GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR EASTER SUNDAY



A Stronger Hope

Belief in the Resurrection is central and imperative to our faith, and because it is central and imperative it really ought to be rock solid. For many, this truth is distinctly uncomfortable. The account of Jesus' Resurrection is lacking in detail, and it can leave us with more questions than answers. For many, belief is far from rock solid. A rock-solid belief that Jesus died and rose again to give us a clean slate would surely mean us living our lives very differently, but more often than not, this is not the case.

Traditionally at this time of year thousands of Christians are baptised all over the world. One such candidate was asked whether he felt any

different now that he was baptised. The candidate replied, "Yes, I went from believing nothing, to believing everything sort of vaguely. I hope that God will make things clearer to me as I continue on this journey." The Resurrection is a little like this. In all honesty, the story of the Empty Tomb doesn't have us leaping up and down in the church pews. In truth, the Resurrection doesn't make everything great. We still have fear and doubt and pain, but whereas before we had nothing, now we have a hope. For some of us it might be a vague kind of hope, but we trust that God will make it a stronger hope as we continue our journey of faith and understanding.

Bitesize - Once you choose hope, anything's possible. ~ Christopher Reeve



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 20th April 2025 – Easter Sunday

[Sundays Year C, Octave of Easter, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week Proper]

[Surluays real C, Octave of Easter, Weekdays real I, Esailer Week Proper]			
MASSES in the PARISH			
Saturday 19 th April			
20.00	EASTER VIGIL MASS	For Sheeba Antony's Ints.	
Sunday 20 th April		EASTER SUNDAY with Octave	
09.00	MASS	For George Mealy (healing) (GC)	
11.00	MASS Live streamed	For the People of the Parish	
Monday 21 st April		Easter Octave	
10.00	MASS	Jose Pereira+ (SP)	
Tuesday 22 nd April		Easter Octave	
10.00	MASS	For Elaine Wilkes (healing) (CP)	
Wednesday 23 rd April		Easter Octave	
10.00	MASS	For Elaine Wilkes (healing) (TK)	
Thursday 24 th April		Easter Octave	
10.00	MASS & ADORATION	For Hermione (Hermine) Smith (healing) (EW)	
Friday 25 th April		Easter Octave	
-	No Mass today		
Saturday 26th April		Easter Octave	
18.00	First MASS of Sunday	For Peggy & George Mealy (GC)	
Sunday 27 th April		2 nd Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy)	
09.00	MASS	For the People of the Parish	
11.00	MASS Live streamed	Luz Sudaria+ (MK)	
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday after 10.00 Mass and Saturday at 17.30			

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: Brenda Winandy, Thomas Nally, William Robertson, William Gibbons, Kathleen Rudd, Howard Leslie, John Woodhouse, Theo Sandars, Peter Gormans, Bridget Ithell, Kath Borthwick. *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, Margaret Glendon-Doyle, Mila Kaunaite, Elaine Wilkes, Anne Sibley.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £461.68. 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,** forms for which are available at the back of church.

Friday Abstinence is dispensed during the Easter Octave.

Easter Sunday after 1100 Mass – Parish bring & share lunch & BBQ, plus children's Easter Egg hunt in the parish garden and back car park.

Easter Monday, 21st April - Mass will be at 1000.

A Word of Thanks – Many thanks to all our many parish volunteers, particularly our Flower Ladies, Lectors and Lay Ministers, Catechists, Altar Servers, Sacristans, the Veiling Team, our Cleaners, and the BBQ organisers, and all who help week by week in the running of the parish.

Diary for the week Sunday 20 th April – Saturday 26 th April.		
Sunday: 1100 Mass	No Children's Liturgy – resumes on Sunday 27th April.	
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room	
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room. All welcome.	
Thursday: 1730-1830	First Communion classes resume today - Emmaus	
	Room.	
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.		



Film Showing: The Wild Robot (2024) 30th April at 1900 - Join us in the Emmaus Room for the showing of The Wild Robot — a light-hearted animation with plenty of food for thought. A gentle, reflective way to continue the Easter journey together.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham: Monday, 5th May 2025 – Itinerary:

- 11:00 Gathering at the Coach Park near the Old Railway Station, followed by Rosary Procession via: village Holy Mile Basilica
- 12:00 Crowning of the Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. Solemn Pontifical Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation.
- 14:00 Service of Reconciliation and Confessions in the Chapel of Reconciliation and Shrine Grounds.
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel of Reconciliation.
- 15:00 Solemn Benediction.

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

- 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.

Not Just Easter Sunday - The Easter Season isn't just Easter Sunday. It's fifty days long, and the last of those days is Pentecost (Greek for 'fiftieth') marking the birth of the Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. In older traditions, it's called 'Whitsunday' because the traditional colour for church clothing and decor on Pentecost is white. On that day the Holy Spirit arrives to be with us, and that Spirit sends a fresh wave of joy. During these fifty days of Easter, while we are singing alleluia to our risen Saviour, we are also listening to the stories of the struggles and hardships of the early followers of Jesus.

Urbi et Orbi (BBC 1 Easter Sunday) - Live from Rome on the 12th Easter of his pontificate, the Pope's Easter message and blessing, Urbi et Orbi, is delivered live to the city and to the world. Petroc Trelawny sets the scene. 11am BBC One on Easter Sunday.