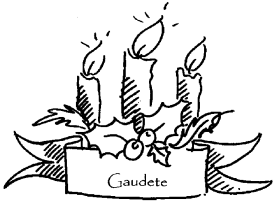


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Joy to the World

Today John the Baptist points his finger at the scribes and the Pharisees. As religious leaders, the scribes and the Pharisees might have thought they were beyond repentance, but John makes no distinction between the sinners and the religious.

Repentance is a challenge for each and every one of us to take a good long look at ourselves. We might be nice people; we might have kind and caring dispositions; we might have values and good intentions, but what legacy do we leave in practical terms? How important is it to a starving child on the other side of the world that we go to church on Sunday? How much does it matter to someone lonely, sick poor or marginalised that we sit and read our bibles each night? Today we are being asked to put our money where our mouths are. Our faith is void if we don't live by it. We are asked to share by giving up our time and our money. We are asked to share by not exploiting others.

Before we can firmly celebrate the joy of Christmas, we are asked to ensure that the less well-off are also experiencing the joy of Christmas in practical terms, food warmth and security. We have all experienced the joy of giving a gift. Today we are asked to experience the same pleasure in sharing what we have with those who have nothing.

Most importantly this Christmas, we remember that happiness comes from being content with what we've got.

Gaudete Sunday - Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments can be worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

Bitesize - If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion. ~Dalai Lama



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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 Registered Charity No. 278742
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Sunday 15th December 2024 – 3rd Sunday of Advent
 [Sundays Year C, 3rd Week of Advent, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 3]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 14th December	
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>
Sunday 15th December	3rd Sunday of Advent <i>Gaudete Sunday</i>
09.00	MASS
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>
Monday 16th December	Advent Feria
10.00	MASS
Tuesday 17th December	Advent Feria
-	No Mass today
Wednesday 18th December	Advent Feria
10.00	MASS
Thursday 19th December	Advent Feria
10.00	MASS & ADORATION
Friday 20th December	Advent Feria
-	No Mass today
Saturday 21st December	Advent Feria
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>
Sunday 22nd December	4th Sunday of Advent
09.00	MASS
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>

For the People of the Parish
 Int. for Judith del Castillo

For the People of the Parish
 +John Perkins (CP)
 +Deceased members of the Borthwick & Macdonald families (PB)

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: Fred English, Evelyn Flanagan, Pat Chapman, Gabriel Shelley, Frances Shaw, Margaret Doherty, Patrick Keatley, Agnes Harmer, Mary Lingwood, Prescilla Louise Reavey, Patricia Huizar, Florence Sayer. *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, Pat Grout.

+Dorothy Edwards | We pray for the eternal repose of +Dorothy Edwards who passed away last week.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £374.39. 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.

Dependent Priests' Fund – There is a retiring collection after all Masses this weekend in support of the Diocesan Dependent Priests' Fund.

Weekday Mass Changes:

- **Monday, 16th December** – There will be **Mass at 1000**.
- **Tuesday, 17th December** – There will be **No Mass**.

Diary for the week 15th – 21st December	
Sunday: 1100 Mass	Children's Liturgy – for children in Yr1 to 1 st Holy Communion age.
Sunday: 1230-1630	Parish Christmas Party – Yaxham Village Hall.
Monday: 1730-1830	First Communion Group 2 – Emmaus Room
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Wednesday: 1830-2030	Advent Scripture Study – Emmaus Room
Please note the Thursday First Communion Class is now on Christmas break.	
Friday: 1915-2030	Altar Servers' Group at House of the Divine Will.
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

Simbang Gabi (Filipino Christmas Evening Mass Tradition) - 23rd December at 1900 – We are invited to join this Mass.

Christmas & New Year Mass Times:

24th December – 1800 Carols

– 1830 Christmas Eve Mass

– 2230 Midnight Mass

25th December – 1000 Christmas Day Mass

26th December – 1100 Altar Servers' Mass (Feast of St Stephen) –

Everyone is welcome for pizza afterwards.

31st December – 1900 (New Year's Eve) - morning mass is moved to the evening.

1st January – 1000 Mary, Mother of God: Solemnity

Volunteers are required for all the Masses over Christmas. If you are able to volunteer, please place your name on the list at the back of the church.

Post-Christmas Recollection | 22 January 2025 at 1830 - Step back in time and join us for an enlightening Recollection with Andrew Rogerson, our Parish historian. Together, we'll uncover how archaeological discoveries reveal the faith, rituals, and spiritual lives of medieval Norfolk's people. Don't miss this interesting journey into the past: *'How Archaeological Finds Illuminate the Religious Lives of People in Medieval Norfolk.'* We look forward to sharing this experience with you.

AiF Projects | Church Flooring Works - The second of the three AiF projects is now nearly complete, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to the Finance Team for their efforts. We are hopeful that by 5th February next year, the Church decoration—our final AiF project—will commence. Thank you all for your continued support and generosity.

Parish Mass Books | 40 copies available in the Church - Fr Jay has decided to purchase limited copies of the revised Mass books. Please acknowledge if you need to use one at Mass.

Parish Jubilee Celebration | 25th July 2025 - Save the date! We come together to celebrate a momentous milestone—our Parish's 100th Anniversary. Let's mark this special occasion with joy and gratitude.

Diocesan Yearbook and Calendar 2025 is now out - Pick up your copy today for just £2—available at the back of the Church.



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.