

**GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**



**Living Temples** - Once a year at Passover, Jews visited the Temple and offered a sacrifice to God. At this time of year the number of visitors to Jerusalem swelled and the moneylenders, with their eye to business, took to operating a scam. When visitors came to the Temple, they were able to purchase animals or doves to offer as sacrifices. Because the Jews considered Roman coinage bearing Caesar's head as idolatrous, they were given the opportunity to exchange their Roman coins for Temple coinage. The idea was originally a good one, but the moneylenders were operating an unfair exchange rate for over-priced animals. What had started out as a good idea had turned into an abuse .... and

this in God's name! Was it any wonder that Jesus was so angry?

To see Jesus angry enough to take a whip and drive out the villainous traders might surprise us. We are brought up with a vision of a Jesus as both meek and mild. In our modern times, where disputes have to be settled over a table and those who display temper are sent off for anger management counselling, the story might even make us raise a disapproving eyebrow. But what this story makes us realise is that there are situations that warrant our righteous anger. Jesus simply could not tolerate injustice, and neither should we.

What injustices do we need to drive out of our society today? We don't have to look far. How can we claim to be Christians yet settle for injustices that Jesus would not have settled for? Can we really sit back and allow rich countries to profit greedily at the expense of poor countries? Can we really condone the unfair distribution of our planet's resources just for our own convenience? Can we continue to let governments ride roughshod over those who cannot speak up for themselves?

What has to be driven out of our lives and communities because instead of bringing us closer to God, they prevent us from meeting him? Today's story is not about protecting a sacred building. God after all does not live in a building. Each of us is a living temple. God lives through us.



**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.  
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**Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary**



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SacredHeartDereham.org.uk

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent – Year B**  
 [3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 3]

<b>MASSES in the PARISH</b>		
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	09.00 MASS	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	+Albert Foley ( <i>Foundation Mass</i> )
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>	10.00 Service of the Word & Holy Communion	+Annie Ritchie ( <i>KB</i> )
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	10.00 MASS	<b>Lent Feria</b>
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	10.00 MASS	<b>Lent Feria</b>
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	10.00 MASS & ADORATION	+Kevin O'Brien ( <i>PG</i> )
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	11.30 Stations of the Cross, followed by Lent Lunch	<b>Lent Feria</b>
	17.30 Stations of the Cross	Helen Coyne ( <i>Foundation Mass</i> )
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	<b>St Felix, Secondary Patron of Diocese</b>
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	09.00 MASS	<b>Lent Feria</b>
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	+T.C. Kurian ( <i>SJ</i> )
		<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
		For the People of the Parish
		+Patricia Duffy ( <i>CW</i> )
<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday after 10.00 Mass and Saturday at 17.30</b> <b>EXPOSITION &amp; BENEDICTION: Thursday after Mass</b>		

*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:** Thomas Arbuthnot, Billy Reavey, Thomas Donaghue, Francis Langham, John Gaylard, Ernest B. Shaw, Archbishop Peter Smith (2<sup>nd</sup> Bishop of East Anglia), Esther Rawe, Robert Patrick, Kenneth Gaylard, Robert Nimmo Nicol, Elizabeth Mary O'Donnell, Roy Smith, Michael John Irvine Barty. *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, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Kevin Pugh, Joy Bussey.

**Money Matters:** Offering for last Sunday: Plate £325.93 and second collection for CAFOD Fast Day £210.65. 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 is will help to maximize our donations in the Parish.

**Church Heating System** - You will be aware that the church heating has been condemned. The Parish Finance Committee has considered the way forward in conjunction with the Chairman of the Parish Council. Given the lack of Parish resources and that all the Alive in Faith projects have been completed, it was agreed that the cost of replacing the heating system and the making good of the Church décor be met from the balance remaining in Alive in Faith fund. Quotations for the work are now being sought before submitting the scheme to the Diocese. Any Parishioners who wish to comment should contact Father Jay. A form is available at the back of the Church for you to sign up and for your suggestions.

**Deanery Lenten Station Mass 2024** - Our Deanery Lenten Station Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral on **Tuesday March 12<sup>th</sup>, with Adoration and Confessions from 1800 followed by Mass at 1900**. Priests will be available for Confession from across the Deanery; this is an excellent opportunity for your Lent Confession, especially if you prefer to have your Confession heard anonymously.

**Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers Training and Re-training** - Inviting those who have signed up to volunteer for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, or are interested in these roles, please attend the training and retraining on **Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> April, at 14.30 in the Church.** *(Please note change of time.)*

<b>Parish Events for the week 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	
Sunday: 1100	<b>Children's Liturgy</b> (for children in Y1 to 1st Holy Communion age)
Tuesday: 1900	<b>Youth Club Chess &amp; Table Tennis</b> – Emmaus Room.
Wednesday: 1430	<b>Queen of Peace Prayer Group</b> – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Thursday: 1730-1830	<b>First Communion Class</b> – Emmaus Room
Friday: 1915-2030	<b>Altar Servers' Group</b> – Emmaus Room for Easter Triduum Preparation
<b>Friday Garden Club</b> – Volunteers are asked to please contact Sonia on 07985 521578 for next meeting date.	

**Deacon Martin and Terri's Golden Wedding Anniversary** - Deacon Martin & Terri are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary at Aldiss Park, Dereham Football Club, Norwich Road, on Sunday 28th April at 1200. All parishioners are invited, please notify them at this no. 01362 822590.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention, March 2024** - Pope Francis tells us that we are "to be truly committed to discipleship and prepared to take risks for the cause of the Gospel." By risks we understand that we should be unafraid of what others might think of us. In certain countries it might even mean risking persecution. Pope Francis promotes that we should have a 'zeal' for promoting the gospel. But how should we do that? How should we promote the gospel with enthusiasm? Catechists are sometimes asked to conduct a simple exercise. We are asked to look back through our lives and identify a significant crossroad and reflect about where we think God was for us during that time. How did God use this change to make us who we are today? Are we willing to share that story and invite others to share their stories too? This month we are invited to join Pope Francis' prayer intention, *"...for those around the world who risk their lives for the Gospel, to inspire the Church with their courage and missionary zeal."*



We thank all our parish volunteers for their help each week, including our foodbank regular givers, Mass collection counters, church cleaners' team, and the greeters' guild.

**Care for our Common Home: Carbon Fast** - Have you ever noticed how some of your best ideas come to you whilst you're out walking? Lent is a time for reflection. Take time out. Slow life down. Allow more time to get to the places you need to get to. Leave the car at home and enjoy walking and reflecting.

**Bitesize** - 'Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it.' ~ Lou Holtz