

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



The First Stone - In today's gospel reading the Scribes and Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught committing adultery. According to the Law of Moses such a woman should be stoned. What has Jesus to say on the matter? As ever, The Scribes and Pharisees are seeking to trap Jesus into giving an answer that is unlawful. Jesus however is great at not falling into traps. "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone," he replies.

When we have made a mistake in life, the last thing we need is condemnation. Condemnation is rarely useful. Condemnation sends us to a dark place where we fester. Denied our second chance, our self-esteem is eroded. We begin to see ourselves in a different light. Other people think we are bad or weak so perhaps we are. Our self-image spirals downwards, we start to behave the way people expect us to behave.... badly! But the people, who have pointed the finger of blame; are they really in any position to judge?

We are extraordinarily quick to throw the first stone. Our powers of empathy are limited. Perhaps we enjoy moral outrage. Perhaps we enjoy gossiping at someone else's expense. Today we are challenged. The next time we open our mouths to condemn, we are asked to find mercy instead, the same mercy we expect when we have fallen from grace.

Bitesize - If someone were to pay you ten cents for every kind word you said about people and collect five cents for every unkind word, would you be rich or poor?
~Author unknown, quoted by Jacob M. Braude



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.



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 6th April 2025 – 5th Sunday of Lent
[Sundays Year C, 5th Week of Lent, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 1]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 5th April		
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	Joy Bussey+ (JR)
Sunday 6th April	5th Sunday of Lent	
09.00	MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Mia Pereira-Losasso+ (CL)
Monday 7th April	Lent Feria	
-	No Mass today	
Tuesday 8th April	Lent Feria	
10.30	Funeral Mass of Joy Bussey+ (<i>Livestream</i>)	
Wednesday 9th April	Lent Feria	
10.00	MASS	Anisha Cyriac+ (CC)
Thursday 10th April	Lent Feria	
10.00	MASS & ADORATION	For Shyri, Aleena & Evana (CC)
Friday 11th April	Lent Feria	
1130	Stations of the Cross	Followed by Lent Lunch
1730	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 12th April	Lent Feria	
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 13th April	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	
09.00	MASS	Michael Carolan+ (GC)
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	For George & Peggy Mealy (GC)

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: Harry Knight, James Juby, Patrick Joseph Mullally, Consuelo Murphy, Ted Clark, Frederick Lennox, Cyril Byrne, Tom Brady. *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, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Gretta Cummings, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy, Richard Allison, Marion Ring-Davies, Patsy Thompson, Ann McWilliams, Diana Banks-Conney.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £317.15. Thank you.

Funeral Mass of Joy Bussey (livestream) | Tuesday, 8th April at 1030 in the Parish - Our heartfelt condolences go out to her family and loved ones. *May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace...*

Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse, 11th April 2025 - The Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors (PCPM) has highlighted the importance of prayer and suggested to Pope Francis that the worldwide Catholic Church should join together in a day of prayer. The Holy Father has welcomed this initiative. In the Cycle of Prayer for England and Wales, this day is marked every year on the Friday of the fifth week of Lent. On this day the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales is encouraging the Catholic community to take part in a day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse.

Chrism Mass Coach to the Cathedral | Tuesday, 15th April at 1130 - We have now a 48-seater coach to St John's Cathedral which will depart from the Church at 1030 and will return at 1430. Please sign up using the form at the back of the Church.

Diary for the week 6 th – 12 th April	
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	

Catholic Charismatic Family Gathering | St John's Cathedral, Saturday, 12th April 2025, 10:30 – 15:00 - Bishop Peter & the Charismatic Diocesan Service of Communion team invite you to our first gathering of the Catholic

Charismatic Family in East Anglia. See poster for more details.
Email: renewaleastanglia@gmail.com

Easter Triduum Schedule

17 April, Maundy Thursday: 1930 - Mass of the Lord's Supper
18 April, Good Friday: 1030 - Children's Stations of the Cross
1500 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
19 April, Holy Saturday: 2000 – Easter Vigil
20 April, Easter Sunday 0900 – Mass
1100 – Mass

Volunteer Lectors and Washing of the Feet for the Easter Triduum – There are still some vacant slots for volunteers. Please sign up if you can. Forms for this are available at the back of church.

Easter Sunday, 20th April | Easter Egg Contest, Parish lunch and BBQ after the 1100 Mass – Bring and share lunch at the Parish Garden.

Volunteer Parish Treasurer Needed - Our parish is seeking a volunteer to take on the role of **Treasurer**. This is a vital position that supports the financial health and stewardship of our community. If willing to help, please contact Fr. Jay as soon as possible. No prior experience is necessary – training and support will be provided.

Church Cleaning Team need a volunteer to fill a vacancy – Can you spare just two hours one day every six weeks to join our team rota? Please contact Catherine Perkins or Fr. Jay.

Dates for your Diary – Please make a note of these future events:

- **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Walsingham | 5th May** 1200-1630.
- **Solemn Mass in Latin, Vespers & Benediction | 10th May** at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist. Please see details posted on the notice board.
- **Diocesan Jubilee of Hope Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham | Saturday 31st May** – Further details to follow.
- **Pentecost Sunday | 8th June 2025** – This Pentecost Sunday, instead of our usual International Mass, we will welcome a special Mission Appeal from the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans). As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, let us respond with generosity to support their vital missionary work around the world.
- **Parish Christian Initiation of Adults | 5th July at 1800** – We are pleased to announce that after a year of rigorous instruction, four adults have expressed their conviction and desire to be baptised and initiated to the Catholic Faith. This will take place on 5th July at the 1800 Mass. We ask your support and prayers for the candidates in this journey.