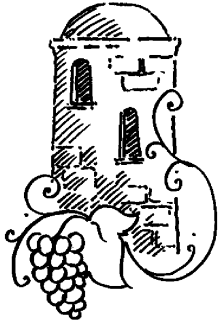


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Cornerstone



What happens when we forget that our lives are a gift from God? What happens when we forget that humankind is God's creation? What happens when we forget that the planet that we live on belongs to God?

Today's parable describes a landowner who leaves tenants in charge of his vineyard. But at harvest time the tenants refuse to pay their rent, failing to recognise the landowner's authority and killing the servants and even the son who are sent for the rent. The tenants appear to have forgotten that the vineyard belongs to the landowner. The tenants had come to believe

that they could make up their own rules. They had forgotten that they were accountable. They had certainly forgotten that they had been given responsibilities and entrusted with stewardship.

God is still master of the 'vineyard' and we are the new tenants to whom the welfare of the vineyard has been passed on. The parable was originally targeted at the Pharisees, but for us too, the parable demands some degree of self-examination. We might think of ourselves as good people, but like the first tenants, do we constantly fight shy of accountability? Over the years we each develop our own individual code of conduct. Perhaps we begin to feel that as long as we are living by some kind of moral code, we no longer need to be accountable. We begin to imagine that 'being accountable' is just for those who go round getting things wrong. Living by self-made standards is all well and good, but if we do this, are we in danger of forgetting about the very high standards that God has set for us?

What happens when we forget that Christ is our cornerstone? When we make up our own rules with little thought for Jesus' teachings, the chances are we will fall a long way short of what God expects. Today's invitation is to raise the bar, step up to the mark, and recognise Christ as our cornerstone.

Bitesize – 'Accountability separates the wishers in life from the action-takers that care enough about their future to account for their daily actions.' ~John Di Lemme



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

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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Sunday 8th October 2023 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A
 [27th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 3]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 7th October	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Osyth Hawke's Int. (<i>Foundation Mass</i>)
Sunday 8th October	09.00 MASS	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish
Monday 9th October		Joy Bussey (for healing) (<i>CP</i>)
	10.00 MASS	St John Henry Newman
Tuesday 10th October		Ken May+ (<i>CP</i>)
	10.00 MASS	Feria
Wednesday 11th October		For Sr Raphael Fosier OSB (<i>DC</i>)
	14.30 MASS	Feria
Thursday 12th October		Josephine+ and K. Abraham+ (<i>CC</i>)
	10.00 MASS & ADORATION	Feria
Friday 13th October		Mr. Joseph+, Mr. Kurian+ & Mrs Elsamma Kurian+ (<i>SJ</i>)
	- No Mass today	Feria
Saturday 14th October		Feria
	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 15th October		28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	09.00 MASS	K.A. Cyriac, Henessa Jossy & Jossy Thomas (birthday int's.) (<i>CC</i>)
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Elaine Smith+ (<i>JD</i>)

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 link on the parish website.

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

Anniversaries this week: Maud Juby, John Pearson, Sheila Flanagan, Maybel O'Donnell, Nellie Pinchbeck, David Jones, Sylvia Remmen, Letizia Barrett, Pat Rushton. *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, Ena Marie Mifsud, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Kevin Pugh, Joy Bussey, Diana Conney.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £385.66. 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.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day, 6th October – Following Friday's Harvest Fast Day, there is a retiring collection after all Masses this weekend in support of CAFOD's work in helping people affected by disease and poverty, or displaced from their homes and communities by the climate crisis. Envelopes for your donations are available at the back of church.

Prisons' Week – This Sunday, 8th October, is the start of Prisons' Week, during which we are asked to pray for prisoners and their families.

Annual Mass Count – The annual Mass count concludes this weekend.

Parish Stewardship Programme – The last of the three themed talks as part of our introduction to the Parish Stewardship Programme will be given at all Masses this weekend, as we continue to think about how we can best care for and support our parish and those around us in all aspects of our community life.

SVP Mass for the Sick – There will be a Mass for the Sick on **Wednesday, 11th October at 14.30**. If transport is needed, or if you are able to offer a lift to someone, please let Terri Sanderson know. Tel: 01362 822590.

Parish Events for the week 8 th – 14 th October	
Sunday: 1100 Mass	Children's Liturgy
Monday: 1400-1600	Tea Buddies – Emmaus Room. Monthly afternoon social tea & chat. All welcome.
Tuesday: 1430	SVP Group Meeting – Emmaus Room

Parish Events for the week 8 th – 14 th October	
Tuesday: 1900	Youth Club Chess & Table Tennis – Emmaus Room.
Wednesday: 1430	SVP Mass for the Sick
Thursday: 1730-1830	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room.
Friday: 1000	Gardening Club – Presbytery garden & church grounds. Volunteers welcomed.
Friday: 1915-2030	Altar Servers' Group – Emmaus Room
<i>Saturday Youth Club Tennis has now stopped for the winter season.</i>	

Film Showing - Sound of Freedom [PG13], starring Jim Caviezel, will be shown in the Emmaus Room on **Wednesday, 18th October at 1830 for 1900**. [*Sound of Freedom, based on an incredible true story, 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.*]

Parish Auction, 27th October: In aid of the Parish and Let The Children Live, a charity caring for street children in Colombia - please consider donating a quality item or a promise which can be auctioned on the night. Examples of promises could be 2 hours gardening, 3 hours cleaning, to iron a basket of laundry, etc. etc. Please complete a form at the back of church and return to Fr Jay, Donal Hannon or Richard May. A light meal will be provided before the auction.

All Saints Celebration: Saturday 28th October - The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham invites you to join them at their convent in Dereham to celebrate the upcoming Solemnity of All Saints! You can drop in anytime from 4pm – 7:30pm. Throughout the evening there will be a bring & share buffet, adoration, games and craft activities, a Catholic quiz at 5:30pm, hymns and prayers at 6:30pm, along with an optional come dressed as a saint! All ages welcome. Please RSVP to office@walsinghamcommunity.org or call 01362 692574.



Thanks to Beth Theedam for last week's church flowers decorations, and to our regular donors to the foodbank, our church cleaners, and our Mass collection counters.

Thanks - Jan and John Richardson would like to thank everyone for their kind prayers and well wishes for their youngest grandson Marco. We celebrated his first birthday on 17th September and we are pleased that he is well and progressing after a difficult first few months. Knowing that he was being prayed for was a great comfort to us and his parents, Emma and Lawrence.

