

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Give them food yourselves

We've heard of the miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand from childhood and it's a brilliant story, but what is the real point of it. Is the point of it to prove Jesus' divinity and God's great power? Is it to show Jesus' compassion in caring for people even when he was at his most tired? Perhaps the point of the story is Jesus' response in solving the problem of the crowd's hunger. Significantly, Jesus turns to the disciples and says, "Give them food yourselves...." How must the disciples have felt? They were used to Jesus taking charge. How did he expect them to solve a problem of this enormity? But to Jesus there is no problem. He takes what little the disciples have, five loaves and two fishes, sanctifies it and the results are enough to feed five thousand with food left over.

Today the world is asking to be fed both literally and spiritually. Could the little we have to offer be enough to tackle problems of a global size? Back in 2000, all the nations of the world agreed to what are called the Millennium Development Goals, initially set for 2015 and now projected until 2030. It is possible for us to eradicate poverty. We have the will and we are already well underway. As in the feeding of the five thousand, God is asking us to do our bit and he will use whatever small steps we take in ways that might surprise us.

From our human perspective, we look at the planet's resources and see scarcity. From God's perspective there is great abundance. Now it's up to us to share our God given resources justly around the world.

Bitesize – "Emergencies have always been necessary to progress. It was darkness which produced the lamp. It was fog that produced the compass. It was hunger that drove us to exploration. And it took a depression to teach us the real value of a job."

~Victor Hugo, French dramatist, novelist, & poet (1802 - 1885)



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.

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

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

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Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: michaeljwking@gmail.com

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2ND AUGUST 2020 – 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A

[18th Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 2]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 1 Aug	6.00 pm	18 th Sunday in Ord. Time	Holy Souls (Covid-19 Dec'd) Covid-19 Sick The People of the Parish
Sun. 2 Aug	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 3 Aug	10.00 am	Feria	Ann Bracken
Tues. 4 Aug	-	S John Vianney	No Mass today
Weds. 5 Aug	10.00 am	Feria	Mary & Sheamus Mealy
Thurs. 6 Aug	10.00 am	The Transfiguration of the Lord	Sandra Mealy
Fri. 7 Aug	10.00 am	Feria	Anna Easton
Sat. 8 Aug	-	S Dominic	No morning Mass
Sun. 9 Aug	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	19 th Sunday in Ord. Time	Ann & Stephen Mealy The People of the Parish Teresa Revell

Face Coverings – Please note that masks will be a requirement at Mass from next weekend.

Anniversaries this week: Joanna Sokalska, Harrington Garrett, Jack Filby, Iris Reavey, Patrick Thomas Warden, Pope Paul VI, Peggy Pratt, Sybilla Hopkins, Peggy Malone, Agnes Harmer, Andrew Browne. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

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

Or use the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-qWs-B40VTvbzeZ83MxQ/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 family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn (QEII), and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St. John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or call the NNUH Hospital Chaplaincy direct on 01603 287470 for people needing urgent spiritual attention, or for visits to QEII Hospital, call Fr. Peter Rollings on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament or Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – **Please pray for:** Janet Yardley, Jenny Rudd, Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Una McWeeny, Derek Williams, Teresa Kendall, Greta Cummings, Deacon Ron O'Toole (former Deacon at Dereham)..

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £474.50 for the maintenance of our parish last weekend. Thank you also to all those who have taken out Standing Orders to support the parish during lockdown.

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.



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.

Diary Dates for this week - All parish group meetings remain suspended.

Live Streaming: The response so far from the parish has been very positive. I am getting the hang of the remote control for the cameras and so I feel that live streaming has become a bit more natural. I am very pleased that I have had the equipment installed and it is now a permanent feature of our parish life. It will allow our sick and housebound parishioners to feel closer to the worship of the parish. The cost was just over £6,000. Any donations towards this would be very welcome. All Sunday and weekday Masses are now live streamed.



Feast of the Transfiguration. 6th August: 'Having A Vision' - Having a vision is important. If we set out on our holidays with neither a destination nor a map we will get precisely nowhere! Similarly having a vision is important in life, firstly in giving us something to aim for and secondly to keep us motivated when we get side-tracked. As Christ's disciples we might motivate ourselves with a vision of a world without hunger, poverty or war ... or simply to improve the life of one other person. The Feast of the Transfiguration invites us

to stay motivated as disciples in the belief that we will one day enjoy the place God has prepared for each of us.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August 2020 - Sea Sunday was postponed this year because of the Coronavirus, and if all goes well, we will celebrate it instead in December. In the meantime, Pope Francis invites our prayers. *"...We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families."*



Hiroshima & Nagasaki Anniversary, 6th-9th August - On August 5th 1945, Hiroshima became the first city in the world to suffer a nuclear attack. On August 9th Nagasaki became the second city to be hit by an atomic bomb. The Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorate the bombings every year. Use the anniversaries as a focus for prayer reflection and action on behalf of peace and nuclear disarmament. *"To remember the past is to commit oneself to the future. To remember Hiroshima is to abhor nuclear war. To remember Hiroshima is to commit oneself to peace."* (Pope John Paul II, Hiroshima, Japan, 1991.)

The Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride: Saturday, 12th September 2020 - Pump up your tyres, dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route from your own door to visit as many of the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can. *PLUS, you can join with others in your parish to win £1,000 for your church by becoming the parish with the most improved amount of money raised. Simply get sponsored for each building you visit or make a donation - find out more at www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride

How could we help Feed the World? In today's Gospel Reflection, we are challenged as to how we could help feed the world. Some options are to:

- Support charities that enable third world people to work themselves free of poverty, such as **CAFOD, Trocaire, Sciaf and Christian Aid**.
- Support initiatives such as **Fair Trade**.
- Support charities that support children's nutrition, e.g. **'Mary's Meals'**.



The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord