

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**Listen, Reflect, Respond** - Today's gospel reading focuses on how we listen, and more importantly how we respond to God's Word. The parable of the Sower and the seeds illustrates the different ways in which God's Word is received or not received.

The seed sown on the path that grew quickly but was stolen by the birds represents those of us who hear the Word but fail to understand it. The Word eludes us. The seed sown on the rocky ground represents those of us who hear the Word and receive it at once, but because the seed has no roots it is short lived. When trial and tribulation rear their ugly heads our commitment to God's Word is abandoned because our faith wasn't deep rooted to begin with. The seed sown among thorns represents those of us who hear the Word and would like to act upon it, but are so overwhelmed by worldly anxieties and diversions that the Word bears no fruit. Lastly, the seed sown in rich soil represents those of us who hear the Word, act upon it and realise results.

The Bible, and the teaching contained in it, is God's legacy to us, so how do we go about listening? Do we listen to the Sunday readings in a negative state of mind? Are we expecting to be bored by the readings, confused or indifferent before one word is even read? Do we ever take home the Mass sheet to reflect on the readings we have heard at Mass? Do we ever consider how the readings should be impacting our lives? Do we ever leave Mass determining to lead our lives a little differently?

It's obvious that a seed needs fertile ground to grow. Similarly, it's obvious that we need fertile hearts and open minds for God's Word to seed and bear fruit. Today's challenge is to listen with an open mind, reflect and respond.

**Bitesize** – 'An idea not coupled with action will never get any bigger than the brain cell it occupied.' ~ *Arnold H. Glasgow*



**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 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A**  
 [15<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 3]

### MASSES in the PARISH

<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July</b>		
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Edward (Ted) Isbill+ ( <i>RB</i> )
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
09.00	MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00	<i>MASS Live streamed</i>	Eileen Hannon ( <i>DH</i> )
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00	MASS	
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00	MASS	
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00	MASS	
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00	<i>MASS &amp; ADORATION</i> <i>Live streamed</i>	
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>		<b>Feria</b>
-	No Mass today	
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>		<b>St Mary Magdalene</b>
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Ted Isbill+ ( <i>JB</i> )
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>		<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
09.00	MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00	<i>MASS Live streamed</i>	Private Intention

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

*Rosary & Morning Prayer are said weekdays. before Mass from 09.15.*

*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:** Anne Tinney, Peter Lindsay. *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, Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, Colette Barro-Nessian, Betty Reavey, Marion Ring-Davies, Fr. Brendan, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Marco Johnson, Ena Marie Mifsud, Katherine Vella.

**Money Matters:** Offering for last Sunday: Plate £276.73. Offertory by way of Standing Orders totalled £2,086.00 for June 2023. Collection for Stella Maris: £174.54. Donations towards acoustics project: £61.70. Thank you.

**130 Club Draw for July 2023** -1<sup>st</sup> Prize £20 – Ticket No. 170, Robert Dean; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 – Ticket No. 73, Elaine Wilkes; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 141 Roland Terry; 4<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 134, Kath Borthwick; 5<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 25, Shirley Liebenhals. Payments will follow next week.

**Parish Open Forum** - Prior to our Parish Stewardship Program, it is but fitting that we shall have a Parish Open Meeting this 6<sup>th</sup> September at 1830. Please make time for this important date as we would want to hear your voice about stuff relating to our Parish in all its aspects. The Parish Stewardship Program 2023 will be launched on the weekend of 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September.

**Next Year's Parish Vision** - Fr Jay is asking for any suggestions about the Parish Vision we'll be having next September. This will help us navigate through the waters of our Faith as community. Please email the Parish, and all suggestions will be considered.

Parish Events this week	
Every Tuesday 19.00	 <b>Youth Club Chess &amp; Table Tennis</b> - Emmaus Room. 
Every Friday 10.00	 <b>Parish Gardening Club</b> – Parish grounds & garden. Volunteers welcome.
<b>Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 11.30</b>	<b>Altar Servers' Mass</b> , followed by BBQ, at the Cathedral with Bishop Peter.
Every Saturday 10.00-12 Noon	<b>Parish Tennis Club recommences this week, 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b> at the Dereham Leisure Park. If anyone is interested in helping to teach the game, please let Fr. Jay know. 

**Bishop Barron on the Mass** - A video series on the Mass by Bishop Barron, Word on Fire. If you haven't yet come across Bishop Barron, you are in for a treat, he is easy to listen to, informed and you feel like he is talking just to you. Friendly and animated, he gives new life to our understanding of the Mass. **Six topics:** A Privileged Encounter, Called Out of the World, God Speaks Our Story, Responding to God, Preparing for Sacrifice, The Real Presence creates Communion. **Starts Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July for six weeks. 6.30pm with a drink and discussion, about an hour. In the Emmaus Room.** Come as you can, everyone welcome. Possible to catch up online. Facilitated by Rachel and Kevin Pugh. *Sign up list at back of church.*

**Autumn Parish Social Events – Dates for your Diaries:**

- Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 – **Altar Servers' Day Out** (Bowling & Pizza)
- Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – **Parish BBQ** right after the 1100 Mass.
- Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – **Parish Auction** at 1830 in the Emmaus Room. Any queries, contact Richard May or Donal Hannon. The proceeds will be used to cover additional expenses for church projects, especially the acoustics improvements.
- Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – Parish bring & share **Christmas Party** at Yaxham Village Hall from 12 noon – 6.00 p.m.

**Church Acoustic Improvement** - Please find the box at the back of the Church to donate. Last week's donation was encouraging. Many thanks.

**New Rector for the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham** - Fr Robert Billing, from the Diocese of Lancaster, has been appointed the new Rector of the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham in Norfolk. He will serve for a five-year term and will take up his new responsibilities from September 1.

**Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride** – The annual Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride will be taking place on **Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. For more information on how to take part go to <https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride/> or see the poster & forms at the back of church. Volunteers will be needed on the day to welcome visitors. There will be a rota for this nearer the time. Please sign up if you are able to help.



**Thanking Space:**

- the donor of the trimming of the hedges
- the donor of the new G-tech vacuum used in cleaning the Church
- the donor/s of the lawnmower
- the painters of the Emmaus of Room
- Harold Cater, for his donations to the Acoustics project
- Flower Ladies' Nook (Jan Duffield) for the Church's flowers last week.

