

**GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**Branching Out** - There's a lot of work to do in today's world. Almost daily, the TV and Radio brings terrible news of atrocities and disasters around the planet. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by all the bad news and to feel powerless to do anything. We do not consider that we can individually instigate change for lots of reasons. We do not feel clever enough, or brave enough or rich enough. In short, it's hard to know where to begin and even whether change is possible.

The inspirational message in today's gospel is that we can make changes as long as we work together.

We are already familiar with the ethos of trade unions. Trade unions operate on one powerful principal. Individually we can be easily overlooked but together we have the power to sway governments. If a trade union wanted to promote solidarity and unity, the vine would make an ideal logo. The vine itself is the heart of the union, the part that determines the ethos. The branches do the work of the vine and the fruit they bear is the outcome .... the final result.

Today we are told that with Christ as our vine we can do great things. All too often we become wrapped up in developing our own spirituality, trying to work out what God means to us as an individual, striving to find our niche. It's easy to forget that we are part of a huge family of people the biggest union on the planet. With Christ's teaching and pruning, we as a body, have the ability to transform the world by putting faith into action. Our individual responsibility is to look for ways in which we can become part of the overall plan. We don't have to branch out alone; we branch out as a team.

**Bitesize** – “None of us is as smart as all of us.” ~Ken Blanchard



**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.

**PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST. MARGARET MARY**  
**[Registered Charity 278742]**

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**2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2021 – 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year B**

[5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 1]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 1 May	6.00 pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Roger Read (Cummings)
Sun. 2 May	9.00 am 11.00 am		The People of the Parish Maria de Los Angeles Cota
Mon. 3 May	10.00 am	Ss Philip & James, Apostles	Jenny Rudd (Perkins)
Tues. 4 May	-	The English Martyrs	<b>No Mass today</b>
Weds. 5 May	10.00 am	Easter Feria	Mary & Seamus Mealy
Thurs. 6 May	10.00 am	Easter Feria	Patsy Gray
Fri. 7 May	10.00 am	Easter Feria	Ann & Stephen Mealy
Sat. 8 May	-	Easter Feria	<b>No morning Mass</b>
Sun. 9 May	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Anna Easton The People of the Parish Roger Borthwick

*All Celebrations of Mass are live-streamed on YouTube*

*The Church is open daily until 6:00pm*

**Anniversaries this week:** David Horsburgh, Thomas Delahunt, Philomena Hutton, Hubert Barker, Winifred Gaylard, Patrick Charles Coyne, Eileen Barker, Ellen Harding, Tim Lynch, Molly Herbert, Trixie Gibbons. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Useful links: Diocesan Safeguarding – <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding/>  
 Diocesan Website – <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>  
 Notre Dame High School, Norwich – <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>  
 Daily Liturgy Website – [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

**MASS LIVE STREAM** – Search for **Dereham Catholic Church** on **YouTube**,

*Or use the following link:*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-qWs-B40VTvbezZ83MxQ/videos?view=2&flow=grid>

The parish newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week.

**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. Brendan either by phone or by email.

**Sick & Housebound** [with GDPR Permissions] – **Please pray for:** Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Derek Williams, Greta Cummings, Patsy Gray, Allan Michael Howard.

**Brenda Winandy** - The Requiem Mass and funeral for Brenda Winandy will take place on Monday, May 10th at 11.30 a.m.

**Money Matters:** Thank you for your offerings amounting to £752.41 over the last few weeks for the day-to-day running of our parish. Last weekend's collection for the Priests' Training Fund came to £134.04. Thank you for your generosity.

For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: **Catholic Church of Dereham**. The Sort Code is: **40-20-08** and the Account number is: **11311115**. If you are a tax payer, please also consider **Gift Aid**. This is a great way for the parish to get additional funds from the tax reclaim benefits scheme; with this scheme you do not need to commit to a fixed amount as it will just be based on your total annual contribution. Let Fr. Brendan know if you would like to sign up to Gift Aid.

**130 Club Draw for March 2021** - Quarterly Prize 25 - Ticket No. 58, Peter Clough; 1<sup>st</sup> Prize £20 – Ticket No. 184, Maureen Jessup; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 – Ticket No. 74, Alejandro Montero; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 30, Simon Salter; 4<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 8, Dorothy Wheeler; 5<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Ticket No. 132, Bruce Wheeler.

**130 Club** – Thanks to all those who have renewed their 130 Club memberships for the coming year. Your support is greatly appreciated and last year helped to raise the very useful sum of £1220.00 for the parish. There are about 10 tickets still available – anyone interested in taking up one or more tickets, please let Marcia know (email: [marciaslee@hotmail.com](mailto:marciaslee@hotmail.com)).



**Newsletter by Email** - Please let Fr. Brendan know if you would like to receive the parish's weekly bulletin by email. We have a GDPR compliant list of names for this purpose.

**Bank Holiday Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2021: Celebrating the Year of St Joseph and the Family** – 12 noon Mass, celebrated by Bishop Alan; 2.30pm Rosary & Benediction. For booking (required to attend in person) or to watch live-stream, see [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

**Discussion Document** - The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have issued a discussion document called **The Day of The Lord**. It is available to read on the church noticeboard and on the parish website. It is important for us as we begin to inch our way forward in the light of the pandemic.

**40 Hours Adoration** - The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham will be hosting 40 Hours of Adoration at their Convent in Dereham **from 6pm on Sunday 16th May until 10am on Tuesday 18th**. It will be a time of thanksgiving to our Risen Lord, but also seeking a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives ahead of Pentecost, an end to the Covid-19 Pandemic and for blessings and guidance on the appointment of our new Bishop. We would like to invite people to support this initiative by signing up to spend at least half an hour with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. For further details or to sign up please email Dónal Hannon who will be overseeing the event at [donalhannon@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:donalhannon@hotmail.co.uk).

**Mid-Norfolk Foodbank** – The latest newsletter from the Mid-Norfolk Foodbank shows that in the last year, the number of people helped was 4,000; the number of children helped was 1,500; the weight of food donated amounted to 62,800 kg; the weight of food handed out was 49,600 kg and the number of meals 110,000. A feature of the last year has been the number of other organisations who were helping people with food donations and the Foodbank was able to supply a number of these with food equivalent to a further 14500 meals. There was amazing support from the whole mid Norfolk community. From grants from local councils and bulk donations of food from local supermarkets, to a large number of money donations from individuals who were unable to get out to buy food for us. In all over the year the Foodbank had food donations from 140 donor organisations and many individuals.

**Praying the Rosary in May** - The Holy Father has selected Shrines from across the world to participate in his special initiative to pray the Rosary during the month of May for the end of the pandemic. He himself will initiate this on May 1<sup>st</sup> and end it on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham was selected to participate on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5.00pm, to be live streamed from Walsingham to the Vatican television Centre so that Pope Francis could see it live. Our particular Intention is for those who have died from the pandemic across the world. The Shrine will promote this initiative during the entire month of May.



#### **Prayer for the Election of a Bishop**

*O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.*

St. Felix, Pray for us.

St. Fursey, Pray for us.

St. Edmund, Pray for us.

All Holy Martyrs and Saints of East Anglia, Pray for us.