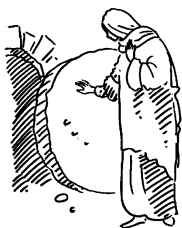


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR EASTER SUNDAY



Never Give Up! - Winston Churchill was invited to speak to a boys' school in England during the most difficult days of World War II. He simply said these words, "Never give up, never give up, never, never, never." After this he sat down. When it was reported in the papers, it became the mantra for the British people during the darkest days of the war. This would make a good Christian mantra too. It's a mantra that reminds us, that however dark our lives might feel, we are never abandoned. However defeated we might feel, the resurrection is

there to show us that we have a future.

Easter is a good time to reaffirm our faith. The Resurrection is the culmination of Christ's journey on this earth, and the beginning of our journey in faith. Our journey begins with belief in the Resurrection. The Resurrection reminds us that God can lift up what is cast down, mend what is broken and raise what is dead. The Resurrection didn't of course make everything all right for us. We still have a world full of pain, sickness and sin, but now we have a hope that we didn't have before. The empty tomb points to God working in our world. At whatever stage we are in our journey of faith, the Resurrection means that nothing can be the same again.

But what if our journey in faith has faltered or even stopped? What if the account of the empty tomb leaves us with more questions with answers? In our twenty first century, 'belief' sits side by side with lots of other words like 'evidence' and 'measurable or tangible outcomes'. But if we are going to treat the resurrection as though it were some sort of detective story then we are travelling along the wrong path. Our journey of faith needs to rely firstly on a trust that God is working in our world. Trust is a decision and we decide to trust in all sorts of things in life from insurance to wrinkle cream and a million other inconsequential. Yet a decision to trust in God is the most important thing any of us will ever do. A trust in God will lead to observations day by day and those observations will lead to a spiritual relationship. That's an exciting belief. Our spiritual journey leads us to know that God loves us. It might take a long time to know it, so today's advice is 'never give up'.



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

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds:

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4TH APRIL 2021 – EASTER SUNDAY – Year B

[Octave of Easter, Weekday Year I, Psalter Easter Octave]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 3 Apr.	9.00 am	EASTER SUNDAY	Private Int.
Sun. 4 Apr.	11.00 am		The People of the Parish
Mon. 5 Apr.	10.00 am	Easter Octave	Private Int.
Tues. 6 Apr.	-	Easter Octave	No Mass today
Weds. 7 Apr.	10.00 am	Easter Octave	Sandra Mealy
Thurs. 8 Apr.	10.00 am	Easter Octave	Mark Mealy
Fri. 9 Apr.	10.00 am	Easter Octave	Paschall Byrne
Sat. 10 Apr.	-	Easter Octave	No morning Mass
Sun. 11 Apr.	6.00 pm	2 nd Sunday of Easter	Jack Smith (Harris)
	9.00 am 11.00 am		Holy Souls (Sillince) The People of the Parish

All Celebrations of Mass are live-streamed on YouTube
The Church is open daily until 4:00pm

Anniversaries this week: Edith Graydon-Carter, Harold Chapman, Gordon William Lloyd, Harry Knight, James Juby, Patrick Joseph Mullally, Consuelo Murphy and Ted Clark. *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

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 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: Jenny Rudd, Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Derek Williams, Greta Cummings, Patsy Gray, Brenda Winandy, Allan Michael Howard.

Money Matters: Thank you for your recent contributions in support of our parish, which amounted to £753.86. The collection at the Easter Masses is the traditional Easter Offering to the Parish Priest.

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.

Gift Aid – A reminder to collect your new Gift Aid envelopes from the back of church if you have not already done so.



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.

I would like to wish everyone a very happy and blessed Easter. He has risen; He is risen indeed.

Inviting all young people aged 13+ to the Ignite Festival Online - Join members of the Ignite Team for music, inspiring talks, workshops and prayer. **Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd May 7:00-8:30pm**. For more information visit www.ignitefestival.co.uk"

Urbi et Orbi: BBC1, 4th April 2021 at 11am - On the ninth Easter of his pontificate, Pope Francis gives his Easter message and blessing Urbi et Orbi – to the city and to the world.

Season of Easter - Easter isn't just one day; it's a 'season'. The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one "great Sunday". The gospel readings for the first three Sundays recount the appearances of the risen Christ. The readings about the Good Shepherd are assigned to the Fourth Sunday. On the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Sundays, there are excerpts from the Lord's discourse and prayer at the last supper.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April 2021 - All over the world, people are working to uphold the rights of others against oppression, prejudice and neglect. Many of those who risk their lives under authoritarian dictatorships, for the sake of fundamental rights, are killed. They know the risks yet are not prepared to keep quiet. This month we are invited to join Pope Francis' prayer intention, *"... for those who risk their lives while fighting to uphold rights under authoritarian regimes and in democracies in crisis."*



Bitesize – "In the midst of darkness something new always springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit." ~Pope Francis

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.

