

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Transcending Life's Storms

Fear of what others might think of us; fear of getting things wrong; fear of our children getting things wrong; fear of poverty; fear of the bills in the letter box; fear of opposition; fear of illness; fear of loneliness or alienation; fear of running out of time - most of us fear something and our fears all have something in common. We fear most the things that seem beyond our control.

In today's gospel the disciples are out in their fishing boat when a storm whips up the waves. Water crashes into the little fishing boat threatening to sink it. Jesus sleeps on a cushion in the stern, and to the disciples he seems not to care. Can we identify with the frightened disciples? When our lives are out of control that's when most of us pray our hardest, and when our prayers are answered we either thank God or perhaps, if we're honest, we imagine that the problem wasn't as bad as we thought in the first place. Only when God seems indifferent to our prayers is our faith called into real question. If God has the power to quell life's storms why does He seem to remain indifferent? The trouble with God is that He doesn't rush round fixing the lottery for us or texting us with our dream job. Would we really expect God to behave like this? Yet it's at times when God seems to do nothing that we need our faith most. It's at times like this that our faith is hardest to find.

It's a very useful exercise to look back at life and take a second look at the seemingly insurmountable problems that we have navigated in the past. We might imagine that we have conquered our own problems single handed. In retrospect, it is clear that God has steered us safely through the storms often in totally unexpected and surprising ways. The great comfort is that God has helped us before, He will help us again and again.

We will always have fear, it's part of our human condition, but as Christians we have a way of transcending it. We are asked to remember Jesus' words "Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?" We are asked to remember that even the wind and the sea obey him. If we have faith that Jesus is the master of our lives and that God has ultimate control, then we need feel no fear.

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt - email: brendanmoffatt@yahoo.co.uk

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

Telephone: 01362 694066.

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

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

email: dcnmsanderson@hotmail.com

Diocesan Website: <http://www.catholiceastanglia.org>

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

21ST JUNE 2015 – 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses – Page 98 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Priest's Intention
Sunday	9.00 am	Joe Winandy
	11.00 am	People of the Parish

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass

Processional 6pm – *Angelus (said); Hymn 934, Dear Lord & Father of mankind..*

Offertory Hymn 959, *All my hope on God is founded..*

Communion *Instrumental Interlude at player's discretion*

Recessional 11am – *Angelus (said); Hymn 963, Eternal Father, strong to save..*

Confession/Reconciliation - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm

Weekday Services [*Morning Prayer – Psalter Week 4*]

Mon.	10.00 am	Priest's Int. - SS John Fisher & Thomas More
Tues.	No Mass today	St. Etheldreda
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	No Mass today	Birth of St John the Baptist
Thurs.	10.00 am	Priest's Int. - Feria
Fri.	10.00 am	Priest's Int. - Dedication of the Cathedral
Sat.	10.30 am	Priest's Int. – Feria
	6.00 pm	Priest's Int. – Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul

Anniversaries this week: John McGee, Thomas Murphy, Mary Holmes, Mary Rush, John Frizzell, Dorothy Payne, Michael Howard, Maureen Jacobs, John Zuhlke and Barry McGrath. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Money Matters (*O yes, it does!*) – The collection last weekend came to £481.10. Standing Orders to the Parish came to £397.00. Thank you all very much. Next week there will be a retiring collection for Peter's Pence (Peter's (£s) Pounds if you prefer).

Hospital Visits – If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call St John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615). If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Ministry to Priests takes place at Clare Priory this week, so there will not be a Mass on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Feast of the Sacred Heart Celebration with Bishop Alan – This was a wonderful celebration of faith and community. It was a truly joyful occasion. Bishop Alan enjoyed himself and the feeling on the occasion was lovely. Thank you to all who helped in any way and to all who came. I thought our Altar Servers were very impressive!

Re-commissioning of Lay Eucharistic Ministers – A reminder that I propose that the re-commissioning should take place next weekend at each Mass. If there is anyone who feels that he/she would like to step down from this ministry then now is the time to do so. Thank you for all your work in administering Holy Communion, especially to the sick and housebound.

Parish Music – Our Parish Music Coordinator is Michael King, who is looking to expand our current choirs for each Mass with cantors, singers, and instrumentalists. Please contact Michael if you have any experience or interest - all are welcome. He who sings, prays twice! Michael can be contacted via email at michaeljwking@gmail.com or telephone 07544208143.

Nativity of John the Baptist 24th June - A prophet is simply a spokesperson, a job each of us could undertake to varying degrees. Like John, each of us is born for a purpose. The ministry of John the Baptist continues in each of us.

Thomas More and John Fisher - Matters of Conscience

22nd June - On this day we remember those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights. Close friends, Thomas More and John Fisher, refused to render allegiance to King Henry VIII as the Head of the Church. As a result they were tried and convicted of treason and executed. Thomas More told the court that he could not go against his conscience and wished his judges that "we may yet hereafter in heaven merrily all meet together to everlasting salvation." Today we are not asked to die for matters of conscience but we are asked to live by them.



The Jesuit Refugee Service - Fr Ziad Hilal SJ, a Syrian priest who works with Jesuit Refugee Services in Homs, gave a harrowing account of his work with thousands of families forced from their homes by Islamic State (Daish) at the Pax Christi AGM in London this month. He also appealed for world leaders to start a new round of peace talks. Find out more about the work of the 'Jesuit Refugee Service' by subscribing to their newsletter at www.jrs.net or www.jrsuk.net

Marie Curie Cook Book - Merelina Raker's mother in law, Melinda Raker, is a patron of Marie Curie and has worked tirelessly with Mary Kemp (cookery writer and demonstrator) and Vanessa Scott (owner of Strattons hotel in Swaffham) over the past two years to create Norfolk's Own Cookbook "Everything Stops For Tea" with 192 pages of teatime recipes from 80 of Norfolk's own top chefs, retailers food producers and growers. It really is a work of art! It was launched at Norwich Castle last week. Every £20 of the sale price goes directly to Marie Curie for palliative care. Do look at the website: www.norfolksowncookbook.com. Merelina will be selling the book at the back of church after the 11am Mass. The price is £20 for the book and £30 for the book and a lovely tea towel and cloth bag; a superb gift. There are sealed buckets to make it simple! And cheques can be made payable to: Norfolk's Own Cookbook. Please, please, do support such a fantastic cause. Thank you and spread the word!

Bite Size

"There is much in the world to make us afraid. There is much more in our faith to make us unafraid."

Frederick W. Cropp