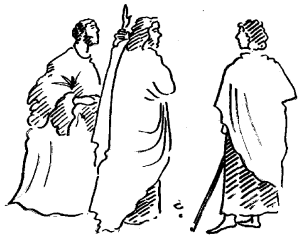


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Meeting Jesus

Two disciples travel along the road to Emmaus talking about recent events in Jerusalem. They are feeling helpless and defeated in the wake of Jesus' crucifixion. Perhaps they were still strongly tied to the Jewish expectation of a Messiah, and had little understanding of Jesus' divinity. They simply saw Jesus' death as a crushing defeat. Perhaps our own stories aren't too

different. We often feel defeated and helpless, unable to see what Jesus' death and resurrection could mean for us. Do we spend long periods of depression, unable to appreciate God's presence in our lives? One thing is for sure; it would be nothing short of a tragedy if we got to the end of life's paths without meeting Jesus, so how should we go about it?

Notice in today's gospel that Jesus opens the eyes of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus very gradually. The two travellers don't recognise Jesus straight away, but their hearts warm to him as he helps them to see recent events in the light of scripture. As he interprets what has happened, he gives them hope in the future and a clear vision of new opportunities. Then when the couple invite Jesus to stay, and he breaks bread with them, they come to realise who he really is. What a life changing moment that must have been!

This story is clearly not just for the benefit of the two travellers or even for the first disciples; this story is for the benefit of us all. We might think that we've been going to church long enough to have heard it all before, but there's always something new to learn. Today we are invited to meet Jesus in the Eucharist, and to re-find Jesus in the way we understand and interpret the scriptures. Take up the challenge.

Bitesize – 'The oil of hope makes life's machinery run smoothly.'
~James Lendall Basford



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 23rd April 2023 – 3rd Sunday of Easter – Year A
[3rd Week of Easter, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 3]

MASSES in the PARISH		
Saturday 22nd April	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Dominic Savage + (TK)
Sunday 23rd April	09.00 MASS	3rd Sunday of Easter
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For Rosemary Oakes (CP)
Monday 24th April	10.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
Tuesday 25th April	10.00 MASS	St George, Patron of England. Solemnity.
		Jose Pereira +
		St Mark, Evangelist. Feast.
		For Maria de los Angeles Coto (for healing) (SS)
Wednesday 26th April	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria
		For the intentions of Arun Baby
Thursday 27th April	10.00 MASS & ADORATION	Easter Feria
	<i>Live streamed</i>	Peter Brown +
Friday 28th April	11.30 Funeral Mass of Jose Pereira , followed by cremation at 13.00.	Easter Feria
Saturday 29th April	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	St Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe.
		Tim Salter + (<i>Foundation Mass</i>)
Sunday 30th April	09.00 MASS	4th Sunday of Easter
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish
		Elvira Lobo + (MM)

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: William Gibbons, Kathleen Rudd, Howard Leslie, John Woodhouse, Theo Sandars, Peter Gormans, Bridget Ithell, Fr. Guy (Vincent) Wace OSB, Timothy Salter, Eddie Wilde. *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.

Please include in your prayers the souls of +Jose Pereira who died on 18th April, and +Peter Brown who died on 14th April. The funeral Mass for Jose will take place in the parish on Friday, 28th April at 1130, followed by cremation at 1300. The funeral Mass for Peter has yet to be confirmed.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £258.24. Thank you. Offerings by Standing Orders for March 2023: £2,171.00 - thank you very much for your generosity, this is by far the largest total ever.

Next weekend, there will be a retiring collection after all Masses for the formation of our diocesan seminarians.

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.

Parish Pastoral Council – This is the last week in which to cast your vote for the new PPC Chairperson. There are three candidates: Philip Borthwick, Kevin Pugh and Donal Hannon. See the box at the back of church. The result will be announced on 1st May.

Restored Permission for the Reception of Holy Communion under both Species - The Bishops of England and Wales have endorsed this restoration, permissible from the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. For this parish, I recommend that the restoration commences on the feast of **Corpus Christi (11th June),** allowing more time for preparatory catechesis. I believe that a refreshment of understanding will bring great fruit regarding the nature of the Holy Eucharist, the reverent reception of the Sacrament (on the tongue and on the hand), the correct language to be employed in reference to the consecrated species etc. Much will be gained from a re-examination of the G.I.R.M.

Eucharistic Ministers Meeting – With the recent statement of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales on reinstating Communion with the Chalice, there will be a meeting for all Eucharistic Ministers on **Wednesday, 24th May 2023 at 1630,** with a view to their being recommissioned on the feast of Corpus Christi on Sunday, 11th June at the 1100 Mass.

130 Club 2023/24 – There are 20 tickets available which have not been taken up so far for this year. If anyone would like to become a member or add another number to their existing subscription, please let Marcia know. The annual subscription costs £12. The 130 Club is a worthwhile way to support parish funds. Email: marciaslee@hotmail.com

Gardening Club: Change of Meeting Arrangements – Please note that there is no meeting this week, 27th April and that as from Friday, 5th May the weekly meetings will move from Thursdays to Fridays at 10.00 a.m.

Parish Lawn Mower - As the weather continues to get better, so the grass keeps on growing fast and a new lawn mower is considered necessary. This will help the Garden Club in their work. Any donations towards its cost would be most welcome.

Parish Events this week		
Weds. 26 Apr.	17.00-18.00	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room
Thurs. 27 Apr.	Please note there is no Gardening Club this week. As from 5 th May, weekly meetings will move to Fridays at 10.00 a.m.	
Fri. 28 Apr.	19.15-20.30	Altar Servers 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.

Sacrament of Confirmation: Monday, 26th June 2023 – The time of the Mass for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation has changed and **will now take place at 1900,** instead of 1800, on Monday, 26th June 2023.

Upcoming Events: *(See the posters at the back of church)*

- Ignite Festival: 29th-30th April at Sacred Heart School, Swaffham
- Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, 1st May 2023 *(If you are going and can offer someone a lift, please let Fr. Jay know.)*
- Diocesan Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham, Tuesday 30th May, at 12 noon at the National Shrine, led by Bishop Peter.
- Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

Job Opportunities: Wayland Prison is looking for new Prison Officers. The role offers flexible working, full or part-time or job share, with a salary range £28,880-£32,523. If you are interested, contact Deacon Martin for more details.