

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### The 'I'm All Right Jack' Mentality

"Woe to those who are rich." "Woe to those with plenty to eat." "Woe to those who laugh." "Woe to those who are honoured." Does Jesus mean that heaven is denied us if we pick up a well-earned pay packet at the end of the month, stock the freezer and put on a cheerful face?

Few of us consider ourselves really well off, but there is a danger that when we are finally making ends meet we can become seriously complacent. There is a real danger that when we are sitting down to our Spaghetti Bolognese and bottle of Italian red, that the images of world disasters flashing across our TV screens do not really touch us for more than fleeting moments. We have struggled through a hard day at work, paid the bills, fed the family and got the children to bed. The last thing we want is breaking news of famine or earthquakes to make us feel uncomfortable.

"Blessed are those who are poor. Blessed are those who are hungry. Blessed are those who weep." Jesus is always on the side of those who are poor and badly done to, but is that a prescription for being poor and hungry in a bid to win Jesus' favour? Jesus is clearly not about keeping people in poverty, so what exactly does he mean?

In God's kingdom our earthly values are turned upside down. We count wealth, good health and success as blessings, which of course they are, but they stop being blessings and become hindrances instead when we bury our heads in the sand and fail to see or do anything about a world that suffers widespread starvation and war. The blessings in our lives can only bring true happiness once we are able to shed our "I'm all right Jack" mentality and do something about the "woes" in other people's lives.

**Bitesize** - 'Kindness is just love with its work-boots on.'

~Karen McCullah and Kirsten Smith



**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 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### - Racial Justice Sunday -

[Sundays Year C, 6<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 2]

#### MASSES in the PARISH

<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
09.00	MASS	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	George Mealy (for healing) (UM)
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>		Bill Sibley+ (AS)
-	No Mass today	Feria
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>		Feria
10.00	MASS	Robert McCarthy+
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>		Feria
10.00	MASS	Gerald Searle+ (AS)
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>		Feria
10.00	MASS & ADORATION	G. Maguire+ (Fdn)
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>		Feria
-	No Mass today	-
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>		<b>The Chair of St Peter.</b>
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	George Mealy (for healing) (PM)
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>		
09.00	MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Harry & Freda Wilkes+

**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:** Michael Triggs, Joan Bedwell, Robert McCarthy, Gerard Keogh, Mary Allison, Agnes Lilian Farrow, Grace Chipperfield, Margaret Kirk. *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 £303.31. Thank you.

**Second Collection | Church Flowers** - We shall have a second collection this weekend for the Church flowers.

**Reactivating the Parish Pastoral Council 2025** - The PPC these past years have not really taken off for some reasons. Fr Jay is now on the process of selecting and appointing, through recommendations, the new set of officers. Fr Jay will formally announce the new PPC members at the Parish General Meeting to be held in September.

**Parish Safeguarding Volunteers Re-Checking** - The Safeguarding re-checking of the Parish volunteers will start next week. Paul McIntee will initiate the process, and Kate Meehan will join him at some stage.

Diary for the week Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	
Sunday: 1100 Mass	<b>No Children's Liturgy</b> – <i>Half-term holiday. Sunday Liturgy resumes on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.</i>
Monday: 1900-2030	<b>AA Group Meeting</b> - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1430	<b>Queen of Peace Prayer Group</b> – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Wednesday: 1830	<b>Film Showing</b> – 'Conclave' – Emmaus Room
Thursday:	<b>No First Communion Class</b> – <i>Half-term holiday. Classes resume on 6<sup>th</sup> March.</i>
Friday:	<b>No Altar Servers Group</b> – <i>Half-term holiday. Meetings resume on 7<sup>th</sup> March.</i>
<b>Parish Garden Club</b> – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

**130 Club Renewals 2025'26** - Members are kindly reminded to ensure that their renewals are returned as quickly as possible and **by NO LATER than Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 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 **Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> March at 1100**, and please don't forget to bring your hammer. Your support will help make this beautiful project possible.

**Lipstick on the Chalice** - Our Linen Ladies would like to make a gentle request: please wear lipstick after the Mass, for it is quite difficult to remove the stains upon washing.

**The Chair of Saint Peter, 22nd February** - No, not a day we celebrate a piece of furniture, a day on which we pray for our pope. This is a day we look to the leader of our Church.

**Recommended Reading: Pope Francis HOPE The Autobiography. (Available on Amazon)** - The wish of Pope Francis was for HOPE, on which he has been working for six years, to be published posthumously. However, with the Jubilee Year of Hope coming in 2025 and the pressing needs of our times have urged Pope Francis to share this personal legacy now.

**Racial Justice Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025** - The theme for Racial Justice Sunday is: "Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice". The theme invites Catholics across England and Wales to reflect on the collective journey towards racial justice in our schools, parishes and wider society. Bishop Paul McAleenan said: "2025 is a very special year. It marks both a Year of Jubilee and the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday. "This year, we invite the Catholic community to reflect on the journey towards racial justice – past, present and future – by asking: 'How far have we come, where are we now and what remains to be achieved?' "Just as pilgrims must prepare for their journey and be properly equipped, we, too, need all that is necessary to propel us towards racial justice – the mind of Christ; examination of our progress and of the challenges that remain; a willingness to learn from one another together; and prayers for and on the journey.



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.