

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Price of Oil.

We can nag our children endlessly about homework, buy them every book and piece of equipment they might conceivably need and pack their school bags every night, but at the end of the day we can't go to school and do the work for them. At exam time we can borrow essays and pick each other's brains, but

at the end of the day no one can sit the exam for us. A job interview looms, and we run round seeking help and advice, but the final preparations must be ours and ours alone. It seems there are certain things for which we alone must take responsibility.

In today's gospel, five wise bridesmaids and five foolish bridesmaids take their lamps and await the arrival of the groom. The groom is delayed, and by the time he arrives, the foolish bridesmaids have run out of oil and are forced to ask the wise bridesmaids for a loan. "No," reply the wise bridesmaids, "there will not be enough for you and for us." It might seem as though the wise bridesmaids were being a little less than generous, but this isn't a lesson in sharing. The lesson teaches us that there are some kinds of oil we just can't borrow.

The foolish bridesmaids stand for all those who waste their lives forever accepting mediocrity. The foolish bridesmaids stand for all those who save their good intentions up for 'tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow'. The foolish bridesmaids stand for those who imagine that good deeds are the responsibility of others. The foolish bridesmaids stand for all of us who think there is plenty of time left to fill up on our spiritual reserves.

What would it cost to fill up our spiritual reserves right now? Perhaps not as much as we might think! No one is suggesting that we all rush off and become Trappist Monks, but at the same time, how much less mediocre our lives would become if we got into the very good habit of living each and every day as though it was our last.



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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8TH NOVEMBER 2020 – 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A

[32ND Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 4]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 7 Nov.	6.00 pm	32 nd Sunday in Ord. Time	Kathleen Carroll The War Dead Remembrance Sunday
Sun. 8 Nov.	11.00 am		
Mon. 9 Nov.	10.00 am	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	Harry Wilkes
Tues. 10 Nov.	-	S Leo the Great	No Mass today
Weds. 11 Nov.	10.00 am	S Martin of Tours	Jane Carolan
Thurs. 12 Nov.	10.00 am	S Josephat	Calvin & Becky Cummings
Fri. 13 Nov.	10.00 am	Feria	Holy Souls (Perkins)
Sat. 14 Nov.	6.00 pm	33 rd Sunday of Ord. Time	Dean Campbell
Sun. 15 Nov.	10.00 am		The People of the Parish

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGED TIMES FOR SUNDAYS DURING LOCKDOWN

All Celebrations of Mass are livestreamed on YouTube

Anniversaries this week: Bill Bell, Maria Gee, Iris Scott, Doreen Edith Derere, Eileen Monaghan, John Francis McWilliams, Edith Howard, Delia Shelley, Nora Teresa Holliday, Fred Moorcroft, Harry Dyer, Joseph Monks, Hilda Baldry. *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, Greta Cummings.

Money Matters: Thank you for your Easter Offering at the Masses last weekend which amounted to £647.29. I appreciate your generosity very much in these difficult times.

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 taxpayer, 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.

Lockdown Arrangements - During Lockdown the church will be left open for private prayer after Mass each day till about 4.00 pm. The partition doors are closed but please let yourselves in. The toilet, the servery and the confessional remain out of use. You can light candles, pray the rosary, do the stations or just be quiet in the presence of the Lord.

Bishops' Conference Guidance - The latest guidance to be received from the Bishops' Conference General Secretary on the present lockdown restrictions can be found on the parish website. The contents are meant as a pastoral response to a new situation which is different from the previous lockdown, namely that our churches may remain open and that attending a place of worship for individual prayer is a legitimate reason to leave home. There is also encouragement to continue charitable works which are based at our churches. Key points are:

- Churches may be used for Mass and other services to be streamed, without a congregation present. Musicians and singers may participate in online services, as long as they usually form part of the service that is being broadcast and are essential to its delivery.
- Churches are permitted to continue to be open to offer support and charitable outreach, including the provision of food banks or other support for the homeless

or the vulnerable. It is so important that this response to the pandemic, which has been such a significant part of parish life over these past months in so many places, continues and develops.

- Funeral Masses and funeral services may continue to be celebrated, with an attendance of up to 30 people (not including those who are required for the celebration). Weddings are only permitted when one of those getting married is seriously ill and is not expected to recover. Such weddings are limited to 6 people excluding the priest or deacon celebrant.
- In the light of the broad aim to minimise gatherings of those from different households, and to focus resources on keeping churches open for individual prayer, it is recommended that catechism classes and sacramental preparation sessions are suspended, or held online, whilst these Regulations are in force.

Statement by Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales: The President and the Vice-President of the Bishops' Conference have issued a Statement in response to the new national lockdown. A copy of the Statement dated 4th November 2020 can be read on the parish website.

November, Month of the Faithful Departed - During the month of November, we pray for all our deceased family members and friends. We aim to remember how they helped and loved us whilst they were with us and we commit to keeping their memory alive by adopting the qualities we most admired in them. We also pray for those who have died that have fought for our way of life and our religious freedom, and we pray for those who have died alone who have no one to remember them.

Remembrance Sunday, 8th November 2020 - Remembrance Sunday falls on the Sunday nearest Armistice Day, 11 November, which marks the end of the First World War. On this day are remembered all those who gave their lives for their country, all who suffered and died through acts of war and those who were left behind to grieve and mourn. On this day we are asked to pray for peace and reconciliation between nations, that enemies may put aside all differences and for all those who have died through war or acts of violence in defence of our country, may we never forget their sacrifice.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY 2020 - Thank you from CAFOD to all parishioners at Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary for their prayers, fasting, and generosity. **The parish donated £271.** Your donations this Harvest mean that we can continue to reach more families threatened by coronavirus. Working through the local Church, amazing work is already happening. In Kenya, Sister Modeasther distributed food and essential items to 300 vulnerable families at St Michael's Catholic Parish. There are many more local experts working with the poorest communities and these stories are signs of great hope during crisis. We are one family and together we will survive, rebuild, and heal.

Bitesize – "If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door." ~Milton Berle