

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Branching Out



There's a lot of work to do in today's world. Almost daily, the TV and Radio brings terrible news of atrocities and disasters around the planet. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by all the bad news and to feel powerless to do anything. We do not consider that we can individually instigate change for lots of reasons. We do not feel clever enough, or brave enough or rich enough. In short, it's hard to know where to begin and even whether change is possible. The inspirational message in today's gospel is that we can make changes as long as we work together.

We are already familiar with the ethos of trade unions. Trade unions operate on one powerful principle. Individually we can be easily overlooked but together we have the power to bring the whole country to a stand-still and sway governments. If a trade union wanted to promote solidarity and unity, the vine would make an ideal logo. The vine itself is the heart of the union, the part that determines the ethos. The branches do the work of the vine and the fruit they bear is the outcome, the final result.

Today we are told that with Christ as our vine we can do great things. All too often we become wrapped up in developing our own spirituality, trying to work out what God means to us as an individual, striving to find our niche. It's easy to forget that we are part of a huge family of people the biggest union on the planet. With Christ's teaching and pruning, we as a body, have the ability to transform the world by putting faith into action. Our individual responsibility is to look for ways in which we can become part of the overall plan. We don't have to branch out alone, we branch out as a team.

Bitesize – 'A snowflake is one of God's most fragile creations but look what they can do when they stick together!' ~ *Author Unknown*



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
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Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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Sunday 28th April 2024 – 5th Sunday of Easter

[Sundays Year B, 5th Week of Easter, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 1]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 27th April	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 28th April	09.00 MASS	5th Sunday of Easter
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For Martin & Terri's Golden Wedding +Luz Sudaria (MK)
Monday 29th April	10.00 Service of the Word & Holy Communion	St Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe
Tuesday 30th April	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria +Tim Salter (<i>Foundation Mass</i>)
Wednesday 1st May	10.00 MASS	Easter Feria +Rose Bere (<i>Foundation Mass</i>)
Thursday 2nd May	10.00 MASS & ADORATION	St Athanasius +Kevin O'Brien (TP)
Friday 3rd May	- No Mass today	SS Philip & James. Apostles.
Saturday 4th May	18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	The English Martyrs. +Kath Borthwick (PM)
Sunday 5th May	09.00 MASS	6th Sunday of Easter
	11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For the People of the Parish +Kath Borthwick (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 link on the parish website.

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

Anniversaries this week: Timothy Salter, Jose Antonio De Melo Pereira, Eddie Wilde, Roger Gerald Clancy, James Tinney, Mary Gatt, Sarah Courtney, Irene Barns, David Horsburgh, Thomas Delahunt. *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, Dorothy Edwards, Pat Grout.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £269.93 and £181.62 for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund. 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.

130 Club Draw for March 2024 - Quarterly Prize £25 - Ticket No. 109, Robert Dean; 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 131, Tony Whitehouse; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 173, Judy Reid; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 175, Dorothy Wheeler; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 182, Nora Fahy.

130 Club Draw for April 2024 - 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 116, Rex Baker; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 47, Stephen Smith; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 136, Dominique Summerford; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 100, Betty Williams.

130 Club – There are still tickets available. If anyone would like an extra number or if anyone is not a member and might like to join, email Marcia at marciaslee@hotmail.com or phone / text on 01362 690521 or 07786 914478.

Red Missionary Boxes - It is time once again for donations to the Red Missionary Boxes to be counted and the money sent off to Missio (APF). If you have not already done so, please bring your boxes to church so that there can be another count and the monies sent to Missio. Thank you.

Days of Prayer this Week - Tuesday this week (30th April) is a day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse and on Wednesday (1st May) we are asked to pray for God's blessing on human work.

Lift Needed from Swanton Morley to the Church - A lady from Swanton Morley would like a lift to the Church on Sundays for Mass. If you are along that area and would like to offer help, please call Fr Jay.

Parish Events for the week 28th April – 4th May	
Sunday: 1100	Children's Liturgy (for children <i>in Y1 to 1st Holy Communion age</i>)
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Thursday: 1730-1830	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room
Friday: 1915-2030	Altar Servers' Group – Emmaus Room
Gardening Club – Volunteers are asked to please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	


Funeral Service of +Istvan Toth on the 8th May at the Parish at 1130 - Our prayers of consolation are offered to his bereaved daughter, Sherbet.

Parish General Meeting on the 15th May at 1830 in the Emmaus Room - Please attend our Parish General Meeting as we shall discuss matters regarding the developments of our ongoing project proposals from the Alive in Faith.

Pentecost Sunday | Parish International Mass - On the 19th May at 1100 Mass, we shall be having the International Mass. We are encouraging all nationalities in the Parish to be acknowledged by signing up the form at the back, and if you would like to wear your national dress and bring your food to share for the reception afterwards, that would be great.

St. Joseph the Worker, 'For human work.' 1st May - "May Day" has long been dedicated to labour and the working man. It is fitting that St. Joseph, a working man who became the foster-father of Christ and patron of the universal Church, should be honoured on this day. On this day we are asked to pray for all who work, that they may earn a just wage and be treated with dignity. We also pray for those who are under-employed or unemployed, and we pray for the stewardship of the earth's resources so that all may benefit for generations to come.



	<p>We thank all our many parish volunteers and groups for their help each week in supporting the running and daily and spiritual life of the parish.</p>
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