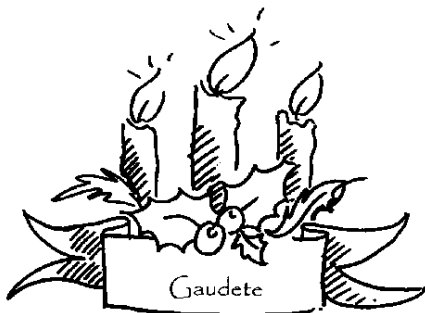


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



What Must We Do?

The third Sunday in Advent is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday, Gaudete meaning to rejoice. Rejoicing, exulting, being happy and singing for joy are the themes in today's liturgy. But how are we to feel happy in a world where there isn't much to feel happy about what must we do? John the Baptist gives us the answer, "If anyone has two tunics," he says, he must share with the man who has none."

We have all experienced the joy of giving a gift..... the inner glow that comes with knowing we have bought someone exactly what they always wanted. We experience this same pleasure in sharing what we have with those who have nothing. To the tax collector and the soldier John says, "Exact no more than your rate. Be content with your pay."

What joy is there in gain if it's at someone else's expense? Do we really get any satisfaction at saving a couple of pence at the supermarket knowing it is at the expense of a third world farmer working for virtually nothing at all? At this season in particular we remember not to exploit those who work hard for little profit. We remember whilst doing our Christmas shopping to look for the 'Fair Trade' labels. If we are employers, we remember not to make unreasonable demands in order to line our own pockets. Most importantly this Christmas, we remember that happiness comes from being content with what we have.

Bitesize – "Too many people miss the silver lining because they're expecting gold."
~ Maurice Setter



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.

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt – Telephone: 01362 694066

Email: Brendan.Moffatt@rcdea.org.uk

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

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

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

Email: martin.sanderson@rcdea.org.uk

Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: michaeljwking@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds:

Email: kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com

12TH DECEMBER 2021 – 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C

[3rd Week of Advent, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 3]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 11 Dec.	6.00 pm	3 rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)	P. & H.'s Ints. (9/10) Holy Souls The People of the Parish
Sun. 12 Dec.	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 13 Dec.	10.00 am	St Lucy	Jane Morriscoe (Cummings)
Tues. 14 Dec.	-	St John of the Cross	No Mass today
Weds. 15 Dec.	-	Advent Feria	No Mass today
Thurs. 16 Dec.	10.00 am	Advent Feria	John Perkins
Fri. 17 Dec.	10.00 am	Advent Feria	Liam, Kathy Mealy & Family (PM)
Sat. 18 Dec.	-	Advent Feria	No morning Mass
Sun. 19 Dec.	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	4 th Sunday of Advent	Martin Mealy (PM) Holy Souls The People of the Parish

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - from 9.25 a.m. – 9.55 a.m.
before each weekday Mass.**

The Church is open daily until 5:00pm

Anniversaries this week: Dorothy Rayner, Frederick Lambert, Felix Jackson, David Lines, George Harmer, Adrian Ring-Davies, Mary Butler, Phyllis Thurstance, Fred Evans, Tony Lovelace, Kevin Bayne, Susan Frosdick, Olive Maude Thompson. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

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

ALL MASSES ARE LIVE STREAMED ON YouTube –

Search for **Dereham Catholic Church** on YouTube, or use the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-qWs-B40VTvbezZ83MxQ/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 any member of your family is admitted to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and would like to have a visit from a Catholic Priest, please inform a nurse on the ward and contact will be made through the Chaplaincy. If you are admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn, please contact Fr. Peter Rollings at the Presbytery on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick before going into hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan either by phone or by email.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – Please pray for: Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Derek Williams, Greta Cummings, Patsy Gray, Allan Michael Howard, Collette Barrow-Nessian, Terri Sanderson, Ellen Harrington, Christopher Bingham, Betty Reavey, Marion Ring-Davies.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £456.50 on 28th November and £693.66 (includes £500 donation) last weekend for the day-to-day running of our parish. Thank you also for your offertory donations made by Standing Order for November 2021 which amounted to £1,336.00. **This weekend**, there is a retiring collection after all Masses for the **Dependent Priests' Fund**.

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.

130 Club Draw for November 2021 - 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 36, Roland Terry; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 115, Philip Borthwick; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 42, Pat Grout; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 129, Marcia Slee; 5th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 90, Marion Ring-Davies.



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.

Gaudete Sunday - Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. The Latin Gaudete is translated as Rejoice, the first word of the introit. The reference to joy, hope and optimism are dominant at this point in Advent. The lesson we can take from this is that Christians ought to be the most hopeful and cheerful of people, bringing both joy and peace into their homes and families, workplaces, and social circles. If you can't feel cheerful to order, use the opportunity to work out which parts of your life fill you with the most optimism.

First Communion Classes – Classes have now broken up for the Christmas Holidays. Classes will resume on Saturday, 8th January 2022.

Christmas Masses:

- * Dec. 24, Christmas Eve: **6.00 pm** (Private Intention) & **10.00 pm** (Private Intention)
- * Dec. 25, Christmas Day: **10.00 am** (The People of the Parish)
- * Dec. 26, **9.00 am & 11.00 am** (The People of the Parish)

Synodal Path – The Synodal Path for the Diocese has now been launched and is waiting for your response! You can contribute by completing the online survey questions on the Diocesan website or through the Parish website, or click here to begin the survey - <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/synodal-pathway/>. Don't forget to include the name of your Parish. Responses need to be completed by 8th March 2022 and will then become part of the Diocese's submission.

Prayer of the heart: A Day of Recollection for Women led by the Dominican Sisters, Blackfriars, Cambridge, 15th January, 2022 10am-5pm. Suggested donation of £10.00. Bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided. To register email Bonnie Lander Johnson: mflc.eastanglia@rcdea.org.uk

Shelter at Christmas 2021 - This year 'Shelter' is inviting us to spread some joy with their Christmas e-cards in order to support their fight for the homeless. Send your best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with Shelter's online greeting cards. Choose from Shelter's range of traditional or religious designs. Just pick which one you like, add your message, donate and send. It's easy. Visit the page at www.england.shelter.org.uk/support_us/ecards. In looking to support the homeless at Christmas you can also visit: www.crisis.org.uk or www.focusireland.ie

Be A Christmas Foodbank Hero - We've become accustomed to the foodbanks in the doorways of our supermarkets. We've become accustomed to foodbank volunteers handing out leaflets at the bottom of the supermarket escalators. We've become so accustomed to the sight that it has blended into our 'wallpaper mindset'. But what we must try to remember is that in 2020/21 approximately 2.5 million people used a food bank in the United Kingdom, over 600 thousand more than the previous year. Throughout the provided time period the number of food bank users has increased in every year, from just under 26 thousand in 2008/09. At Christmas more than ever we are asked to donate one or two simple items each time we visit the supermarket.

Prayer for the Election of a Bishop - God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

St Felix: *Pray for us*; St Fursey: *Pray for us*; St Edmund: *Pray for us*;
All Holy Martyrs and Saints of East Anglia: *Pray for us*.