

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### In One Ear

“In one ear and out of the other,” is an expression that could be applied to most of us, for at least some of the time. Today’s gospel is about the difference between simply hearing something and really listening. Jesus uses the parable of the sower and the seeds to illustrate the different ways in which God’s word can be received .... or not!

Firstly, the sower drops seeds on a path only to be eaten by the birds. Jesus is describing those of us who hear the word but neither understands nor even tries to understand it. Next the sower drops seeds on rocky ground and the plants grow quickly but die off because the roots are not nourished. Jesus is describing those of us who receive the word without any real thought or commitment. Without foundation our faith can soon falter when put to the test. Then Jesus describes the seeds which fall among thorns. Sometimes we want to live by Jesus’ teachings but worldly demands and temptation choke our good intentions. Lastly Jesus praises the good soil which enables the seeds to grow and bear fruit.

The parable of the sower and the seeds is clearly challenging us to be better prepared to receive the seed of the gospel. It is all too easy for us to go through the motions of listening when really not much is going on between our ears at all. The Bible is a treasure trove of inspiration but because it was written such a long time ago in words that aren’t always easily understood we are often inclined to switch off. Do we come to church expecting to be bored by the readings or confused and indifferent before one word is even read? How different things might be if we allowed God’s Word to impact our lives.

Listening is more than just opening our ears. Listening is about studying, learning, understanding ...and most importantly, turning that understanding into action.

**Bitesize** – “Opportunities are often missed because we are broadcasting when we should be listening.” ~ *Author Unknown*



**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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### 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020 – 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A

[15<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 3]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 11 <sup>th</sup> July	6.00 pm	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time ( <b>Sea Sunday</b> )	Edward Jarrus
Sun. 12 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00 am 11.00 am		Holy Souls The People of the Parish
Mon. 13 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am	Feria	Sandra Mealy
Tues. 14 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Feria	<b>No Mass today</b>
Weds. 15 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am	S Bonaventure	Holy Souls
Thurs. 16 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am	Feria	Holy Souls
	3.30 pm	Reception of the remains of Elizabeth Mary Sharp	
Fri. 17 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am	Requiem Mass & Funeral of Elizabeth Mary Sharp	
Sat. 18 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Feria	<b>No morning Mass</b>
Sun. 19 <sup>th</sup> July	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time	Francis Perrin Holy Souls The People of the Parish

Please note that Morning Prayer will not be recited in public before Mass at this time. If you have Universalis on your ‘phone or tablet, it may be recited. We are not allowed to use the books at this time.

**Anniversaries this week:** Kay Vincent, Dennis Crossland Mallam and Anne Tinney. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

### MASS LIVE STREAM – Follow the link to YouTube:

<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, Teresa Kendall, Greta Cummings, Deacon Ron O'Toole (former Deacon at Dereham).

**Money Matters:** Thank you for your offerings last weekend. I cannot say what it amounted to yet, but your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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.

**Diary Dates for this week** – *All parish group meetings currently remain suspended.*

**Live Streaming of Mass** - Weekend and daily Mass is now live streamed from Sacred Heart. The link is on the front page of the bulletin, but for quick access go to YouTube and search for Dereham Catholic Church. The schedule of live streamed Mass is visible there too. The response of parishioners who have viewed Mass from Sacred Heart has been very positive.

**Sunday Mass** - The experience of celebrating Mass in public for the first time since lockdown was very uplifting. There was a real sense of joy in the church at being able to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion and this has continued during the week. Our liturgical prayer life is not back to normal yet - not by a long stretch of the imagination - but this is a start, a step in the right direction and very, very welcome.

**Church opening** - Now that we have public Mass again the need for two hours opening seems to have receded. The church will now be closed shortly after Mass each day. Thank you to all of you who have kept vigil.

**Readers for Sunday and Weekday Mass** - Although there is no rota at the moment your ministry of reading is still needed. Readers are asked to wear the disposable gloves

provided as you have to touch the lectern and lectionary. Please speak to me about reading before Mass at the weekend and weekdays. Thanks.

**Public Mass** - A reminder of the guidance for the celebration of Mass in public:

- \* Please be aware that there is a limit to how many people may attend Mass at any one time – **numbers for each Mass are restricted to 50 people**. A steward is needed to count the people on entering the church.
- \* Please keep the **Social Distance of 1 metre +** and use the hand sanitisers on entry and leaving. Families and households can sit together.
- \* There are no Mass or hymn books in the church. Please use Universalis or your own missal.
- \* There will be no singing and Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand only. I will make the necessary announcements before Mass.
- \* The toilet and the servery are out of use.
- \* Volunteers are needed to help clean the church.

Your co-operation is essential to the health and safety of everyone.

**The Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride: Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020** - Pump up your tyres, dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route from your own door to visit as many of the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can. \*PLUS, you can join with others in your parish to win £1,000 for your church by becoming the parish with the most improved amount of money raised. Simply get sponsored for each building you visit or make a donation - find out more at [www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride](http://www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride)



**Sea Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (Collections postponed)** - On 12th July Christians around the world will celebrate Sea Sunday. We are asked to pray for seafarers and fishers and their families, many of whom are facing financial and personal difficulties during these challenging times. In England and Wales, the Catholic Bishops have decided to postpone the Sea Sunday 2020 collection from July 12<sup>th</sup> to December. The date has not yet been finalised, but it is likely to be either Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

**The Legend of St Swithin (15th July): Any truth?** - There is an old legend, trotted out every year, that the summer's weather can be predicted by observing what happens on St.



Swithin's day, 15th July. If it rains on St. Swithin's Day, the tradition says, it will rain every day for the next 40 days. Can there be any truth in the saying? Apparently yes! Obviously, it's not the case that the 15th July sets out the weather for the next 40 days for sure, but there is a pattern whereby the weather in mid-July sets the stage for what is to follow. The jet-stream's position, for example, greatly affects British weather in the summer, and its position is often fixed by mid-July for several weeks thereafter. So, the weather for a week either side of St. Swithin's Day is indeed a general indication of what the rest of the summer's weather may be like.