

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Those Same Old Banana Skins!

We work to live, or at least, that's the idea. But as we get up, go to work go to bed, get up, go to work, go to bed, get up, go to work, go to bed it begins to feel that instead of working to live we are living to work. Our lives can become a pattern of chores formed by the pressures of life rather than by our own design. After years and years of doing the same things, these patterns can become a comfort zone that imprisons, confines and limits us. Before we know it, there are a whole raft of opportunities outside our comfort zone that we decide we are not capable of, or simply aren't 'us'.

Today we are reminded that we don't need to go through life slipping on the same old banana skins or beating our head against the same old brick walls. We can live life differently. We just need to be a bit braver and try that bit harder. The writer J.K. Rowling reminds us all to have the courage of our convictions. She submitted Harry Potter nine times before finally getting it accepted by Bloomsbury. "Success is failure that tried one more time!" All we need to step out of our self-made prisons is vision, belief and courage.

Today we find Peter and his fellow disciples at a low ebb. They have been fishing all night, but have caught nothing. Jesus advises them to do things a little differently. He asks them to cast their nets a little further from shore. It is heartening to see Peter knowing a moment of doubt. Jesus might be an expert when it comes to matters of faith, but what does he know about fishing? What Peter doesn't realise is that he is on the brink of a life changing experience. Fortunately for him, he trusts in Jesus despite his fleeting doubt, and follows the advice. The result is more fish than his nets can hold. Faith, courage, and a willingness to do things a little differently has brought its own rewards.

Peter James and John left their fishing nets behind them and completely changed their lives not because they were superhuman, but because Jesus had taught them to see themselves in a new light. Today's invitation is to see ourselves in a new light, get excited about the possibilities ahead, and ask God for the courage to leave behind those old banana skins!



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 Representatives: Paul McIntee & Kate Meehan

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



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Sunday 9th February 2025 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Sundays Year C, 5th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 1]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 8th February

18.00 *First MASS of Sunday*

Sunday 9th February

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time & Diocesan Day of Prayer for Engaged Couples

09.00 MASS

11.00 MASS *Live streamed*

For the People of the Parish

Monday 10th February

St Scholastica

- No Mass today

Tuesday 11th February

Feria & World Day of Prayer for the Sick

10.00 MASS

For Healing for Mary, Alexandra & Cydney (GC)

Wednesday 12th February

Feria

09.30 MASS

Birthday Ints. For Helena Jossy & Valsamma Thomas (CC)

11.00 Funeral Service for Maria Cole+ at Breckland Crematorium

Thursday 13th February

Feria

10.00 MASS

Roger Read+ (GC)

Friday 14th February

SS Cyril & Methodius, Patrons of Europe

- No Mass today

Saturday 15th February

Feria

18.00 *First MASS of Sunday*

For the People of the Parish

Sunday 16th February

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time & Racial Justic Day

09.00 MASS

11.00 MASS *Live streamed*

Bill Sibley+ (AS)

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: Ralph Keatley, Molly Sayer, Colin Halstead, Madeline Stanley, Maria Rupp, William Green, Henry Raw, Patrick Flynn, Stella Daisy Hercock, Millie Boyer, Muriel Hope Drury, Joseph McHendrie, Nell Bradley, Antero Ribeiro, Mary Frances Martin, Alice Wyand. *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, Joy Bussey, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy, Richard Allison.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £286.65. 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.

Alive in Faith Projects | Church Flooring and Decoration - The Church flooring is now finished, thanks to JC Flooring for a great job. Meantime, the decoration is put on hold because of unforeseen circumstances until further notice.

Mass on Wednesday, 12th February will be at 0930.

Funeral Service | Maria Isabel Cole+ on the 12th February, 1100 at Breckland Crematorium - We pray for the repose of the soul of Maria Cole as we extend our heartfelt condolences to the family.

Diary for the week Sunday 9 th – Saturday 15 th February	
Sunday: 1100 Mass	Children's Liturgy – for children in Yr1 to 1 st Holy Communion age.
Monday	Tea Buddies – There is no meeting this month but see Thursday below for coffee morning at Swaffham Catholic Church.
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Wednesday: 1900-2000	RCIA Group – Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1830	Parish Finance Committee - Presbytery

Diary for the week Sunday 9 th – Saturday 15 th February	
Thursday: 1030-1230	Parishioners are invited to attend the monthly community coffee morning at the Parish Rooms at Our Lady of Pity Church at Swaffham (31 Station Street, PE37 7HP). Coffee/tea £1, homemade cake £1.50. There will also be a raffle.
Thursday: 1730-1830	First Communion Class – Emmaus Room
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

Film Showing: 'Conclave' | 19th February at 1830 in the Emmaus Room

Ash Wednesday Masses: - This year's Ash Wednesday will be on **5th March.** Masses will be at **1000 and 1900.** Fasting and abstinence on Ash Wednesday are required for Catholics aged 14 to 59, unless health or other serious reasons prevent it.

130 Club Renewals for 2025/6 – If you have not already done so, would members please collect their renewal envelopes from the church letter rack. Members are kindly asked to ensure that their renewals are returned as quickly as possible and **by NO LATER than Sunday 30th March.** *Please ensure that cheques are made payable to the 'Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary Catholic Church' and NOT 'Dereham Catholic Church.'* Thank you.

Volunteers Needed - We are seeking helping hands to dismantle the crumbling shed in the Parish Garden. This site will soon become the home of Our Lady's Grotto. If you can assist, please join us on **6th March at 1100**, and please don't forget to bring your hammer. Your support will help make this beautiful project possible.

Papal Prayer Intention for February 2025: For vocations to the priesthood and religious life - This month Pope Francis invites us to join in his prayer intention for February, "... *that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.*"

Online Lourdes Petition / Prayer - You might never get to go to Lourdes in person, but you can still post a petition online. When you post online your petition / prayer request will be placed at the Grotto in Lourdes, as quickly as possible. Millions of pilgrims visit Lourdes each year and many of them place their prayers at the Grotto. Visit www.lourdes-france.org/en/intention-priere/

Bitesize - All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them.
~ Walt Disney



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.