

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Found



When we are young the future is bright. When we are young we know what we want and are optimistic about achieving it. When we are young the difference between right and wrong is clear-cut. When we are young we are confident that there are people who love us and hold us in high esteem. Then life begins to throw spanners in the works .... very large ones!

Suddenly we're not quite so sure what we want after all, and trying to achieve anything worthwhile is like running at an immovable brick wall. Life begins to test our principles. Lapses of courage tempt us to tell lies; poverty encourages us to take what doesn't belong to us; fear of failure encourages us to cheat; depression encourages us to drink or eat too much; desperation encourages us to take drugs or gamble. The path that leads away from God is an out of control downwards spiral. Worse, once we lose our self-esteem, it is very difficult to turn back to God. Once we have spiralled to an all time low, it is difficult to think of ourselves as worthwhile. Once we have hit rock bottom, it is hard to imagine that anybody might care enough to help us, or that anyone could still love us.

Jesus tells three parables that demonstrate God's mercy and compassion. 'The Lost Sheep', 'The Lost Coin' and the 'Lost Son'. As we soldier on through life feeling worthless and insignificant, these three parables tell us that we do not have to accept our sorry lot in life. Jesus reminds us that no one is worthless or insignificant in God's eyes ... not one single person. It doesn't matter how far we have travelled away from God, God is looking to bring us back.

Today's parables are about wholeness and inclusion in a society seemingly intent on division and exclusion. In all of us there is a need to be found and carried, and in all of us there is the ability to seek out and help others. Most of all, today's parables are about forgetting the human instinct to judge others and to feel the joy of God the Father's reconciling love.

**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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### 11 SEPTEMBER 2016 – 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Sunday Masses – Page 136 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Donor's Int.
Sunday	9.00 am	Donor's Int.
	11.00 am	People of the Parish

#### Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: *The Belmont Mass*

**Entry** 6pm – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 795 – I heard the voice of Jesus say, ...

**Offertory** Hymn 842 – Come back to me with all your heart ...

**Communion** *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

**Recessional** 11am – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 713 – Sing of the Lord's goodness ...

#### CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 5.30pm, or on request / by appointment

#### Weekday Mass Times (24<sup>th</sup> week in Ordinary Time) [*Psalter Week 4*]

Mon.	10.00 am	Feria – Donor's Int.
Tues.	<b>No Mass today</b>	St. John Chrysostom
	<b>7.00 pm</b>	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	<b>No Mass today</b>	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Thurs.	10.00 am	Our Lady of Sorrows – Int. Anthony Charles Castlo
Fri.	<b>No Mass today</b>	SS Cornelius & Cyprian
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	<b>No Morning Mass</b>	Feria
	6.00 pm	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Int. People of the Parish

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

**Anniversaries this week:** Annie Cecilia O’Ryan, Sidney Platt, Ferdinand Rupp, William Goulden, Paul Hodak and Stewart Aylin. *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:** Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Robert Nicol, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd, Ellen Flood, Margaret Leggett, Diana Cater, Ken May and Muriel Harmer.

**Money Matters** – The collection last weekend was £421.53. £9.53 was also donated to the St Edmund’s Fund, and a further £14.55 was achieved from the conversion of some US dollar donations. Thank you all very much.

**Retiring Collections** - Today, there is the annual collection for the Catholic Education Service. There are quite a few retiring collections to come in the next few weeks and an appeal by Survive Miva will take place on September 18th. This means that the collection for Home Mission Sunday will have to take place on another Sunday.

**130 Club August Draw** – 1<sup>st</sup> Prize £20 – Robbie Meehan; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 – Catherine Todd; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10- Paul Wade; 4<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Gloria Lee; 5<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Rebecca Baker.

**Diary Dates for this week –**

- Tues. 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Queen of Peace Prayer Group meets at the earlier time of 7.00pm this week.
- Weds. 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. – UCM meets at 11.00am; members are requested to bring a small amount of food for a shared lunch.
- Fri. 16<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Altar Servers meet – 7.15pm - 8.15pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Saturday Club meets – 11.00am – 11.30am in Emmaus Room

**Mass Times This Week – Please note the changes this week.** On Tuesday, I will be going overnight to Clare Priory for the Ministry to Priests Programme and on Friday morning I will be attending the Deanery meeting at Poringland.

**UCM Cake & Produce Stall** – An appeal to all UCM members and other generous souls, for cakes, jams and other produce to be sold on our stall next weekend – 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September – after all Masses. The proceeds of this sale will go to charity. Mary Shutt will be in the Church from 4.45pm on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> September to receive any donations, or you can just bring them before the Mass you attend. Many thanks, in advance, for your kind generosity.

**The Parish BBQ** - Thank you to Richard, Jose and Donal for organising the BBQ and to those who attended it. It was a lovely occasion and well worth remembering and repeating. The collection taken at the event raised £140 for the *Let the Children Live!* Charity.

**Dereham Churches Together Fellowship Evening** - The United Service on Tuesday was very well attended. It was wonderful to celebrate Evening Prayer of the Church (Vespers) with the members of the other churches. The singing was terrific and thanks to Michael and Kathleen for leading it. It was a good occasion and people were uplifted spiritually by our joint worship.

**Church Maintenance** - The Virginia Creeper is gone. It was taking over the outside of the church and grew like a 'Triffid'. Guttering and down-pipes were blocked and damage to the guttering and down-pipes has been revealed.

**Education Sunday - 11th September** – “This September for the first time, we are fortunate enough to celebrate Education Sunday at the start of the academic year. We pray for the work of our Catholic schools in the coming year, that they may continue to nurture a love of learning and of Christ in their students. This year, our theme for Education Sunday is ‘All are welcome’ . In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis desires that our lives “be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God” to our parishes, our schools and our local communities. This mercy starts in our personal relationships, between students and teachers, between friends and family members. Our schools therefore play a crucial role in building a loving, merciful community, where each student is invited to develop their own God - given talents to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to serve the world in all they do. On this day, it is important to give thanks for our teachers, support staff and volunteers, who work hard every day to ensure our schools are inclusive welcoming centres of learning.” *Taken from a letter by the Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool, Chairman of the Catholic Education Service.*

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“By judging others we blind ourselves to our own evil and to the grace which others are just as entitled to as we are.” — *Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship*

***The Angelus***

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. **R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary**  
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. **R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary.**  
V. And the Word was made Flesh. **R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mar.**  
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. **R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**  
**LET US PRAY: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may, by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen**