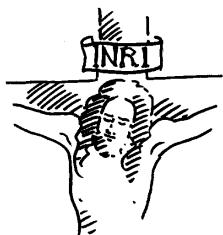


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Choosing Your Crosses



We like stories about Peter because he's a flawed character. He gets himself into trouble on numerous occasions by saying rash things. We like Peter because in a lot of ways he is just like each and every one of us.

Today Peter recognises Jesus as the Son of God, but he completely fails to grasp the implications. He certainly doesn't understand the necessity for Jesus to die on the cross and he tells him so. Jesus puts Peter straight. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it."

Many would-be-disciples misunderstand the concept of taking up crosses. We often hear people in general conversation sighing. "... Ah well... we all have our crosses to bear..." There are difficulties in all of our lives that cannot be avoided. To try and avoid problems would be foolish. Life is just one long series of problems and challenges, and each problem overcome makes us a stronger character. However, this is not the same thing as picking up our crosses and following Christ. Living with unavoidable problems isn't the same as choosing to tackle a problem that we could easily avoid. Jesus didn't need to choose the road to Jerusalem and crucifixion, but he did. In the same way, Christians need to be pro-active about choosing their crosses. Do we choose to care for an elderly parent, or do we leave it to one of our siblings. Do we tackle racism in our street, or do we leave it to the neighbours. Do we fundraise for local charities or do we leave it to those we deem cleverer, more articulate or more energetic.

There are an estimated 2.1 billion Christians on our planet. How different the world would be if each and every one of us chose to pick up our crosses.

Bitesize - They gave him a manger for a cradle, a carpenter's bench for a pulpit, thorns for a crown, and a cross for a throne. He took them and made them the very glory of his career. ~*W.E. Orchard*



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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SacredHeartDereham.org.uk

Sunday 15th September 2024 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - *Evangelii Gaudium Day* -

[Sundays Year B, 24th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 4]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 14th September	
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 15th September	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	+Tony Whitehouse (CP)
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	+Philip Kemp (MK)
Monday 16th September	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian
10.00 MASS	+Anisha Cyriac Abraham (CC)
Tuesday 17th September	Feria
10.00 MASS	Jossy & Ciji - Wedding Anniversary (CC)
Wednesday 18th September	Feria
10.00 MASS	Henesa Jossy K.A Cyriac – Birthday (CC)
Thursday 19th September	Feria
10.00 MASS & ADORATION	+Sr Teresa Joseph of the English Convent in Bruges (<i>Pat & Hillary</i>)
Friday 20th September	Ss Andrew Kim-Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions
-	No Mass today
Saturday 21st September	St Matthew. Feast.
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</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: William Goulden, Paul Hodak, Stewart Aylin, Peter John Bussey, Gerald Reeder. *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, Greta Cummings, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Kevin Pugh, Joy Bussey, Dorothy Edwards, Pat Grout.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £289.09 and £8.40 for the Catholic Education Service. Offertory by Standing Order for August 2024: £2,130.00. Thank you. **There is a retiring collection after all Masses this weekend for the Home Missions.**

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.

A Word of Thanks for the Parish BBQ - Many thanks to all for the success of our Parish BBQ, especially to Gerry, Jenny and Richard.

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (England and Wales) 15 September 2024: Growing As Missionary Disciples - This year, Evangelii Gaudium Sunday will be celebrated in our parishes on 15th September. It gives us the opportunity to reflect on the great mandate we have been given by the Risen Lord to evangelise the whole world. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations," the Lord commissions, as we hear in Matthew 28:19. Inspired by our ongoing Synodal process, Scripture, and Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, Evangelii Gaudium, we have chosen the theme 'Growing as missionary disciples'. On the day itself, we can pray for our parish communities, that they would become intentionally missionary in their life and witness. **A retiring collection will also be taken after all Masses this weekend to support the work of the Home Missions.** Please hold this important work in your prayers.

Diary for the week 15 th – 21 st September	
Sunday: 1100 Mass	Children's Sunday Liturgy resumes today.
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room

Diary for the week 15 th – 21 st September	
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Wednesday: 1730	Film Showing: 'Cabrini' - Presbytery
Saturday: From 1000	Parish Yard Sale – Church car park
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	



Parish Magazine – The autumn issue of the parish's magazine, **The Shack**, is due to be published on 29th September. Articles would be most welcome. Have you any interesting travel stories or pictures to share from your recent holidays? Or is there a topic you'd like to write about in a letter to the Editor? We'd also love to have news from the various parish activity groups about their events or future plans. This is your magazine – help us to create a lively and interesting journal for the parish. Email us at edsacredheart@gmail.com. **Any items to reach us by no later than Monday, 23rd September, please.**

Parish General Meeting | 2nd October at 1830 - We shall be discussing wonderful stuff regarding our Parish Life, so please join us at this meeting and extend your comments and suggestions for the betterment of the Parish.

SVP Parish Mass for the Sick | 23rd Oct at 1330 - Please join us at the Parish Mass for the Sick led by the SVP on the 23rd October at 1330. Lunch is provided after the Mass.

Parish Wednesday Scripture Study | Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist by Bran Pitre - We shall be exploring the Jewish roots of the Eucharist through a series of video presentation in the Emmaus Room starting from the **6th November 2024 at 1730.**

Saint Matthew, 21st September - What is God's call in each of our lives? Jesus chose Matthew to be his follower and friend, not because Matthew was religious or learned, popular or saintly. Matthew appeared to be none of those. He chose to live a life of wealth and ease. His profession was probably the most corrupted and despised by everyone because tax collectors made themselves wealthy by over-charging and threatening people if they did not hand over their money. Reflecting on St. Matthew's calling, Pope Benedict said that "in the figure of Matthew, the Gospels present to us a true and proper paradox: those who seem to be the farthest from holiness can even become a model of the acceptance of God's mercy and offer a glimpse of its marvellous effects in their own lives."

	<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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