

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### If You Could Choose A Miracle?

If you were in Jesus' shoes and you were about to grab the world's attention with your first miracle, what might that first miracle be? Might you reverse global warming or end poverty? Jesus' first miracle was to turn water into wine at the Wedding of Cana. To many it seems a frivolous kind of miracle something akin to a party trick, but John relates the miracle with good reason. John's gospel is quite different in character from the other three. It's written in

a very symbolic style, and it doesn't follow the same order, or record the same stories as the others. St. John is concerned in showing us signs, which gradually reveal the glory of God through Jesus. The author seems to be mainly interested in the significance of the deeds of Jesus. So what is the significance of this miracle? John writes, "This is written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." Suddenly confronted with enough wine to swim in, the disciples had no choice but to begin to believe in who Jesus really was. Neither would the symbolism have been lost on the people of the time. It was the people's belief that at the time of salvation God would provide a table for feasting for his servants and a cup that would never run dry. In short, the substance of the sign was of no consequence at all; it was the message the sign conveyed that was all-important.

The symbolism we read in this first miracle speaks of an old religion bogged down with oppressive rules and laws liberated by a new faith governed by love, compassion, joy, generosity, and abundance. Being a Christian is a very serious business, and as Christians we are asked to address life and death issues, but that doesn't mean we should trudge around with long pious faces. Jesus frequently likens the Kingdom of God to a feast, so smile.... the changing of water to wine is a sign of better things to come.

**Bitesize** - 'We look forward to the time when the Power of Love will replace the Love of Power. Then will our world know the blessings of peace.'  
~ William Ewart Gladstone



**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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### 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019 – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C

[2<sup>nd</sup> Week of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 2]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	6.0 m	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time (Peace Sunday) [Parish Mass Book p127]	Priest's Int.
Sun. 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	9.00 am 11.00 am		People of the Parish Maria Alexandra Coita Pita
Mon. 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan.	10.00 am	St. Agnes	Priest's Int.
Tues. 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan.	-	Feria	<b>No Mass today – PP's day off</b>
Weds. 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan.	10.00 am	Feria	Priest's Int.
Thurs. 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	10.00 am	St. Francis de Sales	Bill Sibley
Fri. 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	10.00 am	The Conversion of St. Paul (Feast)	Priest's Int.
Sat. 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	10.30 am	SS Timothy & Titus	Priest's Int.
Sat. 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	6.00 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time	Priest's Int.
Sun. 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	9.00 am 11.00 am		People of the Parish

#### Music for 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time – Setting: The New People's Mass

**Entry:** 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 632 – Come to the feast of heaven and earth! Come to the table of plenty! ...

**The Psalm is sung at the 6pm Mass this week: *℟*: Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.**

**Offertory:** Hymn 627 – This is my body, broken for you ...

**Recessional:** 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 662 – O bread of heaven, beneath this veil ...

#### 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:** Perpetua Cecine Triggs, Gwen Dawes, Betty McGee, Maisie Aylin, Queenie Minnie Hogan, Stanley Brocklesby, Anne Cairns, Laura O'Halloran, Bill Sibley, George Mayer, Ivor Vincent and Magdolna Toth. *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, Peter Gormans, Sarah Chaudri, Rita Smith, Carol Whitesides, Catherine (Kay) Garrard, Robert Nicol, Eileen Brocklesby and Neville Hibberd.

**Money Matters:** Thank you for your offering of £410.45 last weekend for the day-to-day running of our parish. **This Sunday is Peace Sunday** and there is an optional Diocesan retiring collection for Pax Christi after all Masses this weekend.

Diary Dates for this week -		
Tues. 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan.	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Emmaus Room
Weds. 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan.	7.30pm	SVP Conference meeting – Emmaus Room
Fri. 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	7.15 – 8.15pm	Altar Servers meeting – Emmaus Room
Sat. 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	11.00am	Saturday Club - Emmaus Room

**Welcome** to the Revd. James Rosie from St. Nicholas to speak at 11.00am Mass this weekend. It is now the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity.

**Retreat** – My retreat at St. Mary's College, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, was very good. It was led by an American priest from Boston, Massachusetts and I thoroughly enjoyed it. It is just as well that I am not a seminarian today or I would be twice my current size. Enough said.

**World Youth Day Prayer Vigil, 26<sup>th</sup> January** at St. Oswald's Church, 933 Lincoln Road, Walton, Peterborough, PE4 6AE. Come and join the Ignite Team in prayer on the same night as the World Youth Day vigil with Pope Francis in Panama! The evening will start at 7:30pm and conclude at midnight. There will be Adoration throughout with people being welcome to come and go over the course of the evening. For more information please contact the Ignite Team at: [igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk).

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019, 18th - 25th January** - Each day during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, CTBI (Churches Together in Britain and Ireland) provides a

starting point, reflection, questions and a prayer based on the theme. Visit [www.ctbi.org.uk/goanddo/](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/goanddo/)

### World Day of Prayer for Peace 2019, "Good politics is at the service of peace"

- On the Second Sunday of Ordinary time we mark the annual World Day of Peace with a message titled: "Good Politics is at the Service of Peace." Pope Francis compels everyone to be engaged in the work of advocating for and with those whose voices are marginalized, to ensure the protection and fulfilment of the 'youngest and smallest.' **To do: Pray.** Pray for the grace to approach all political and social issues from a starting point of faith, love, and a spirit of generosity. **Learn.** Faithful citizenship requires us to understand the political and social issues that impact our brothers and sisters throughout the world. Read a good newspaper every day. **Act.** Join tens of thousands of Catholics to advocate for policies that support justice and peace and those experiencing poverty or conflict around the world.



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**World Religion Day, 25th January: "A Time of Bright Prospects"** - The aim of World Religion Day is to foster the establishment of interfaith understanding and harmony by emphasizing the common denominators underlying all religions. The message of World Religion Day is that mankind, which has stemmed from one origin, must now strive towards the reconciliation of that which has been split up. Human unity and true equality depend not on past origins, but on future goals. Unity means understanding what makes us the same, rather than dwelling on what makes us different. To learn about other world faiths visit [www.worldreligionday.org](http://www.worldreligionday.org)

### The Angelus

∇. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. **R.** *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary ...*

∇. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. **R.** *Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary ...*

∇. And the Word was made flesh. **R.** *And dwelt among us. Hail Mary ...*

∇. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. **R.** *That we may be made worth of the promises of Christ.*

**Let us pray:** Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may, by his Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.