

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Try Again

It is tempting to think that today's gospel is about rushing about to see how many people we can convert. The wider implication holds a deeper meaning. Jesus is telling us that when we are feeling broken and disheartened, God is there to put us back on track.

A relationship has hit rock bottom, and although we agree to go to counselling, in our heart of hearts we can't believe that there is a way forward.

We have stuck in the same job for years, a job that was once fruitful, but has now become an exercise in going through the motions.

Someone we have loved has died and taken with them any hope of the bright future we once lived for. Suddenly there is no light at the end of the tunnel.

We have all been in situations like these. We all know what it's like to face loss or the pain of defeat. We know that picking ourselves up is difficult impossible even. The last thing we want to do is to try again. To try again would only result in further pain and further disappointment. Peter must have felt something like this when he spent all night fishing only to pull up empty nets. When Jesus tells him to put out into deeper water and lay down the nets again, Peter is sceptical. The last thing he wants to do is set himself up for further defeat, but he trusts Jesus enough to give it one more try. The rest of the story is an inspiration. Peter catches more fish than his net can carry. He recognises the hand of God and immediately feels unworthy. "Leave me Lord," he says, "I am a sinful man." Fortunately Jesus is not worried that Peter is a sinner, he can see Peter's true worth.

What if God was to notice your worth? What if he worked a miracle in a part of your life where you thought all was lost? Would you recognise God's hand, and would you give him credit? Being a fisher of men doesn't necessarily mean notching up conversions like an award winning sales man. Being a fisher of men means letting other people know how your faith has helped you through difficulties. Being a fisher of men means letting other people know that God could put their lives back on track. We need to trust in God and try again.

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 Website: <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>

Notre Dame High School, Norwich: Website <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>

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

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7TH FEBRUARY 2016 – 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses – Page 136 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Coyne Family (<i>Fdn.*</i>)
Sunday	9.00 am	Donor's Int.
	11.00 am	People of the Parish

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Belmont Mass

Entry 6pm – Angelus (*said*); Hymn 965 – As the deer pants for the water ...

Offertory Hymn 609 – In bread we bring you, Lord, our bodies' labour ...

Communion Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...

Recessional 11am – Angelus (*said*); Hymn 934 – Dear Lord and Father of mankind ...

CONFESSiON/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm

Weekday Mass Times (5th week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 1]

Mon.	10.00 am	Sandra & Daniel - Feria
Tues.	10.00 am	Ann Williams - Feria
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Harry Wilkes - ASH WEDNESDAY
	7.00 pm	Private Int.
Thurs.	No Mass Today	- Lent Feria
Fri.	10.00 am	Pamela Barnwell - Lent Feria
	12.00 Midday	Stations of the Cross
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Adoration
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	10.30 am	Donor's Int. - Lent Feria
	6.00 pm	E. Maguire (<i>Fdn.*</i>) – 1 st Sunday of Lent

**Fdn.* = Foundation Mass

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

Anniversaries this week: Brenda Secker, Joan Rooney, Ralph Keatley, Molly Sayer, Colin Halstead, Madeline Stanley, Maria Rupp, William Green, Stella Daisy Hercock, Millie Boyer and Muriel Hope Drury. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits – If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital (QEII), King's Lynn, 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 Fr Peter Rollings (01553 772220) for visits to QEII. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick List - Please pray for: Michelle Redmond, Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Robert Nicol, Doreen Kanssen, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, David & Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Rhonda Darby, Collette Barrow-Nessian, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd and Pat Grout.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £429.49. Thank you very much.

Ash Wednesday is this coming Wednesday. Please note the times of Masses. The time for Easter Duty is between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday. Ash Wednesday... the first day of Lent, and a day of fasting and abstinence. **Fasting** means that the amount of food we eat is considerably reduced. **Abstinence** means that we give up a particular kind of food or drink or form of amusement

Diary Dates for this week –

- Weds. 10th Feb. – UCM AGM, immediately following morning Mass. Bring a packed lunch.
- Fri. 12th Feb. – Altar Servers meet – 7.15pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 13 Feb. – Saturday Club is on half-term holiday.

Stations of the Cross – Friday at midday. I will lead the Stations this week. I am still waiting for volunteers for other days. The UCM are in and so are The Altar Servers. Where are the others ?

Parish Open Meeting on Feb. 14th. Thank you for your items for the Agenda and for signing the list for the shared lunch. We will begin with Midday Prayer from The Divine Office, have lunch together and then the meeting.

Lent Station Mass for our Deanery - This will be celebrated by +Alan at St. John's Cathedral on March 8th. All the priests of the Deanery are expected to be present and there will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6.00 pm. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Mass and then at 8.00 pm refreshments will be available. This will be a good opportunity to go to confession before Easter. You could also make the journey through the **Holy Door** during this visit. Also please note that *The Chrism Mass will take place at St. John's on Tuesday evening of Holy Week.*

Lenten Alms 2016 – Your support is asked for two charities as part of our Lenten almsgiving this year. The first is the **Depaul Trust's '40 Nights of Nightstop'** programme, which provides an emergency safety net for young people who are rough sleeping or staying in an unsafe place and also acts as a stepping stone to accessing other services that can help them. The second is **CAFOD's UK Aid Match**, whereby every pound you donate to CAFOD during Lent will be matched by the UK government, doubling the impact of all your donations. An alms box for these charities will be placed at the back of church during Lent from Ash Wednesday (10th February) onwards. See the posters at the back of church for more details.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day – Friday, 19 February – This Lent Fast Day, we have an opportunity to come together as a Catholic community to ensure girls living in the world's poorest countries are free to change their lives by getting an education. CAFOD is working with local expert organisations around the world to bring water to family homes, so girls who used to spend hours collecting it every day, now have time for school, study and to play with their friends. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. Collect your Fast Day envelope from church next week, and remember to fast on Lent Fast Day.

Pope Francis's Prayer Intention February 2016 - Care for Creation ~ Make a Pledge.

Walking gently upon this planet has to become a lifestyle rather than making the odd pledge and then breaking it. Having said that, starting with a pledge and sticking to it is the first step towards caring for God's creation, so what might your pledge be? This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis's prayer intention, ..."That we may take good care of creation—a gift freely given—cultivating and protecting it for future generations."



National Marriage Week - From February 7th to 14th every year-- is a collaborative campaign to strengthen individual marriages, reduce the divorce rate, and build a stronger marriage culture. As we change so do our relationships. This week is an ideal opportunity to 'retune', and take time to listen to our partners, without assuming we already know all there is to know.

Teacher Vacancies - Executive Headteacher: St Benet's, Beccles and St Edmund's, Bungay, Catholic Primary Schools. Headteacher: St Benedict's School, Bury St Edmunds. Also vacancies at St Alban's High, especially the post of Head of RE. Please see the Diocesan website for more details - www.rcdea.org.uk; or see the adverts on the notice-board at the back of Church.

Bite Size

"Sometimes you feel like giving up, but then you look at other people who have given up, and the results aren't that good." *Robert Brault*