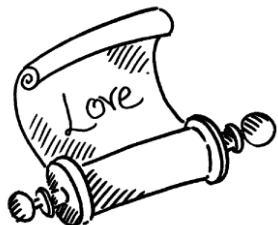


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Love is the Answer



In today's gospel Jesus says, "If you keep my commandments you will abide in my love..." does that sound like a condition? Are we being told that whilst we are keeping God's commandments God will love us, but as soon as we are sinful that love will be withdrawn?

The important thing for us to understand is that God's love cannot be fickle in the same way that ours is.

Human love, especially if we are a little immature, can be something we simply bestow on each other. God's love is a state of being. God's love is simply there and doesn't go away. It's us that chooses whether or not to accept or reject God's love by the way we choose to live our lives. We can choose to live good lives and by doing so we will remain in a loving relationship with God, or we can make poor decisions and step out of that loving relationship. Living by God's commandments isn't about following a list of strict rules in return for God's love, it's about sharing the joy God plans for us by living in a certain way.

Those of us who have fallen out of that loving relationship with God haven't done so on purpose. Few of us consciously make poor decisions... we are all human after all, and we all make mistakes. For those of us who are in danger of losing their way in life, Jesus give us one important guideline "This I command you ... to love one another." The next time you have a tricky decision to make or a dilemma to solve, ask yourself the all-important question. "Is God's love for me, and my love for neighbour pointing out the answer?"

Bitesize – 'I always think that the best way to know God is to love many things.'
~ Vincent van Gogh



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



Parish Priest: Fr Jay T. Magpuyo
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SacredHeartDereham.org.uk

Sunday 5th May 2024 – 6th Sunday of Easter
[Sundays Year B, 6th Week of Easter, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 2]

MASSSES in the PARISH

Saturday 4th May	18.00	First MASS of Sunday	+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
Monday 6th May	10.00	Service of the Word & Holy Communion	+Kath Borthwick (MK)
Tuesday 7th May	10.00	MASS	Easter Feria
Wednesday 8th May	11.30	Funeral Service for +Istvan Toth	Easter Feria
Thursday 9th May	16.30-17.15	Holy Hour	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
	17.30	MASS	+Kath Borthwick (JB)
Friday 10th May	-	No Mass today	Easter Feria
Saturday 11th May	18.00	First MASS of Sunday	Easter Feria
Sunday 12th May	09.00	MASS	+Kevin O'Brien (PM)
	11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	7th Sunday of Easter
			For the People of the Parish
			+Declan Cummings (GC)

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: Philomena Hutton, Hubert Barker, Winifred Gaylard, Patrick Charles Coyne, Eileen Barker, Ellen Harding, Tim Lynch, Molly Herbert, Trixie Gibbons, Frederick Dance, Eric Atkinson Brown, Ann Dent. *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 £322.30. Thank you.

Next Sunday (12th May) is World Communications Day and there will be a retiring collection after all Masses next weekend for the Catholic Communications Network.

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

Solemnity of The Ascension of the Lord, 9th May 2024 – This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord and is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. Mass in the parish will be at 1730, preceded by Holy Hour from 1630-1715.

Parish Events for the week 5 th – 11 th May	
Sunday: 1100	Children's Liturgy (for children in Y1 to 1st Holy Communion age)
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Thursday: <i>Please note there is no First Communion Class this week. Classes resume on 16th May.</i>	
Friday Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578	

Parish General Meeting: Wednesday, 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. **Other items for discussion** are invited for inclusion on the agenda. Please submit items to Fr. Jay by email or in writing by no later than **Thursday, 9th May**.

Parish International Mass - On **19th May at 1100 Mass** on Pentecost Sunday, 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.

Ordination to the Priesthood on 18th May 2024 - Please include in your prayers Rev Anthony Ashimuga for his upcoming ordination to the Priesthood by Bishop Peter Collins at the Cathedral of St John on 18th May, 1130.

Annual Marriage Celebration Mass | Bishop Peter invites couples to join on the 1st June 1130 at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich - To book a place please fill in the Booking Form at: www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-mass-registration/. For all enquiries please contact: Dr Antonia Braithwaite mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk

+Kathleen Borthwick - Philip, Stephen, Kathleen, Peter and all of Kathleen's family, wish to express their heartfelt thanks to all who have sent kind messages, cards and given support since Kathleen's death last month. It has been a great source of comfort for the family, culminating in such a well-attended funeral, in person and online, last Friday. Thank you.


Terri and Deacon Martin would like to thank all of the Parish, for their good wishes and prayers. 60 people came to Aldiss Park on Sunday, mostly Parishioners. Maryanne came with a large shopping bag, full of food for the foodbank, and others pledged to give food to the foodbank. Additional donations amounting to £120 were given for the foodbank. We all had a most wonderful time together on Sunday, and the Shanty Crew Guys and Gal, have said how much they loved being a part of the celebrations. Many thanks to all.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May 2024: For the formation of religious and seminarians - This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis' prayer intention "...that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel." 

Deputy Head Teacher vacancy at Notre Dame High School, Norwich - For more details please see Diocesan Website: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/schools/school-vacancies/>



Method Prayer by Fr Jay - This book is now available to order on Amazon.



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.