

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



If you Love Me

Jesus' 'farewell discourses' are a bit like a teacher's final lesson before an exam packed with important advice. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." "Love one another as I have loved you." "The Spirit of Truth will abide with you when I am gone."

Love of course is key to all Jesus' last-minute advice. There's lots we already know about love from our own relationships. If we love and care about each other we say where we are going and what time will be back home. If we love each other, we don't keep secrets or have affairs. If we love each other, we put our loved one's needs before our own. It's the same with God; we show God we love him by keeping his commandments. Commandments aren't there

to create unnecessary discipline; they are there to keep us in love with God and with each other.

Jesus knew that once he was gone some of his commandments would become less clear. Two thousand years down the line there are many issues that have grey areas, such as euthanasia, and the sciences that govern nuclear energy or fertility. For instances such as these, Jesus left us an 'Advocate' a 'Spirit of Truth'. We are promised that the 'Spirit of Truth' will guide us through all of life's difficult decisions. Jesus left us with hope and help, now it's down to us.

Bitesize – 'One word frees us of all the weight and pain of life: That word is love.'
~Sophocles, Greek tragic dramatist (496 BC - 406 BC)



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



Parish Priest: Fr Jay T. Magpuyo
35 London Road, Dereham, Norfolk, NR191AS
Tel: 01362 694066. Email:
edsacredheart@gmail.com
Registered Charity No. 278742
www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk



Sunday 14th June 2023 – 6th Sunday of Easter – Year A
[6th Week of Easter, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

| MASSES in the PARISH | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Saturday 13th May | 1800 | <i>First MASS of Sunday</i> Dominic Savage + (TK) |
| Sunday 14th May | 0900 | MASS 6th Sunday of Easter |
| | 1100 | MASS <i>Live streamed</i> For the People of the Parish |
| | | Mr. & Mrs. Cyriac (Wedding Anniversary Thanksgiving) (CC) |
| Monday 15th May | 1400 | Funeral Mass for Peter Brown+ Easter Feria |
| Tuesday 16th May | 1000 | MASS Easter Feria |
| | | For Michael Mealy (for healing) |
| Wednesday 17th May | 1000 | MASS Easter Feria |
| | | Anisha Cyriac + (CC) |
| Thursday 18th May | 1600-1700 | Holy Hour THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD. |
| | 1730 | MASS <i>Live streamed</i> Solemnity & Holy Day of Obligation |
| | | Josie Goodwin + (PG) |
| Friday 19th May | - | No Mass today Easter Feria |
| Saturday 20th May | 1800 | <i>First MASS of Sunday</i> Easter Feria |
| | | Tony Reid + (JR) |
| Sunday 21st May | 0900 | MASS 7th Sunday of Easter |
| | 1100 | MASS <i>Live streamed</i> For the People of the Parish |

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 17.30

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.

Anniversaries this week: Margaret Kingsbury, Paul Theocleous, Henry Westcott, Noel Kenneth Daly, John Conway, Sarah Chaudhri, Dorothy Alice May Dance, Esther Power. *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 takes place this Monday, 15th May at 1400.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £340.07. Offertory by Standing Order for April 2023 amounted to £1,801.00. Thank you. *Please note that next weekend, there will be a second collection for the Catholic Communications Network.*

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.

Ascension of the Lord, 18th May (Holy Day of Obligation) – Mass will be at 1730, preceded by a Holy Hour from 1600-1700. As discussed before, only one Mass in the Parish so that we can also explore other Masses within the Deanery.

Reinstatement of the Chalice at Communion – Following the recent statement of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales regarding the reinstatement of Community with the Chalice, the parish is invited to an hour of reflection in the Emmaus Room on **Wednesday, 24th May at 1630**, to discuss how we shall go about this. This will be a three-part meeting, namely:

1. Input on the significance of Communion under both species.
2. Discussion.
3. To decide on what system to use during Communion given the limited space we have in the church.

All Eucharistic Ministers are especially asked to be present at the meeting.

Please note there will be no Masses on the following dates:

- Thursday, 25th May – Diocesan Clergy Meeting
- Monday, 29th May to Fri. 1st June inclusive – Fr. Jay is on holiday

| Parish Events this week | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Weds. | 17.00-18.00 | First Communion Class – Emmaus Room |
| Fri. 19 May | 10.00 | Parish Gardening Club – Parish grounds & garden. |
| Fri. 19 May | 1915 – 2045 | 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. |

International Mass: Sunday, 28th May – Our International Mass will be taking place on Pentecost Sunday, 28th May, at the 1100 Mass, followed by a bring and share and BBQ in the Presbytery garden. Time to wear our national costumes!

Altar Alterations - We are most grateful for being blessed with a Church which is liturgically proper in terms of design, with the Blessed Sacrament at the centre. However, one structural flaw is the dimension of the Altar Table which makes it a bit off. If you notice, the length is not quite fitting to the size of the sanctuary making it a bit cramped. Plus its width is narrower than usual. In the near foreseeable future, we shall have a Parish consultation on this matter alone. The Altar is the most important part of the Church for it is where the Sacrifice of Christ takes place. In our case, this could be improved.

Parish Teams - Under the structure of the new parish pastoral committee, a number of parish teams are being formed to address and manage areas of concern in the parish and to take the initiative for its growth. The names of these teams are suggestions only at this stage and their permissions are still to be agreed.

The Emmaus Room - This is in urgent need of re-decorating. Some volunteers have already washed down the walls but we need a couple of volunteers to paint the walls. Paint and equipment will be provided. Please let Fr Jay know if you can help or if you are willing to contribute towards the cost of the paint.

Ascension Thursday: Real and Present - On this day we imagine Jesus going to some place high above the clouds, to some faraway place beyond death. But if the disciples felt any sense of abandonment that's certainly not how they acted. The disciples didn't leave the scene of the Ascension in mourning; they returned with great joy and praised God in the temple day after day. It is clear that the disciples did not experience Jesus as absent. It is clear that in everything they did from then on that Jesus was real and present in their lives.