

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME




Believe or leave

Like a barrister, St. John sets Jesus' case before us. He sets it out in measured bite sizes so that we can digest one fact before moving onto the next. We see Jesus healing people and curing the sick. We see him present us with a sign of his divinity in the feeding of the five thousand. We see him teaching people about the more enduring bread sent to nourish us spiritually, and finally we learn that Jesus himself is that living bread come down from heaven to give us everlasting life. The case is complete, but the audience have a sticking point. There were those amongst Jesus' disciples who could not accept that Jesus had come down from heaven, and they turned their backs and left. What was Jesus to do? Should he call them back and make the truth easier for them to understand? Should he work another miracle to convince them that little bit more? No! Jesus turns to those who are left and gives them a choice, they have heard what he has said about eating and drinking his flesh and blood, and now they have a choice. So, are they going to remain his followers or are they too going to turn their backs? The same choice is levelled at us today. We can believe or we can leave?

Difficult choices always have something in common; there is always some kind of sticking point. To make a difficult choice we often need a missing piece of information, or a new perspective. Peter gives us that perspective. "Master," he says, "to whom shall we go. You have the words of eternal life." To Peter, the choice was easy. To Peter there was really no choice to be made. Who else was there to follow but Jesus?

We make the same choice as Peter every week in Mass when we celebrate the Eucharist. In celebrating the Eucharist, we make a choice to follow where Jesus may lead.

Bitesize – If you limit your choices only to what seems possible or reasonable, you disconnect yourself from what you truly want, and all that is left is a compromise.
(Robert Fritz)



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
[Registered Charity 278742]

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MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEKS 22ND AUGUST – 12TH SEPTEMBER 2021

– Year B [21st–23rd Weeks of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Weeks 1-3]

			Intentions
Sat. 21 Aug.	6.00 pm	21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	P. & H.'s Ints. (5/10) The People of the Parish Joao Lobo & Thanks
Sun. 22 Aug.	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Weds. 25 Aug.	10.00 am	Feria	
Fri. 27 Aug.	10.00 am	St Monica	
Sat. 28 Aug.	6.00 pm	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
Sun. 29 Aug.	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 30 Aug.	10.00 am	Feria	
Wed. 1 Sept.	10.00 am	Feria (<i>World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</i>)	
Fri. 3 Sept.	10.00 am	St Gregory the Great	
Sat. 4 Sept.	6.00 pm	23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
Sun. 5 Sept.	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 6 Sept.	10.00 am	Feria	
Weds. 8 Sept.	10.00 am	The Nativity of the BVM	
Fri. 10 Sept.	10.00 am	Feria	Anisha Cyriac (2/3)
Sat. 11 Sept.	6.00 pm	24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	John Merrick (Fdn.) Terri Sanderson (Cummings) The People of the Parish
Sun. 12 Sept.	9.00 am 11.00 am		

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

ALL MASSES ARE LIVE STREAMED ON YouTube –

Search for **Dereham Catholic Church** on YouTube, or use the following link:

<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: Adrian Sheath, Damian Ring-Davies, Mary Hayter, John McGowan, Jack Stearman, Marley Coe, Jenetta Elizabeth Smith, Francis Gray, Doris Jarvis, Patrick McMahon, Alfred Chapman, John Powe, Charles Victor Mann, Elizabeth Keatley, Norah Greenlee, Conal O'Donnell, Albert Foley, Hector Frosdick, Doris Evelyn Edith Henderson, Paul Morris, Evelyn Maguire, James Robins, Eleanor Finimore, George Hill, Joan Foster, Maurice Finimore, Michael Carey. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits: If you or any member of your family is admitted to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and would like to have a visit from a Catholic Priest, please inform a nurse on the ward and contact will be made through the Chaplaincy. If you are admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn, please contact Fr. Peter Rollings at the Presbytery on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick before going into hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan either by phone or by email.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – **Please pray for:** Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Derek Williams, Greta Cummings, Patsy Gray, Allan Michael Howard, Collette Barrow-Nessian, Terri Sanderson.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering for the day-to-day running of our parish which was £201.00 on 8th August and £179 on 15th August.

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.

A Welcome Break – I will be on holiday from Sunday. The telephone line will be transferred to Deacon Martin while I am away. If you need to contact Fr. Michael Stack directly, his telephone number is 07756 464422. Please offer to support and help him in my absence. I am sure that he will appreciate your help.

Fr. John Barnes: Silver Jubilee Celebration: Sunday, 5th September 2021 at 12.30pm in the Presbytery Garden at St Felix Church, Felixstowe - Sacred Heart parishioners are warmly invited to join St Felix Church, Felixstowe, at a BBQ to mark the lifting of the Covid Lockdown and to celebrate Fr. John's (25+ 1) Silver Jubilee. Entry is free but there will be the opportunity to make a donation towards a gift for Fr. John if anyone wishes to do so. Although Fr. John was able to have a formal celebration in church last year, it was not

possible to have an informal parish gathering because of the Covid restrictions. Fr. John has very warm memories from his time as Parish Priest at Dereham, so he would love to see any of his former parishioners who can come. To assist with catering for the BBQ (hoping for good weather), please notify St Felix Parish Chairman if you are intending to go – email Stephenbadcock@doctors.org.uk

CAFOD: Responding to multiple emergencies across the world - CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. We are working with local Church organisations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, we are working to ensure the safety of our local partners and their communities. We are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.

Prayers For Afghanistan - *After the Angelus on Wednesday Pope Francis called for dialogue in Afghanistan:* - "I ask all of you to pray with me to the God of peace so that the clamour of weapons might cease and solutions can be found at the table of dialogue. Only thus can the battered population of that country – men, women, elderly and children – return to their own homes, and to live in peace and security, in total mutual respect."

Saint Monica, 27th August: A Christian saint and mother of Saint Augustine - Monica's parents brought her up as Christian and married her to an older, pagan man named Patricius. He was a man with a great deal of energy, but also a man given to violent tempers and adultery. Augustine reports that Patricius beat St. Monica. Furthermore, her mother-in-law was against her and caused a lot of trouble. Long years of prayer, coupled with a strong, well-disciplined character, Monica finally converted her hot-tempered husband, her cantankerous mother-in-law and her brilliant but wayward son, Augustine. Monica is the patron saint of wives, mothers, and abuse victims.

Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride 2021 - This year's sponsored bike ride will be taking place on **Saturday, 11th September 2021**. You can find all the details of this and last year's event in the Norfolk Churches Trust Newsletter on the parish website. You can also find the Trust on Facebook (www.facebook.com/NorfolkChurchesTrust) and on Twitter (www.twitter.com/SaveOurChurches). **There is a list up at the back of church for volunteers to be in attendance to record participants' visits.**



Welcome to our visitors who join us for Mass during the holidays. It is always a joy to welcome people from different parishes and places to join with us for Mass.