

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**Passion and Purpose** - What makes a great orator? What makes them more persuasive? How do they influence people to take action? Great orators have something in common. A great speaker is driven by his or her passion. Passion is infectious. Great speakers keep it simple. They use short sentences. They use everyday language to make complicated topics clear and understandable. A great speech is more than just a clever argument, a great speech comes from a person that throws their weight and their personality behind their beliefs.

When Jesus is invited to stand up and preach back at his own hometown synagogue, he chooses his reading with care. What Jesus chooses to read is to be a statement about his own mission priorities. He chooses to speak of social injustice. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me," he reads, "... because he has anointed me to proclaim glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed." Then Jesus points to himself as the fulfilment of the ancient prophecy before handing back the scroll and sitting down. Jesus has obeyed all the rules of public speaking, he has considered the purpose of his reading, chosen words that will best convey his purpose, and delivered them powerfully and succinctly.

How will Jesus' listeners respond to his claim? What would our own response have been? Would we have been inspired and motivated to hear Jesus speak these words? Would we suddenly see the ancient prophecy as just that, an ancient prophecy, or as mission to be fulfilled under Jesus' leadership? Could we begin to imagine the poetry of these words resonating two thousand years later? Only very few of us have the charisma to communicate in the way Jesus obviously did, but there are other ways to communicate and other ways to evangelise. If we want to influence those around us, we need to take a leaf from Jesus's book and put some passion into our purpose.

**Bitesize** - 'Great minds have purposes, others have wishes.' ~ *Washington Irving*



**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](mailto:kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com)

## Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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SacredHeartDereham.org.uk

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### [Sunday of the Word of God]

[Sundays Year C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 3]

#### MASSES in the PARISH

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>  |                             |
| 18.00                                    | <i>First MASS of Sunday</i> |
| <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b>    |                             |
| 09.00                                    | MASS                        |
| 11.00                                    | MASS <i>Live streamed</i>   |
| <b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January</b>    |                             |
| -  | No Mass today               |
| <b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January</b>   |                             |
| 10.00                                    | MASS                        |
| <b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b> |                             |
| 10.00                                    | MASS                        |
| <b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>  |                             |
| 10.00                                    | MASS                        |
| <b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>    |                             |
| -  | No Mass today               |
| <b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>  |                             |
| 18.00                                    | <i>First MASS of Sunday</i> |
| <b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>    |                             |
| 09.00                                    | MASS                        |
| 11.00                                    | MASS <i>Live streamed</i>   |

For the People of the Parish  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** [Sunday of the Word of God]

Anisha Cyriac+ (CC)

**Feria**

**St Thomas Aquinas**

George Mealy (for healing)

**Feria**

Ferdinand Harder+

**Feria**

T & M O'Donoghue+ (Fdn)

**St John Bosco**

**Feria**

E Maguire+ (Fdn)

**The Presentation of the Lord**

For the People of the Parish

Anisha Cyriac+ (CC)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday after 10.00 Mass and Saturday at 17.30**

*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:** Carol Lydia Whitesides, Hilda Stearman, William Harrell, Kenneth Rayner, Joe Kennedy, Sheila Christie, Mary Hetherington, Marguerite Eastwell, Reginald Walter Bowles, Enda Perrin, Alice Page, Victor Rawding, Patricia Cox, Patrick Carroll. *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 Barro-Nessian, Betty Reavey, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Greta Cummings, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Joy Bussey, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy.

**Money Matters:** Offering for last Sunday: Plate £277.37. Thank you.

For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: **Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary Catholic Church.** 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. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF ACCOUNT NAME.**

**130 Club Renewals for 2025/6 - Would members please collect their renewal envelopes from the letter rack in the Church entrance.** There are tickets available and if anyone would like to take up one or more of these, please either contact Marcia by email on [marciaslee@hotmail.com](mailto:marciaslee@hotmail.com) or by phone or message on 07786914478. Marcia can explain about the Club, which is a worthwhile fundraiser for the Parish. Members are kindly asked to ensure that their renewals are returned as quickly as possible and **by NO LATER than Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE** - Since the 130 Club renewal letters were prepared, the Parish bank account's name has been changed to: **Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary Catholic Church.** Would all members please ensure, therefore, when submitting their renewals, that cheques are made payable to the '**Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary Catholic Church**' and **NOT** 'Dereham Catholic Church.' There is an amendment slip to this effect with the envelopes in the letter rack. Thank you.

**Diocesan Liturgical & Parish Calendar Notes for 2025** | This year's Diocesan Liturgical & Parish Calendar is now available on the parish website. Copies are also available at the back of church.

| Diary for the week 26 <sup>th</sup> January – 1 <sup>st</sup> February          |  |
|---|--|
| Sunday: 1100 Mass   | <b>Children's Liturgy</b> – for children in Yr1 to 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion age. |
| Monday: 1900-2030   | <b>AA Group Meeting</b> - Emmaus Room  |
| Wednesday: 1430   | <b>Queen of Peace Prayer Group</b> – Emmaus Room. All welcome.                         |
| Wednesday: 1900-2000  | <b>RCIA Group</b> – Emmaus Room  |
| Thursday: 1730-1830   | <b>First Communion Class</b> – Emmaus Room   |
| <b>Parish Garden Club</b> – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578. |  |

**Church Decoration | 5th - 19th February** - Please be advised that the interior of the Church will be undergoing a full painting project starting on February 5th and hopefully finishes in 2 weeks.

#### Important Notes:

- **Scaffolding:** Scaffolding will be present within the church during this time. Please exercise caution when moving around the building.
- **Weekday Masses:** Weekday Masses will be held in the Presbytery during the decoration period but weekend Masses will remain unaffected.

Thank you for your patience.

**The Search for Truth: Edith Stein, 14 – 16 March 2025** - Fr Matthew Blake, OCD will offer a weekend exploring the life and teachings of Edith Stein, or St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, and her indomitable search for truth that led her to the Catholic faith. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-search-for-truth-edith-stein/>

**School vacancy for a Headteacher at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Peterborough** - Please see Diocesan Website for more details: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/schools/school-vacancies/>

**Flame 2025 - Inviting all young people in Year 9 and above to 'Flame' at Wembley Arena.** The Diocesan Youth Service is excited to be taking a group to 'Flame' on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Flame is the largest Catholic gathering of young people in the UK, coming together to experience the best in international speakers, artists and performers. It is a vibrant experience of young Church, concluding with Adoration led by most of the Bishops of England and Wales. For details and to book a ticket and place on the coach, please see [www.rcdea.org.uk/youth](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/youth). Bookings must be received by 9<sup>th</sup> February.



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.