

**PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART
AND ST.MARGARET MARY, EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK**

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DECEMBER 2nd 2012 : FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6.0pm Int. For the People
Sunday 9.0am Int.
11.0am Int. +Phyllis Howell

Weekday Masses

Monday ST.FRANCIS XAVIER
10.0am Int. +John Merrick
Tuesday ADVENT FERIA
10.0am Int.
Wednesday ADVENT FERIA
10.0am Int.
Thursday ST.NICHOLAS
No services today
Friday ST.AMBROSE
10.0am Int. +Fred Evans
Saturday SOLEMNITY OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
10.30am Int.
6.0pm Int. +Phyllis Thurstance

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday Noon and 5.30pm, or by appointment.

**Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament**

Tuesday 10.30am; Benediction at 11.0am.
Friday 7.30pm ; Benediction at 8.30pm

The Rosary Friday 10.30am

The Divine Office

The Office is said a quarter of an hour before the
Mass on Weekdays. This week we use Psalter
Week 1

The Mass today The readings can be found on

p.82 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.62 of The
Sunday Missal.

At the 6.0pm Mass	Eucharistic Prayer 3
<i>Sanctus & Benedictus</i>	Parish Mass Book p.32
Hymns	(<i>Angelus</i>) 873, 87
At the 9.0am Mass	Eucharistic Prayer 1
<i>Sanctus & Benedictus</i>	Parish Mass Book p.32
Hymns	105, 109, 92
At the 11.0am Mass	Eucharistic Prayer 2
<i>Kyries</i>	497
<i>Sanctus & Benedictus</i>	Parish Mass Book p.32
Hymns	801, 109, 607 (<i>Angelus</i>) 92

The Psalm Response for all of the Masses is
printed at the bottom of the page.

*This Sunday the quarter-hour Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament before Mass will precede the
6.0pm Mass. Next Sunday, it will take place before
the 9.0am Mass.*

THIS WEEK

Today At the 11.0am Mass, the Baptism of
Noah Daniel Garner.

Monday 7.30pm Queen of Peace Prayer
Group, at the Presbytery. All welcome.

Tues, Wed, Fri. 1.15pm-3.15pm Fr.John is
involved with Penitential Afternoons at the
St.Thomas More School, Norwich

Wednesday 11.0am The Monthly Service at
Oak Manor.

Friday 7.0pm-8.30pm The Confirmation
Group meets at the Presbytery.

7.30pm First Friday Holy Hour : An hour of
silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

Saturday 10.30am-11.30am Saturday Club,
for young people aged five to twelve.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries Phyllis Howell (2011), John Merrick (2001), Leonard Barnard (1999), Felix Jackson (1990), Adrian Ring-Davies (1992), Mary Butler (1999), Phyllis Thurstance (2005), Fred Evans (1993), and Tony Lovelace (1994). RIP

Money Matters Last Sunday, £444.33 was given at the Offertory, and £126.95 in the retiring collection, which was for the diocesan Youth Service.

SVP First Friday Coffee Morning Elaine Wilkes writes ‘The next SVP First Friday Coffee Morning will be taking place on this coming Friday, from 10.45am to Noon – all are invited. Whether you are joining us for Mass or on your way to or from shopping in town, do please pop in for a welcome cuppa!’

Red Mission Boxes Donal Hannon writes ‘A reminder that the red boxes are now due in for emptying and counting. If you have not brought your box in today, do please try to bring it to church next weekend.’

The Monday Night Prayer Group Are you feeling withdrawal symptoms now that the Tuesday evening CAFÉ course has ended? If so, why not mark Advent by coming along to the Monday Night Prayer Group at the Presbytery? You will be assured of a very warm welcome. We say the Rosary together, hear the Sunday Gospel with a mediation upon it, and then, after the time of silence, we end with Compline and a hot drink. No clapping, hand-waving, or hanky-panky!

THE CONCLUSION OF THE CAFÉ COURSE

The Course, one of the best we’ve had, came to an end last Tuesday, when we looked at the life and teaching of St. Therese of Lisieux, who died as comparatively recently as 1897. Living well within the age of photography, her face is well-known to us, and we can experience the extraordinary penetration of her eyes. In photographs, she is always looking directly at the viewer, and seems to be challenging and encouraging us in equal measure.

We pondered together on how this sickly young woman in provincial France, dying in her twenties, and never having left her Convent after she entered Carmel at the age of fifteen, has come to exert such an extraordinary influence on the Church throughout the world. And how it is that so many of us feel a very real bond of affection with her, - indeed feeling that she is somehow a personal friend to us. It is indeed extraordinary. But then the Saints are extraordinary. And they are also our friends ; friends to whom we can turn in times of need and difficulty, and who, in heaven, care deeply about the welfare of us, their younger and weaker brothers and sisters within God’s family.

I think we see in St. Therese how real humility and gentleness are never to be confused with weakness. Therese, yes, was filled with a burning love for Our Lord Jesus Christ, and for her Sisters – not all of whom treated her with kindness and understanding. But there was an iron determination in her to persevere to the end, and this determination and child-like faith carried her through the terrible trials of the latter part of her life, when she was suffering acutely from the effects of tuberculosis, and also enduring a time of distressing spiritual darkness.

St. Therese of Lisieux was an excellent saint for us to end the Course with. She exemplifies so well that definition of a saint as someone with a heroic love for God, and for those around him or her. She reminds us that we mustn’t expect discipleship to be easy, but she also assures us that true joy and peace are to be found in closeness to God.

ADVENT

It’s New Year’s Day! – well it is insofar as the Church’s new year begins today, on Advent Sunday, when we begin the four-week period of preparation for celebrating the Incarnation and Birth of Our Lord. Advent is a solemn time of the year, hence in Church the use of the colour purple, and the absence of flowers. It is different, though, from Lent, and is not marked by the penitential exercise which we associate with that season. Good, though, if we seek to make this holy season of waiting and preparation a time of Listening ; listening more carefully to God’s word at Mass, and in our private prayers. Most of us talk too much, even in our prayers. Let’s try to listen this Advent.