

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Wheat and Weeds - Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a field in which the master has sown good seed. In the night, an enemy comes and plants weeds, so when the crop grows it is a mixture of wheat and weed. The servants' instinct is to pull the weeds out, but the master demands that the bad grow alongside the good ... he himself will sort the wheat from the weeds at the final harvest.

It's a typical Palestinian problem, the darnel weed, which looks just like wheat in its early stages, is a menace to the harvest. The roots of the darnel weed intertwine with the roots of the wheat. To pull the darnel out can jeopardise the harvest. Similarly, just as it's hard to tell the difference between wheat and darnel, so it's not always easy for us to tell the difference between good and evil. A bad person can change and become good, and a seemingly good person might not be as virtuous as we imagine. It's best if we refrain from judging; this job is best left to God.

In films and novels, the good guys always win and the bad guys always get their come-uppance. Happy endings satisfy our human sense of justice, but in reality, justice seems strangely elusive. We come up against evil time and time again. Sometimes we get so angry that we want to take justice into our own hands. Sometimes we are incensed that God can allow evil to grow alongside good, but before we get too irate, maybe we need to stop and take a good long look in the mirror. What makes us so sure that we're not weeds too? Where did we get that assurance that we are represented in the parable as the wheat?

Rarely is reality black and white. We all have good and bad inside us. We all need to change, and we all deserve the opportunity to make those changes. Perhaps this is the reason Jesus' advises us to leave the evil to grow alongside the good. As Martin Luther King Jnr. once said, "God's purpose is not wrathful judgement. God's purpose is redemption, and the road to redemption is by way of reconciliation."

Bitesize – "Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be." ~Thomas à Kempis, *Imitation of Christ*



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

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

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

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19TH JULY 2020 – 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A

[16th Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 4]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 18 July	6.00 pm	16 th Sunday in Ord. Time	Francis Perrin Holy Souls (<i>praying for Covid-19 Dec'd</i>) The People of the Parish
Sun. 19 July	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 20 July	10.00 am	Feria	Private Int.
Tues. 21 July	-	Feria	No Mass today
Weds. 22 July	10.00 am	S Mary Magdalen	Special Int.
Thurs. 23 July	10.00 am	S Bridget, Patron of Europe	Holy Souls (<i>praying for Covid-19 Dec'd</i>)
Fri. 24 July	10.00 am	Feria	Holy Souls (<i>praying for Covid-19 Dec'd</i>)
Sat. 25 July	-	S James	No morning Mass
Sun. 26 July	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	17 th Sunday in Ord. Time	Jeannette & Derrick Harris Holy Souls (<i>praying for Covid-19 Dec'd</i>) 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.

MASS LIVE STREAM – Follow the link to YouTube:

<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.

Anniversaries this week: Peter Lindsay, John Davies, Tomasz Wyrwik, Doris Cousal, Emily Veronica (Vera) Noden, Margaret Harlow, David Thompkins. *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: 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 generous offerings last weekend for the maintenance of our parish which amounted to £615.50. Your contributions can be placed in the plastic bucket on the table at the back of the church.

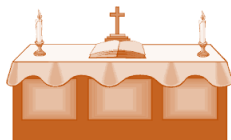
For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: **Catholic Church of Dereham**. The Sort Code is: **40-20-08** and the Account number is: **11311115**. If you are a tax payer, please also consider **Gift Aid**. This is a great way 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 - I have received positive feedback from parishioners who have watched Mass live streamed from Sacred Heart and they say that they have drawn benefit from it. Reports are that both sound and picture are good. I will have to learn to use the remote control a bit better. The two cameras are operated by the celebrant with the remote control. **There is a consent form for the parents of altar servers who are under the age of 18 years to sign because of the live streaming.** This is to keep us in accordance with the safeguarding policies of the diocese. I have the forms in the sacristy.



Wearing Masks - If you wish to wear a mask at Mass please do so. Wearing masks/face coverings will soon be mandatory in shops anyway. Please bring your own mask.

Church Cleaning – There is a new church cleaning rota available and cleaning teams are please asked to collect their copy from the letter rack.

Hymns for the Brain - It's well known that if you are suffering with dementia, singing can help improve wellbeing, alertness and mood. Research shows that musical memory is often retained when other memories are lost; music can help people to recall memories due to the nature of preserved memory for song and music in the brain. It is sad that we cannot sing in our churches at the moment, but if you want to sing in the privacy of your own home, you can join an online choir, or sing-along with YouTube or a CD, TV and radio. Remember to sing and sing to remember.

The Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride: Saturday, 12th 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



Care for Our Common Home: Plastic Free July - Join millions of people reducing their plastic waste this summer. Plastic Free July is a global movement that helps millions of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution so we can have cleaner streets, oceans, and beautiful communities. Will you be part of Plastic Free July by choosing to refuse single-use plastics?

Charity Shops: Open for Donations - The charity shops began to re-open in mid-June. There are still restrictions in the charity shops, but most shops are still inviting our donations the same as usual. Take extra care when donating to make sure everything is clean and wiped down. Some shops may be overwhelmed with the amount of donations people have been storing up during lockdown. Try staggering your donations if you have a lot.

