

.../Gospel Reflection continued

We can often fight shy of confrontation. We do this for all sorts of reasons. Perhaps we want to stay popular and would prefer to preserve an outward show of friendship even though we are seething inside. Perhaps we dodge confrontation because we are afraid of having a row, or worse, afraid of losing a row. Our fears and insecurities lead us to behave less than honestly. Instead of confronting someone who has offended us directly, we procrastinate, beat about the bush, pretend it isn't really a problem, complain bitterly to anyone who will listen, or worse, we erupt with sudden frustration and anger out of all proportion to the original offence.

In Matthew's gospel we are given some straightforward advice on handling a grievance. Firstly, we should approach the person who has offended us in private and voice our concerns. In this way the dispute may be very quickly and very happily sorted out. But if the dispute cannot be sorted out in this way, then we should call on the help of a third party. A third party can often shed light where there was none before. A third party can see or suggest things that haven't previously been considered. A third party usually has the benefit of lending an opinion without anger or bias. It might seem like a lot of trouble to go to, to resolve a grievance, but sometimes a 'nipping it in the bud' approach can save a much greater grievance somewhere further down the line. How many people have allowed abuse, deception, injustice and even holocaust because they have kept quiet and avoided confrontation?

Saint Paul lends us some sound advice. "Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour." If we approach conflict with love and a genuine desire to put something right, we have nothing to fear. To do nothing in the face of wrongdoing is not an option.

Bitesize – "The best way out of a problem is through it." ~*Author Unknown*



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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6TH SEPTEMBER 2020 – 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A

[23rd Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 3]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 5 Sept	6.00 pm	23 rd Sunday in Ord. Time	The People of the Parish Paul Morris Gonzalo Mercado Mausisa
Sun. 6 Sept	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 7 Sept	10.00 am	Feria	John Merrick (fdn)
Tues. 8 Sept	-	The Nativity of the BVM	No Mass today
Weds. 9 Sept	10.00 am	Feria (or S Peter Claver)	Joan Robinson (Bowles)
Thurs. 10 Sept	10.00 am	Feria	Calvin & Becky Cummings
Fri. 11 Sept	10.00 am	Feria	Michael Carolan
Sat. 12 Sept	-	Feria	No morning Mass
Sun. 13 Sept	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	24 th Sunday in Ord. Time (Education Day)	Jack & Katie Nolan Barbara Abela (Perkins) The People of the Parish

Anniversaries this week: Eleanor Finnimore, George Hill, Joan Foster, Maurice Finnimore, Michael Carey. *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.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £306.75 last weekend for the maintenance of our parish. I would also like to express my gratitude to all of you who have taken out a standing order or direct debit for your contributions. It helps a great deal.

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.

Parish Website: A concern was raised by a parishioner with regard to the security of our parish website. I have made enquiries and our website is secure because no one except the owner of the site can put any information on it. It is safe to read what is on our website. Some of it is a bit out of date, but it is secure.

Prayer & Listening Ministry – Are you a good listener? Do you have compassion for others in need? The Diocese of East Anglia is initiating a Catholic Listening and Prayer Ministry to provide confidential support to those wishing to share their concerns with a trustworthy helper. Full training and supervision will be given to those who wish to be part of this new ministry after a simple interview process. If you feel you may have the empathy, availability and agreement with Church teaching, please email mflc.eastanglia@yahoo.co.uk

The Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride: This annual event takes place next **Saturday, 12th September 2020**, so there's just time for you to 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. **Volunteers are also needed to greet participants visiting Sacred Heart and to stamp their forms. There is a rota for this placed at the back of church.**

Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary, 8th September - The story goes that Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child that will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. The story is not found in the Bible, but like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

S Peter Claver, 9th September - Peter Claver laboured unceasingly for the salvation of the African slaves and the abolition of the Negro slave trade. A saint whose work we can truly identify with in an age where slavery is still evident.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September 2020: Respect for the Planet's Resources - The prayer intention for this month ties in with our 'Season of Creation'. September 1st to October 4th is a time set aside to focus on God's creation and our stewardship of it. Pope Francis asks us to join in this month's prayer intention to pray "... **that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.**"



Creation Time, September 1st - October 4th - Supermarkets have decided to charge more for single use carrier bags. Anything to reduce our plastic use is good, but there are many who think this is far too little and far too late. There are those who think that we should ban plastic bags in supermarkets altogether. If you would like to see this discussed in Parliament go to www.petition.parliament.uk/petitions/328310. *This petition is in its infancy and needs a lot of help to reach the 100,000 petitions needed to open a debate. Please spare a minute to sign and share on Facebook and Twitter.*

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Let's Face It

A dog is left barking in a very small yard whilst the owners are out at work all day. A small boy spends his afternoons kicking a ball against an end terrace whilst the owners sit inside with gritted teeth. A new person joins a busy workplace but spends most of his or her time checking out Facebook on the company computer. What do we do about it?

Perhaps we stay quiet hoping the problem will go away. Perhaps we tell ourselves that it's none of our business and turn a blind eye. At best we might contact someone in authority and make an anonymous complaint. Speaking face to face with the person that has offended us is probably the most difficult option.

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