

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### Must Try Harder!

Do we fondly imagine that people ought to love us just the way we are? We are told often enough that God loves us warts and all. But do we carry this belief through life with not much thought of betterment?

In today's parable a king invites guests to his son's wedding. When the guests refuse to turn up, the king extends the invitation to a different set of guests, both good and bad. The guests fill the wedding hall, but as they do so, the king notices one man not wearing a wedding robe and he has him bound hand and foot and thrown out into the darkness! The consequences for not wearing the right outfit seem overly harsh as far as this poor guest is concerned, but of course the parable has not really very much to do with wedding receptions and even less to do with wearing the right tie. The overriding theme in this story is to do with standards.

Jesus explains that the Kingdom of God is open to all but that doesn't mean that anyone and everyone can stroll into heaven. Just as guests make an effort to be correctly dressed for a wedding, so too must we put in the preparation and effort to be accepted into God's Kingdom.

The guest who was thrown out of the wedding feast for his cavalier 'accept me just the way I am' attitude presents a warning for us all. Too often we go about our daily routines not feeling any need to live life better. Far too often we look on our Christianity as making choices between good and evil, and we are confident that we rarely choose evil. But Jesus is asking more of us than simply choosing between right and wrong, he is asking us to choose between good and an even greater good. What we imagine is our 'best' very rarely is.

Just as the guest in today's parable did little more than turn up to the wedding, so we live life going through the motions but not much more. Accepting God's invitation to join him is only the first step, it's how we live out that acceptance that really matters.



**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](http://www.universalis.com)

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

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### 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020 – 28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A

[28<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 4]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 10 Oct.	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time	Francis Bound (Bell) Carers The People of the Parish
Mon. 12 Oct.	10.00 am	Feria	Anne Ronald
Tues. 13 Oct.	-	Feria	<b>No Mass today</b>
Weds. 14 Oct.	10.00 am	Feria	Teofilo Montero
Thurs. 15 Oct.	10.00 am	S Teresa of Jesus	P. Mealy's int.
Fri. 16 Oct.	10.00 am	Feria	Holy Souls (Silence)
Sat. 17 Oct.	-	S Ignatius of Antioch	<b>No morning Mass</b>
Sun. 18 Oct.	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time	Elaine Smith (Duffield) Sick & Housebound of the Parish The People of the Parish

**Anniversaries this week:** Nellie Pinchbeck, David Jones, Sylvia Remmen, Pat Rushton, James Gallagher, Elaine Smith, Michael Reavey. *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-B40VTvbzezz83MxQ/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 offering of £259.45 for the maintenance of the parish last weekend. **The retiring collection this weekend is the CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day Collection. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please Gift Aid your donation if you can.** Live streaming: Thanks for an additional donation of £50 towards the cost thereof.

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.

**World Mission Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020** – Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people – "Here I am, send me". Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible. [www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk)

**Papal Encyclical Letter 'Fratelli Tutti'** - On October 4th Pope Francis sent out a new Encyclical Letter on Fraternity and Social Friendship, *Fratelli Tutti*. A synopsis of the Encyclical, together with Questions and Answers, are available to read on the parish website. The introduction to the Synopsis explains that "Inspired by Saint Francis of Assisi, Pope Francis gives us *Fratelli tutti*, a proposal for a way of life marked by the flavour of the Gospel. It is a call to love others as brothers and sisters, even when they are far from us; it

is a call to open fraternity (FT 1), to recognizing and loving every person with a love without borders; it is a call to encounter others in a way that is capable of overcoming all distance and every temptation to engage in disputes, impositions, or submissions (FT 3). *Fratelli tutti* does not claim to offer a complete teaching on fraternal love, but seeks rather to consider its universal scope (FT 6). COVID-19 forced the Pope to interrupt his writing of *Fratelli tutti*. This pandemic has exposed our false securities, our fragmentation, and our inability to work together (FT 7). In the face of present-day attempts to eliminate or to ignore others, *Fratelli tutti* is an invitation to respond to God's call with a new vision of fraternity and social friendship (FT 6). The Holy Father hopes that, in these times, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity by acknowledging the dignity of each and every human person (FT 8)."

**St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582), 15<sup>th</sup> October** – "It was the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, an age of exploration as well as political, social and religious upheaval. Though a contemplative, Teresa spent much of her time and energy seeking to reform herself and the Carmelites. She founded over a half-dozen new monasteries. She travelled, wrote, and fought for reform. Ours too is a time of turmoil, a time of reform and a time of liberation. Modern women have in Teresa a challenging example. Promoters of renewal, promoters of prayer, all have in Teresa a woman to reckon with, one whom they can admire and imitate." ~American Catholic

**Week of Prayer for World Peace, 11-18 October 2020** - Week of Prayer for World Peace is an inter faith activity. The first Chairman, the late Dr. Edward Carpenter, former Dean of Westminster, established the guiding principle of the Week in the words "*The peace of the world must be prayed for by all the faiths of the world.*" The Week of Prayer for World Peace Annual Gathering will be online this year. It will be held on Sunday, 11 October at 3:30 pm London time. You can find the link to the Zoom meeting at [www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk](http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk)

**Churches' Week of Action on Food, 11–17 October 2020** - 11-17 October is an opportunity for Christians all over the world to act and speak out together on food justice issues. Impacted by Covid-19, the number of people facing acute food insecurity is expected to

nearly double to 265 million in 2020, from 135 million in 2019. We recall the episode of Jesus feeding the multitude (*Matthew 14:13-21*). "We have no excuses but to respond to this crisis together, sharing what we have, in faith, to ensure that all are fed, leaving nobody behind, and with no food being wasted." The week in October incorporates the International Day for Rural Women (October 15), World Food Day (October 16) and the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (October 17).

**Statement from the Bishops Conference Department for Social Justice concerning Covid and Vaccination** - A copy of this recent Statement can be found on the parish website.

**Bitesize** - "In all human affairs there are efforts and there are results, and the strength of effort is the measure of the results." ~James Allen