

**PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART
AND ST.MARGARET MARY, EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK**

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JANUARY 13th 2013 : FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6.0pm Int. For the People
Sunday 9.0am Int.
11.0am Int.

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
10.0am Int.
Tuesday FERIA
10.0am Int.
Wednesday ST.FURSEY
10.0am Int. Kenneth May
Thursday ST.ANTHONY
No services today
Friday FERIA
10.0am Int.
Saturday FERIA
10.30am Int. +Ethel Seabrooke
6.0pm Int. For the People

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday Noon and 5.30pm, or by appointment.

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 10.30am; Benediction at 11.0am.

The Rosary Friday 10.30am

The Divine Office

The Office is said a quarter of an hour before the Mass on Weekdays. This week we use Psalter Week 1

The Mass today

The readings can be found on p.118 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.120 of The Sunday Missal.

At the 6.0pm Mass	Eucharistic Prayer 2
<i>Sanctus & Benedictus</i>	Schubert
Hymns	(<i>Angelus</i>) 172, 171
At the 9.0am Mass	Eucharistic Prayer 3
<i>Sanctus & Benedictus</i>	Schubert
Hymns	720, 172, 171
At the 11.0am Mass	Eucharistic Prayer 1
<i>Gloria</i>	Sacred Heart
<i>Sanctus & Benedictus</i>	Schubert
Hymns	171, 172, 607, (<i>Angelus</i>) 887

The Psalm Response for all of the Masses is printed at the bottom of the page.

This Sunday the quarter-hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass will precede the 6.0pm Mass. Next Sunday, it will take place before the 9.0am Mass.

Christmastide ends today. Tomorrow, the liturgical colour will be green once more. This week, we return to Psalter Week One for the Offices ; the Sunday Mass readings will be those for Year C, and the Daily Mass readings are those appointed for Year One.

THIS WEEK

Monday 7.30pm Queen of Peace Prayer Group at the Presbytery. All welcome.

Saturday 10.30am-11.30am Saturday club, for young people aged five to twelve.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries Rachel McErleane (2008), Ellen Carey (2002), Nell Jones (1992), Amy Garvey (1990), Arthur Longhurst (1994), and Frances Kelly (2007). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters It was very good that we were able to raise some money for *LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!* over Christmas : The ‘Parish Christmas Card’ board brought in £107, and the ‘Guess the name of the Teddy’, £55.

Today, an opportunity to support the work of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC). The traditional ‘white flowers’ will be at the back of church ; please put your contribution into the basket there if you would like to do so.

130 Club – December Draw

Qty. Prize	£100	Elaine Wilkes
1st Prize	£20	Jim Hyland
2nd Prize	£15	Greta Cummings
3rd Prize	£10	Joan Wells
4th Prize	£10	Ron Thurstance
5th Prize	£10	David Wright

Olive Oil soap from the Holy Land

Brian Moran writes ‘A parishioner has recently asked me to provide him with some more of this soap, made as a cottage industry in the Palestinian village of Aboud on the West Bank of the Jordan. It is a natural, non perfumed soap manufactured using olive oil obtained from the local olive trees. The money raised helps to support Christian families in the village who live in extremely difficult circumstances surrounded by the Israeli military. I have put up a list at the back of church if anyone else is interested. Cost is £2 a bar.’

THE HIDDEN YEARS

The incident which we recall today, The Baptism of Our Lord in the Jordan, brings to an end the so-called ‘hidden years’, the thirty years when Our Lord lived quietly at Nazareth. After his Baptism by St.John, what we call his ‘public ministry’ began – three years of intensive traveling and teaching which culminated in his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Only St.Luke’s recording of single one occasion breaks the silence of those ‘hidden years’ : the time when Mary and Joseph took the twelve-year old Child to Jerusalem, and having lost him there, finally found him in the Temple, conversing with the doctors of the Law.

The first thing which strikes me about the ‘hidden years’ is quite simply their length. Thirty

years represent a large proportion of anyone’s life, and they are long indeed compared with the remaining three years before Our Lord’s death and resurrection. It means that by far the longer part of his incarnate life was spent in absolute obscurity. Those years are hidden indeed. How we long to know more than the single incident which St.Luke recounts. But I think that this length of time serves to emphasize that the Word has indeed been made flesh, and has LIVED AMONGST US, as St.John says. Our Lord, God the Son, has shared in the ordinariness, the hardship, the dullness, of everyday life. He doubtless worked very hard as a carpenter. Perhaps he was cheated and despised. He certainly lived a life which people of today would find very uncomfortable. No bathrooms. Little heating. A simple, maybe boring, diet. No soft chairs and beds. And all this not for a token year or two, but for thirty years. It is both moving and comforting that Our Lord has shared so fully and so deeply in our everyday experience. We think of the wonderful humility of the Son of God in his endurance of the manger and the Cross. But there is an equally impressive expression of his humility in the living-out of that ordinary, hidden, life for thirty years.

But if these ‘hidden years’ teach us about Our Lord’s humility, I think that they also teach us about his patience. Patience is something which we find difficulty : so many of us have to confess impatience when we make our Confession! We get impatient with both ourselves and with other people, and we can’t wait for things to happen. We are, people say, an ‘instant society’, in which we want instant action and instant gratification. No waiting, no anticipating. But Our Lord waited for thirty years before beginning the work of our salvation. Or should we say that? Weren’t those thirty years of ordinary life a precious part of his saving work? For they were years of perfect obedience to the Father’s will , and wasn’t it that perfect obedience of Christ the new Man which was offered to the Father, and brought about our salvation? Certainly in his public ministry, including his Passion and Death, we see the offering of that perfect obedience to the Father’ will. But don’t we see it too in the living out of those thirty hidden years in Nazareth?