bank Holiday Monday 1st May to do the pilgrimage walk to Walsingham, joining with the Diocesan Pilgrimage. For more information and to book tickets, see www.ignitefestival.co.uk.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, 1st May 2023 - 12 Noon: Regina Caeli & Crowning of the Statue at Friday Market (outside the Parish Church in the Village), followed by a Rosary Procession to the Basilica led by the Parish of King's Lynn; **2pm - Service of Reconciliation & Confessions** at Chapel of Reconciliation & around the Crosses; **3pm - Pontifical Mass** with Bishop Peter Collins at Chapel of Reconciliation.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023 - Our next Pilgrimage to Lourdes as a diocese and as part of the wider Catholic Association family will take place from **Friday 18th to Friday 25th August 2023**. This will be our first fully medically supported pilgrimage since the Covid-19 pandemic and we are greatly looking forward to seeing you in Lourdes! Bishop Peter will be leading us on the pilgrimage and indeed he is leading the whole Catholic Association Pilgrimage. We hope to top 100 East Anglians for the first time this century.

For help contact the diocesan director **Deacon HUW WILLIAMS** at

- ✓ huw.williams@rcdea.org.uk
 - ✓ **07399 163 718**
 - ✓ **St Felix' Church Princess Way, CB9 9BP**
- Details on the pilgrimage website at:

<https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/catholic-association>



Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for April 2023: For a culture of peace and non-violence - This month we are invited to join Pope Francis's prayer intention: *"We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens."*

Parish Lawn Mower - As the weather continues to get better, so the grass keeps on growing fast. The present lawn mower of the Parish is not operational anymore, and so a new one is considered necessary. This will help the Garden Club in their work. A box is placed at the back of the Church for donations towards a replacement.

