

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Finding the Best Way

Prisons are full of people who have never set out to be bad. Our path in life is often set from childhood. Our futures are often decided for us by our upbringing, by good parents or by bad parents, by mistakes we have made and never corrected, or by exams that we have either passed or failed. But our past doesn't have to equal our future. If we want God to prepare us a place in heaven, we have to live by God's teaching, and that starts with a simple decision. We only have one life, and we have to find the best way to live it.

If you have faith in God, you also have faith that Jesus is preparing a place for each and every one of us. So how do we find our way to that place? Jesus' only advice is, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." To the early disciples Jesus must have sounded like he was talking in riddles, but to have tied up all the loose ends for the early disciples would not have helped us future generations. We have to find our way to the Father through Jesus without maps or answer books. How could Jesus have left specific answers two thousand years ago on subjects like embryology for instance, cloning, or IVF? Jesus simply trusts us to work things out in the light of his teaching, just as he trusted his first disciples.

"No one comes to the Father except through Jesus". There are many rooms in God's house ... room enough for everybody who acts in good faith room enough for everyone who lives their life the way Jesus has taught.

Bitesize – 'Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. God is awake.'

~Victor Hugo, French dramatist, novelist, & poet (1802 - 1885)



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 7th May 2023 – 5th Sunday of Easter – Year A

[5th Week of Easter, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 1]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 6th May	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Int. for Fred & Joan Faulkner
Sunday 7th May	09.00 MASS	5th Sunday of Easter
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish
Monday 8th May	10.00 MASS	Luz Sudaria + (MK)
		Easter Feria
		Fintan, Margaret, Thomas & Fintan
		Dunne + (Anniversary Mass) (LD)
Tuesday 9th May	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria
		For Kevin O'Brein (for Healing) (PG)
Wednesday 10th May	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria
		For Ciji Cyriac (Birthday thanksgiving)
Thursday 11th May	10.00 MASS & ADORATION	Easter Feria
	<i>Live streamed</i>	Jose Pereira + (CP)
Friday 12th May	- No Mass today	Easter Feria
Saturday 13th May	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Easter Feria
		Dominic Savage + (TK)
Sunday 14th May	09.00 MASS	6th Sunday of Easter
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish
		For Mr & Mrs Cyriac (Wedding Anniversary) (CC)

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: Eileen Barker, Ellen Harding, Tim Lynch, Molly Herbert, Trixie Gibbons, Frederick Dance, Eric Atkinson Brown, Ann Dent, Catherine (Kay) Garrard, Kathleen Davis. *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 Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Marco Johnson, Ena Marie Mifsud.

Please include in your prayers the soul of +Peter Brown who died on 14th April and whose Funeral Mass will take place on **Monday, 15th May at 1400.**

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £400.33 and £157.86 in the retiring collection for the Diocese's Seminarians. 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.

Tuesday, 9th May 2023 is a day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse.

Coronation Prayer Cards – There are prayer cards at the back of church to mark the coronation of King Charles III on Saturday, 6th May. Please take one.

Parish Events this week		
Mon. 8 May	14.00–16.00	 Afternoon Tea in the Emmaus Room. Join us for our monthly afternoon tea & chat. All welcome.
Weds. 10 May	17.00-18.00	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room
Fri. 12 May	10.00	Parish Gardening Club – Parish grounds & garden.
Fri. 12 May	1915-20.30	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.

Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham: Tuesday, 30th May 2023 – Led by Bishop Peter. 10.45 am: Walk from the village; 12.00 noon: Mass at the Chapel of Reconciliation, followed by a picnic and a fun afternoon at the beach. For more details, contact chrissies18@hotmail.com / 01493 717121.

130 Club 2023-24 – There are still some unsold tickets available for anyone interested. Contact marciaslee@hotmail.com

Parish Pastoral Committee – The counting of the votes for the election of the Chair to the new parish pastoral committee (PPC) was carried out at a meeting of the Parish Finance Committee on Wednesday, 3rd May and our congratulations go to Donal Hannon, who has been duly elected as Chairperson of the new Parish Pastoral Committee.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May 2023: For church movements and groups - This month Pope Francis reminds us that it is the job of everyone to evangelise. We are asked to make a daily commitment to igniting God's love around the world, in prayer, in giving and in action. This month we are invited to join Pope Francis prayer, *"... that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world."*



For Our Younger Parishioners - Over the next days and weeks our younger parishioners will be busy taking exams. Remember to keep the young people of the parish in your prayers. We petition for clear thinking, inspiration, guidance and calm.

International Mass on the Feast of Pentecost – We shall have an International Mass on the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday 28th May 2023 at the 1100 Mass, followed by a bring and share and BBQ in the Presbytery Garden. Time to wear our national costumes.

Marriage Celebration Mass – Bishop Peter invites all married couples in the Diocese to join him at the annual Marriage Celebration Mass on **Saturday, 3rd June at 11.30at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.** All married couples and their families are welcome! Those couples who are celebrating significant anniversaries (one year, five years, and every multiple of five years thereafter, or individual years from 60 onwards) will receive a certificate from the Bishop. If you would like to register for a certificate, please visit the website – <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-mass-registration/> or contact the Marriage and Family Life Coordinator, Dr. Antonia Braithwaite, on mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk. Join us after Mass for tea and cake in the Cathedral hall. Photographs of couples with the Bishop will be available online after the day.

Parish Christmas Party 2023 – This will be taking place on **Thursday, 21st December at Yaxham Village Hall from 12 noon to 1800.**