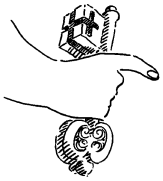


## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### The Key

Who do you think Jesus is? As small children we are told that Jesus is the Son of God, and we accept it readily. When we are children, God is a kindly father figure who lives in Heaven and listens to our night prayers. When we are small, Jesus is the baby we see in the Christmas Nativity scene. When we are a little older, Jesus is the teller of all those intriguing parables. Once we are young adults we see Jesus as a great teacher, a healer, a worker of miracles and a revolutionary. For some of us, doubts creep in. Is Jesus really the Son of God or simply a good man and a great prophet?

In today's gospel Jesus asks his disciples "Who do you say I am?" "You are the Christ," replies Peter promptly, "the Son of the living God." But this wasn't Peter's opinion from the start. Peter and the other disciples first met Jesus as a fellow human being. By working with Jesus and following his ministry daily, Peter and the other disciples gradually came to the extraordinary conviction that Jesus is the Son of the living God, the Messiah who alone can give us salvation.

Today we listen again to Jesus' question. "Who do you say I am?" It seems that the question is stretching over the centuries. It seems that the question is aimed not just at the disciples but at us. Jesus doesn't want us to give the answer we've been taught to give ... our answer has to be from the heart. Our answer might be, "I don't know!" Our answer might be, "I'm not very sure right now." Or our answer might be a resounding, "You are Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus knows that faith is a journey and our answer reflects at exactly what stage of that journey we have reached.

It may be that we think of Jesus as little more than a good man and a great prophet. If this is what we believe, the Bible becomes little more than a book filled with good stories and sound philosophy. If like the disciples we are convinced that Jesus is the Son of God, all at once we are opening ourselves to great possibilities.... all at once we have found the key to life's greatest adventure.

**Bitesize** - "God puts rainbows in the clouds so that each of us — in the dreariest and most dreaded moments — can see a possibility of hope." ~ *Maya Angelou*



**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  
[kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com)

## Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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SacredHeartDereham.org.uk

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023 – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A**  
 [21<sup>st</sup> Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 1]

### MASSSES in the PARISH

<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August</b>		
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Joseph Skilton Junior
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August</b>		<b>21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
09.00	MASS	Anisha Cyriac+ (CC)
11.00	<i>MASS Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August</b>		<b>St Augustine</b>
-	No Mass today	
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b>		<b>The Passion of St John the Baptist</b>
10.00	MASS	Calvin & Becky Cummings (Sick)
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00	MASS	Jason Byrne (Sick)
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00	MASS & ADORATION <i>Live streamed</i>	Liam Lacey+
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>		<b>Feria (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation)</b>
-	No Mass today	
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>		<b>Feria</b>
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b>		<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
09.00	MASS	Hilda Pritchard+ (CP)
11.00	<i>MASS Live streamed</i>	Gonzalo Mausisa+ (MK)

**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:** Jenetta Elizabeth Smith, Francis Gray, Doris Jarvis, Patrick McMahon, Alfred Chapman, John Power, Charles Victor Mann, Elizabeth Keatley, Norah Greenlee, Conal O'Donnell, Albert Foley, Hector Frosdick. *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 Barrow-Nessian, Betty Reavey, Marion Ring-Davies, Fr. Brendan, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Marco Johnson, Ena Marie Mifsud, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Kevin Pugh.

**Money Matters:** Offering for last Sunday: Plate £329.93 and £57.15 for the acoustics project. Thank you.

**Acoustics Improvements Project** - Donations to Date: £931.92 (Project Target £4,200). *There is a box for donations at the back of the church.*

**Mass Times** – A reminder that there is no Mass on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> August. Fr. Jay is away.

**Safeguarding Notice** - For anyone who may not know, our parish safeguarding representative is Kathleen Edmunds ([kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com) and often found playing the organ at 11am Mass). Kathleen will manage the applications for any DBS checks and re-checks for any parish volunteers who fulfil a role with children or vulnerable adults and is also a point of contact, along with Fr Jay, if you have any safeguarding concerns within the parish. There are also some summary leaflets at the back of church that give advice about how to respond to a safeguarding concern. More information and contacts in regard to safeguarding in the diocese can be found here: [www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding).

**First Holy Communion 2024** – A reminder for children going into Year 3 or above in September 2023 to be registered for the First Holy Communion programme. Registration forms are available in the church, and also on the parish website. Please return your form to Fr. Jay as soon as possible. There will be an introductory session for parents, which will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm.

**Children's Liturgy:** From late September, during the first half of the Sunday 11am Mass, for children Y1 to First Holy Communion age. This Act of Worship for young children will help understanding of the Mass and the Faith. Please see more information see the website under Catechism/Children's Liturgy.

**Food to Share** – Those who will be bringing food to our Parish BBQ on 10<sup>th</sup> September, please put your details on the list at the back of church to avoid duplication.

**Parish Auction Fundraiser** – A form is provided at the back of church for those who have items for the auction to list them in advance of the auction on 27<sup>th</sup> October.

<b>Parish Events for the week 27<sup>th</sup> August – 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	
Tuesday: 1900	<b>Youth Club Chess &amp; Table Tennis</b> – Emmaus Room.
Wednesday 18.30 – 19.30	<b>'The Mass' Video Talks</b> – Emmaus Room. The final talk given by Bishop Barron. Friendly and animated, Bishop Barron gives new life to our understanding of the Mass. This week's topic is <i>'The Real Presence creates Communion.'</i> All welcome. If you've missed any of the previous episodes, you can catch up at <a href="https://videos.wordonfire.org/themassepisode1">https://videos.wordonfire.org/themassepisode1</a> . Facilitated by Rachel & Kevin Pugh.
Friday: 10.00	<b>Parish Gardening Club</b> – Parish grounds & garden. Volunteers welcome.
Saturday: 1000-1200	<b>Youth Club Tennis</b> – Dereham Leisure Park.
Saturday	<b>Altar Servers' Day Out</b> – Bowling & Pizza.

**Movie Time – 'Sound of Freedom':** Based on an incredible true story, this film shines a light on even the darkest of places. After rescuing a young boy from ruthless child traffickers, a federal agent learns the boy's sister is still captive and decides to embark on a dangerous mission to save her. With time running out, he quits his job and journeys deep into the Colombian jungle, putting his life on the line to free her from a fate worse than death. Starring Jim Caveziel, Mira Sorvino and Bill Camp. PG-13. Date to be confirmed in September.

**Lullaby Needed** - Northgate High School Choir in Dereham is asking for anybody who can teach them to sing a lullaby from other cultures. For more information, please contact Mr Obase-Aboli Masango, Music Teacher, Northgate High School, 01362 697033.

**Red Missionary Boxes** – A final call to bring in your boxes for counting.



***Lux in Tenebris (Light Among the Shadows)***  
*Fr Jay's painting has been made to an A3, 11.7 x 16.5 in., print and is now available at the back of church. Any donation goes to our Acoustics project.*