

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### No Man Is An Island

To give correction occasionally is an unpleasant duty, and to receive it is an equally unpleasant duty. Which is harder? An honest answer tells us a lot about our personality.

Every one of us has experienced confrontation over our behaviour at one time or another. How did we respond? More than likely we didn't respond well. None of us like to have our faults pointed out. At worst it can send us into a spiral of heated indignation and stubborn denial, protesting our innocence and hurling accusations back in retaliation. Ultimately, whether the criticism was taken on board or not depends on the spirit in which it was given. Was the criticism dealt by a friend with our best interests at heart, or was it dealt in a spirit of anger and come-uppance? How the criticism was dealt and how we responded is key in our dealings when it's our turn to correct someone else.

Most of us dislike having to correct someone else; we procrastinate and beat about the bush. Mightn't it be easier all round if we pretended the problem didn't exist? The main flaw with that strategy is that the papers are full of serious examples of what can happen when problems are side stepped and left to fester. How many people have allowed abuse, deception, injustice and even holocaust because they have kept quiet and avoided confrontation? There's no getting round it, there will come a time when we need to meet confrontation head on.

Today's gospel tells us how to confront someone we know to be in the wrong. We should make the confrontation on a one-to-one basis in a spirit of love and empathy. If our attempts at putting things straight fail, we should attempt to involve a third party. An extra pair of objective ears can often take the heat out of a situation; this is why people often take their problems to a counsellor. When Jesus says "Where there are two or three gathered in my name..." he is making it clear how important we are to one another. No man is an island; we all need each other's support. We all need each other's empathy, and there will come a time when we all need a good honest dose of tough love.

**Bitesize** - Nobody stands taller than those willing to stand corrected.

~William Safire

**Permanent Deacon:** Rev. Martin Sanderson

**Parish Music team:** Judy Reid, Kathleen Edmunds & William Preddy.

**Parish Safeguarding Representative:** Kathleen Edmunds

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## Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September – 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

[23<sup>rd</sup> Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 3]

#### MASSES in the PARISH

##### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September

18.00 *First MASS of Sunday*

John Merrick+ (*Foundation Mass*)

##### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September

09.00 MASS

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

11.00 *MASS Live streamed*

Anisha Cyriac+ (*CC*)

Phyllis Thurstance+ (*JD*)

##### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September

10.00 MASS

**Feria**

Kevin O'Brien (for Healing) (*PG*)

##### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September

- No Mass today due to Deanery meeting

**Feria**

##### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September

10.00 MASS

**St John Chrysostom.**

Breda Byrne+ (*PM*)

##### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September

- No Mass today

**Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Feast.**

##### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

1000 Funeral Service for Julian Spetch+

**Our Lady of Sorrows.**

##### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September

18.00 *First MASS of Sunday*

**Ss Cornelius & Cyprian.**

For the People of the Parish

##### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September

09.00 MASS

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

11.00 *MASS Live streamed*

Msgr. Peter Uzor (*Dcn MS*)

**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-B40VTvbzeZ83MxQ/videos?view=2&flow=grid>

The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.

**Anniversaries this week:** Annie Cecilia O’Ryan, Sidney Platt, Ferdinand Rupp, William Goulden. *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 £363.24 and £190.00 for the acoustics project. 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.

**Acoustics Improvements Project** - Donations to Date: £3251.92 (Project Target £4,200). *There is a box for donations at the back of the church.*

**Education Day, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023** – Today is a special day of prayer for Education, when we pray for students and teachers. There may be an optional retiring collection for the Catholic Education Service.

**Annual Mass Count** – The annual Mass count will commence next weekend for four weeks.

**Next Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> September, is Evangelii Gaudium Day** and there will be a retiring collection after all Masses for the Home Missions.

**Deanery Meeting** – Please note that there is a Deanery meeting on **Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> September at 1100** and, as a result, there will be no Mass that day.

**Please include in your prayers the soul of Julian Spetch+** whose Funeral Service takes place in the parish at 1000 on **Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> September.**

**On Pilgrimage** – Please note there will be no Masses on the following weekdays while Fr. Jay is away on pilgrimage to the Holy Land – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>, Monday 18<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

<b>Parish Events for the week 11<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>	
Monday: 1400-1600	<b>Tea Buddies:</b> Monthly get-together for a friendly natter over a cuppa – Emmaus Room. All welcome. Every second Monday of the month. 
Tuesday: 1900	<b>Youth Club Chess &amp; Table Tennis</b> – Emmaus Room.
Friday: 10.00	<b>Parish Gardening Club</b> – Parish grounds & garden. Volunteers welcome.
Friday: 1915-2030	<b>Altar Servers:</b> Meetings recommence 15 <sup>th</sup> September – Emmaus Room
Saturday: 1000-1200	<b>Youth Club Tennis</b> – Dereham Leisure Park.



**Posada:** The Posada is back. Coming in December, families will be invited to house the Posada at their homes for a night or two. This will start on the first Sunday of Advent (3<sup>rd</sup> December) and finishes on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December. A form is provided at the back of the Church for you to sign up.

**CAFOD Representative for the Parish** – If you are interested, please sign up and let Fr. Jay know.



Many thanks to Judy Reid for last week’s grand flower decorations, and to our regular foodbank givers and our volunteer church cleaners.

**First Holy Communion 2024** – If you haven’t already done so, please register your child now for First Holy Communion; forms are available at the back of church or on the parish website.

**Children’s Liturgy** - Please note that children’s liturgy will be recommencing at the 1100 Mass on Sunday, 1st October. It runs during term time only and is for children in Y1 to First Holy Communion age. This Act of Worship for young children will help understanding of the Mass and the Faith. For more information see the website under Catechism/Children’s Liturgy.

**Mass for the Sick** – The SVP group are planning for a Mass for the sick and housebound, hopefully to be held in early October (date to be confirmed). Anyone who would be able to help with transport, please let Terri or Deacon Sanderson know.



**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.