

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Master's Voice - How often do we hear the phrase, "We believe what we want to believe"? It's equally true that we refuse to believe what we don't want to believe. In today's reading the Jews are pushing Jesus to state his case. "If you are the Messiah tell us plainly." Jesus replies, "You do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep." In other words, the questioners are not his followers, they are hostile towards him and therefore they are not open to believing in him even though they have seen the evidence.

In some ways Christianity is a chicken and egg kind of scenario. We need to be followers of Jesus, to believe in him, but we need to believe to be followers. Which comes first is up to us, but we have to be open to hearing and recognising Jesus in our twenty first century world.

Hearing, recognising, believing and responding is what 'Good Shepherd Sunday' is all about. Some situations have got 'God' written all over them and some haven't. How do we tell the difference? What are we called to do? How are we called to believe? Some things are obvious, some things aren't. But at the heart of everything, even issues that didn't exist in Jesus' day such as euthanasia, and stem cell research, Jesus' teachings are like 'cat's-eyes' on life's dark country roads. We have to recognise Jesus' voice in everything by asking, how much of today's decisions are based in love, and how much of our decisions are based in our own human agendas.



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.

In Eastertide, we recite REGINA CAELI in place of the ANGELUS:

Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia.
 For he, whom you did merit to bear, Alleluia.
 Has risen as he said, Alleluia.
 Pray for us to God, Alleluia.
 Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.
 For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray: O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same 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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12TH MAY 2019 – 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year C

[4th Week of Easter, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 4]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 11 th May	6.00 pm	4 th Sunday of Easter [Parish Mass Book p269]	Joao Lobo & Thanksgiving (Moniz)
Sun. 12 th May	9.00 am 11.00 am	World Day of Prayer for Vocations	The People of the Parish Maria Alexandra Coita Pita
Mon. 13 th May	10.00 am	Easter Feria	Tom Nally (Bussey)
Tues. 14 th May	-	St. Matthias, Apostle	No Mass today – PP's day off
Weds. 15 th May	-	Easter Feria	No Mass today
Thurs. 16 th May	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for Peter Gormanns	
Fri. 17 th May	10.00 am	Easter Feria	Pat Sugden (McCarthy)
Sat. 18 th May	10.30 am	Easter Feria	Priest's Int.
Sat. 18 th May	6.00 pm	5 th Sunday of Easter	Priest's Int.
Sun. 19 th May	9.00 am 11.00 am		Una & Paul Morris (Perkins) The People of the Parish
Sun. 19 th May	12 Noon	Mid-day Prayer from the Divine Office, followed by buffet lunch and the annual Parish Meeting	

Music for 4th Sunday of Easter – Setting: New People's Mass (Inc. Memorial Acclam. B)

Entry: 6pm – Regina Coeli (said); Hymn 956 – I watch the sunrise ...

Psalm: (11am sung) **R.** We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Offertory: Hymn 804 – The King of love my shepherd is ...

Recessional: 11am – Regina Coeli (said); Hymn 366 – Holy Virgin, by God's decree ...

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday at 5.30pm, or by request/appointment

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

Anniversaries this week: Margaret Kingsbury, Paul Theocleous, Henry Westcott, Noel Kenneth Daly and John Conway. *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, 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: David Peek, Janet Yardley, Jenny Rudd, Sarah Chaudri, Rita Smith, Carol Whitesides, Catherine (Kay) Garrard, Robert Nicol, Eileen Brocklesby, Neville Hibberd, Shirley Liebenhals and Brenda May.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £523.37 for the maintenance of our parish last weekend and for your offering of £532 by Standing Order/Direct Debit during April.

Retiring Collection this weekend after all Masses for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund.

Diary Dates for this week -		
Tues. 14 th May	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Emmaus Room
Weds. 15 th May	6.30pm	Music selection & practice – Presbytery & Church. All volunteers welcome to sing or play.
Fri. 17 th May	7.15-8.15pm	Altar Servers Meeting – Emmaus Room
Sat. 18 th May	11.00am	Saturday Club - Emmaus Room

World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 12th May 2019 - The World Day of Prayer for Vocations is held each year on the Fourth Sunday of Easter.

Ordinations to the Priesthood – There is a lot of interest in attending this great occasion and I will put the list out soon. I have booked a 49-seat coach to take us to the Cathedral.

The Newman Lectures at the Cathedral Narthex: Thursday evenings from 23rd May to 6th June 2019. The subject this year is 'Mary'. Please see the poster on the noticeboard and the leaflets on the table. Talks commence at 6.30pm and refreshments will be available.

Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham – The annual Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham this year is on **Tuesday, 28th May**. The day begins at 10.45am with procession from the village to the shrine, followed by Mass at 12.00 noon at the Chapel of Reconciliation celebrated by Bishop Alan; afterwards, picnic at the Shrine and finishing the day on the beach at nearby Wells-Next-The-Sea. Further details from Christine Storman, Tel: 01493 717121, email: chrissies18@hotmail.com Parishes are asked to notify Christine if they will be bringing a group.

June Dates for your Diary –

- **Celebrate East Anglia, 1st & 2nd June at Bury St. Edmunds** – The conference that helps all the family grow in their faith! Faith-filled, fun weekend for all ages, combining contemporary Christian music, inspirational speakers, workshops, celebration of Mass, children's and youth ministry and much more. See www.celebrateconference.org and click on 'East Anglia' for more information.
- **A Day with Mary – Sunday, 2nd June 2019** at the National Shrine of Our Lady, Walsingham. Please see the poster at the back of church.
- **Marriage & Family Life, Annual Mass - Saturday, 8th June at 11.30am at St John's Cathedral in Norwich.** All are welcome and those who are celebrating significant wedding anniversaries will receive a certificate. If you would like to register for a certificate please contact Bonnie Lander Johnson on mflc.eastanglia@rcdea.org.uk or 07849357518. Join Bishop Alan after Mass for tea and cake in the Narthex and cathedral gardens. Photographs will be available for purchase online. There will be a collection at the Mass for those who wish to help the Marriage and Family Life Commission in their work.

News from our Rome Correspondent – “Over the last three-and-a-half years, I have kept in touch with my home diocese through these occasional notes from Rome, and through all-too brief visits in between busy semesters at the Pontifical Beda College. With Holy Week and the Octave over, and Eastertide well under way, the end of seminary formation is now very near, and in little over a month I will be returning to the UK permanently. Although there is much about Italy that I will miss, I feel ready to take this step, and am hugely excited both about having the freedom to be in the place that I consider home, and also at the challenge of beginning priestly ministry. Do come to my ordination at the cathedral on July 6th if you are able, and once again, please accept my prayers and my profound gratitude for your help and your kindness throughout my discernment; I could not have reached this point without your support. Looking forward to being with you again soon. *In Christ, Mike Brookes.*”

St Benedict's Catholic School, Bury St Edmunds – Vacancy for a Deputy Headteacher. For more information visit: <https://www.st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk/vacancies> or Diocesan Website <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/school-vacancies/> for latest school vacancies.

EA Diocesan Summer Camp 2019, Friday 23rd-Monday 26th August – Come and join in a weekend of Faith, Food and Fun for children aged 8-14 years, at Moreton Hall School, Bury St. Edmunds. For more information please email diocesansummercamps@gmail.com or go to www.facebook/diocesansummercamps. Any parent/guardian needing assistance with costs, is encouraged to contact a member of the Planning Team. Similarly, if anyone would like to sponsor a child to attend camp or make a contribution towards costs, then please get in touch.

Bitesize - “He does not believe who does not live according to his belief.” ~ *Thomas Fuller*