

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Golden Opportunities

Remember the story of King Midas? He was invited to make a wish, and he wished that everything he touched be turned to gold. At first the king had a whale of a time turning pots, vases, and simple household utensils into valuable objects. It didn't take him long however to work out that his love of gold was about to destroy everything most precious to him, as he turned food, butterflies and finally his beloved daughter into solid lumps of metal.

In many ways we are just as foolish as Midas. How many people do you know who won't go anywhere unless it's safe to park their brand new car? How many of us watch the aid agency adverts and sympathise, yet decide we can't part with any cash right now? How many of us cannot get up and get involved in worthy causes because our work commitments come first? We are just the same as Midas. Our material concerns stand in the way of what is really important.

The man in today's gospel story was not a bad man; he had kept all God's commandments. This makes the story all the sadder, that he couldn't follow Jesus because of the one thing that stood in his way, his wealth. The man turned away, because he had much wealth and couldn't let go.

Today's gospel invites the question, 'Do we own our possessions, or do our possessions own us?' Have we figured out what we could do with our lives that would be really worthwhile, and what is it that stands in our way? What golden opportunities does God put our way, and have we made space in our lives to rise to God's challenges. The material things in our lives lure us with promises of security and comfort, but those are not the things we will be remembered for, we will be remembered for the differences we make in other people's lives. That is the true wealth God promises us.

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

The Parish Newsletter is available to view on the parish website [<http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk>] from Friday onward each week; back copies can also be viewed on the website.

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt - email: brendanmoffatt@yahoo.co.uk

Address: The Presbytery, 35 London Road, Dereham NR19 1AS

Telephone: 01362 694066.

Parish website: <http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk>

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson - Tel: 01362 822590

email: dcnmsanderson@hotmail.com

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

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

11TH OCTOBER 2015 – 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekend Masses – Page 143 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Fred & Joan Faulkner
Sunday	9.00 am	Joan Hobden
	11.00 am	People of the Parish

Music for Sunday Masses - *Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass*

Processional 6pm – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 820 – Seek ye first the kingdom of God ...

Offertory Hymn 648 – See us, Lord, about thine altar ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence at player's discretion*

Recessional 11am – *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 955 – O God, our help in ages past ...

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm

Mass Times for the Coming Week (28th week in Ordinary Time)

[Psalter Week 4]

Mon.	10.00 am	Una O'Dwyer - Feria
Tues.	No Mass today	- St Edward the Confessor
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Bob & Rosie Mitchell - Feria
Thurs.	10.00 am	Mary Redmond - St Teresa of Jesus
Fri.	10.00 am	Bernadette Buxton - Feria
	5.45 pm	Exposition, Silent Prayer & Evening Prayer from the Divine Office
Sat.	10.30 am	Bernadette Buxton (Monaghan) - St Ignatius of Antioch
	6.00 pm	Donor's Intention - 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time (World Mission Day)

Anniversaries this week: Nellie Pinchbeck, David Jones, Pat Rushton, Monica Hodac and Elaine Smith. *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 or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn, and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call St John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615). 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, Fr Michael Teader, Joan Blakiston, Sylvia Remmen, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Sheila Christie, Robert Nicol, Doreen Kanssen, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Ann & Derek Williams, David & Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith and Rhonda Darby.

The Requiem Mass and funeral for Bernadette Buxton will take place on Wednesday, 21st October at 10.00 a.m. It will be followed by cremation at Mintlyn Crematorium. Francis has asked that there be no flowers, but donations in Bernadette's memory can be given for the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP).

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £441.76. Thank you very much.

CAFOD Fast Day – Last week's Harvest Fast Day collection raised £631.44 for CAFOD. Thank you for your support and solidarity. You have helped to ensure that more people across the world will be able to grow enough food to support themselves, even during the most extreme droughts.

100 Club Draw for August (late news!) – 1st Prize £20 – Patricia Arnold; 2nd Prize £15 – Pat Whitty; 3rd Prize £10 – Rex Baker; 4th Prize £10 – Rose Fenton; 5th Prize £10 – Paul Wade.

Diary Dates for this week –

- Weds. 14th Oct. – UCM meets – 2pm in Emmaus Room
- Fri. 16th Oct. – Altar Servers meet – 7.15 – 8.15 pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 17th Oct. – Saturday Club meets - 11.00am in Emmaus Room

Union of Catholic Mothers - The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 14th October at 2pm in the Emmaus room. Visitors and those wishing to find out more about the UCM are warmly welcome to attend.

Exposition and Silent Prayer – I would like to find out what the response would be to having a regular evening period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Silent Prayer and ending with Evening Prayer. Apart from the Saturday evening Mass, there isn't any liturgy in the evening. If people like this and would like to have it on a regular basis, then let's see what happens. The timing could be adjusted to suit people to a certain extent. We will start off on this coming Friday evening. All welcome.

Prisoners' Sunday - This year, on Sunday, 11th October, as a Church we mark Prisoners' Sunday. It is a day to direct our thoughts and prayers to prisoners, their families and their children. Prisoners' Sunday is the occasion to make a difference and be there for those who most need our support.

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday – Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his official charity for overseas mission. World Mission Sunday is a special day that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, celebration and care for the mission of the Church. Thanks to your support, the Catholic Church is growing and many parishes can now take care of themselves. However, 40% of the Universal Church is still too new, young or poor to survive without our help, just like the church in Mongolia. By supporting World Mission Sunday you are directly helping missionaries in over 1,000 dioceses bring hope and new life to people who do not yet know that they are precious in the eyes and heart of God. You will also be able to Gift Aid all donations by using envelopes provided by Missio. Thank you.

Could you become a Town Pastor or a Prayer Pastor? - Dereham Town Pastors is currently seeking local Christians to become Town Pastors and Prayer Pastors. Are you over 18 and part of a local church? If so, we need you **NOW!!** - In Dereham patrols will go out on Friday afternoons and/or evenings, concentrating on helping youngsters aged 11 to 19, listening to their cares and concerns and responding accordingly. We need volunteers for street patrols to begin a training programme in late November which would continue in January and February. Town Pastors out on patrol are always supported by the prayer team, some of whom pray together at Trinity Methodist Church in Dereham, while others pray at home. Prayer Pastors would only need to attend the prayer training session due to be held in early February. **Is this for you? If so, take that first step** and telephone the Dereham Town Pastor Administrator, Tricia Waller on 01362 694129 or 07941 492020, email her at admin@derehamtownpastors.org.uk or visit our website: www.derehamtownpastors.org.uk

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"I cannot afford to waste my time making money." (Louis Agassiz)

We pray the 'Coming Home' prayer at the end of the Bidding Prayers:

Loving Father, we pray for those baptised who no longer or rarely attend Church: that they will understand and experience in their hearts that Christ is the source of unconditional love and reconciliation.

We pray for everyone who worships in our parish community: that we may find the right words and means to invite our absent brothers and sisters to return to the practice of their faith.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.