

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



### Motivation

'Motivation' is what gets us out of bed in the morning, but motivation comes in all sorts of packages some good and some not so good. Perhaps we get out of bed because we are afraid of getting into trouble for arriving late into work. Perhaps we get out of bed because we need to get paid. For those of us who are more blessed, we get out of bed because life is full of rewards. For most of us, life is a series of highs and lows, but we all know that the 'highs' are few and far between. For most of us life is a series of chores and we can often feel burdened by drudgery and frustration.

In today's gospel reading, Peter James and John are feeling demoralised and fearful about talk of Jesus' imminent death. To motivate them in this difficult period of their discipleship, Jesus leads them up a high mountain where they see a vision of a transfigured Jesus in dazzling white accompanied by Moses and Elijah. If the moment were not so poignant, Peter's reaction might make us laugh. He suggests erecting three tents in which to hold on to the vision.

But is Peter's suggestion so ludicrous? Anything worth achieving in this life is difficult. As we strive towards our goals we are often tested by setbacks, doubts, fear, boredom and fatigue. At times like this it's helpful to remind ourselves of our original goal. Taking time out to visualise our goals is a very powerful tool when we need to re-motivate ourselves. Keeping our minds focussed on the ultimate rewards can keep us going when times get tough. Peter, James and John had a moment of revelation that day on the mountain top, and although they could not capture that moment by erecting tents, they had that glimpse of glory to remember and keep with them forever through the testing times ahead.

Christians do not have a quick fix remedy for making problems in life go away, but we share the same motivating vision of God's kingdom as we struggle with life's 'lows'.

There's a cheesy old song that goes "You have to have a dream if you want to make a dream come true." The message isn't all that cheesy though. If we want to make something worthwhile happen, we have to fix a moment of truth firmly in our memory or set out to find one.

**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 Website: <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>  
Notre Dame High School, Norwich: Website <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>

## **PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY** [Reg. Charity 278742]

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## **21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2016 – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

### **Sunday Masses – Page 156 of Parish Mass Book**

Saturday	6.00 pm	Nora Casey
Sunday	9.00 am	Sheila Christie (Tinney)
	11.00 am	People of the Parish

### **Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass**

**Entry** 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 209 – How good, Lord, to be here! ...

**Gospel Acclamation** – Hymn 184 – Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory

**Offertory** Hymn 211- Our Father, we have wandered ...

**Communion** Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...

**Recessional** 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 970 – Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart ...

### **CONFESSOR/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm**

### **Weekday Mass Times (2<sup>nd</sup> week of Lent) [Psalter Week 2]**

Mon.	No Mass Today	- The Chair of St Peter the Apostle (Feast)
Tues.	No Mass Today	- Lent Feria
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Eucharistic Service - Lent Feria</b>
Thurs.	No Mass Today	- Lent Feria
Fri.	No Mass Today	- Lent Feria
	6.00 pm	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Silent Adoration</b>
	6.30 pm	<b>Evening Prayer (Vespers)</b>
	7.15 pm	<b>Stations of the Cross (Led by the Altar Servers' Group)</b>
Sat.	No morning Mass	- Lent Feria
	6.00 pm	- 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week.

**Anniversaries this week:** Grace Chipperfield, Isabel Joan Hooper, Bridget Drury, Vera Farmer, Dora Ellen Heasman, Frances Watson, John Edwards, Cecilia Stack, Maria Amaral, Ruth Fahey, Jolyon Hooley and Robert Secker. *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 (QEII), King's Lynn, 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 Fr Peter Rollings (01553 772220) for visits to QEII. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

**Sick List - Please pray for:** Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Robert Nicol, Doreen Kanssen, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, David & Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Rhonda Darby, Collette Barrow-Nessian, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd and Pat Grout.

**Money Matters** – The collection last weekend was £508.53 Thank you very much for your generosity. The parish also received £140.21 from Norfolk Churches Trust from the Sponsored Cycle Ride. Today, there is the retiring collection for CAFOD Lent Fast Day. If you are a tax payer, please fill in your details in the Gift Aid portion on your CAFOD envelopes this week. Remember that the Government will match £ for £ in CAFOD donations.

**Diary Dates for this week –**

- Fri. 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Altar Servers – To lead Stations of the Cross – 7.15pm
- Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Saturday Club meets - 11.00am in Emmaus Room

**130 Club January Draw** - 1<sup>st</sup> Prize £20 – Joan Wells; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15 – Jeannette Harrison; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10 – MAD Knight; 4<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – John Richardson; 5<sup>th</sup> Prize £10 – Lesley Hogan.

**Holiday** – I will be on holiday from the end of the 11.00 am Mass on Sunday and I will be back for evening Mass on Sat. 5th March. I am looking forward to spending some time with my family in Co. Wicklow, the garden county of Ireland.. In my absence, the Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers) will be making their Mission Appeal at all Masses next weekend. While I am away, the Presbytery telephone number will be diverted to Deacon Martin's landline.

**Parish Meeting.** Thank you all for the meeting we had last Sunday. The turnout was wonderful, the food, atmosphere and discussion were equally wonderful. The minutes will be published as soon as possible. For those who could not be present copies of the reports are at the back of the church. The reports are also available to read on the parish website. I feel that this way of meeting may well be the right format for us to have our discussions about our parish life and I feel confident about holding another such meeting later in the year.

**Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Day** – “Journeying”: an enriching Day of Prayer, Teaching and Renewal on Saturday, 27th February 2016, from 10.00am to 4.30pm at Bowthorpe Church Centre, Norwich NR5 9AA. Led by Tim Stevens, a retired Senior Detective, now working full time for Catholic Faith Exploration. Drinks provided. Packed lunch needed. Childcare is available – to book a place for your child (and for more details of the day) contact Philip Waters, Chair of the Diocesan Service Team, on 07910157584.

**Dereham Churches Together – 1<sup>st</sup> March** – Dereham Churches Together invite you to an Evening of Praise, Prayer and Fellowship hosted by Dereham Baptist church on Tuesday 1st March at 7.30 pm. Leaflets are at the back of the church. It was our turn to host this event, but as I am away we will host it later in the year.

**News from our Rome Correspondent** - "Well, the exam season is over – thanks be to God! – and because of the hard work of the extremely efficient academic staff here at the college, the results were in the day after the programme was completed. The Roman system for seminaries is oral examinations only, which is just as well, because my wrists wouldn't be able to handle the three-hour written papers I did as a young undergraduate so many years ago.

As well as many days of frantic revision, the January timetable included a delayed Christmas lunch (because most of the students were away during the Christmas period) and a special ecumenical service as part of the week for Christian unity at which representatives of other churches here in Rome attended the college. The reflection at this latter event was given by the local Methodist minister, who offered a wonderful analysis of the Second Vatican Council and the work that it set in motion for the Church. We also had one of our regular visits from a voice specialist who teaches the students public speaking and who is exceptionally helpful but very challenging in her demands that we are loud, clear, and focused when participating in the liturgy so that people can easily hear and understand us (I imagine many Catholic congregations would support her efforts!).

We have just completed a few days of rest and now have a week's silent retreat before the second semester begins, bringing more of the same – more essays, more exams, more rotas, more services, and more awareness of how very blessed I am to be here. Thank you as always for your generosity to the seminary students of the diocese, and please be assured of my prayers, my good wishes, and my hopes to see you again before very long. *In Christ, Mike Brookes, (Half a year in Rome, and only three-and-a-half more years to go, God willing).*"

**Bite Size**

“Occasionally ask, ‘What is the connection between what I want most in life and anything I plan to do today?’” (Robert Brault)