GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Exam Result Mentality



Can you remember the thrill of a good exam result? The trouble with exam results is, that despite the knowledge that exams are about measuring our own potential, we still like to compare our marks against those of our classmates. Our success is made all the more meaningful by the fact that others have done less well. If this mentality stopped at exams this wouldn't be so bad, but what happens when the same attitude spills over into the rest of our lives? Do we look down on others because they have more menial jobs, because they're on benefits, because they don't go to church

of haven't given as much to charity as we have? Do we look down on those who have made mistakes in life, who drink too much, take drugs or end up in prison? Do we measure our own righteousness against the poor decisions of others? When this mentality afflicts us, we are in danger of becoming smug, unfeeling and self-righteous.

There's a big difference between being righteous and self-righteous. The Pharisee in today's parable is a good man, but his mistake is in thinking that he is a better person than the sinner who prays next to him. The Pharisee fails to see the sinner's worth and he completely fails to see his own shortcomings. It comes as no surprise that it's the sinner's humble prayer that God hears and not the Pharisee's proud boasts. Is God going to love us more because we are getting things right? Is God going to love the vagrant or the criminal less because they have made mistakes or enjoyed fewer privileges?

As we forge our individual relationships with God we are asked to do it not by comparing our progress with those around us, but by keeping one eye on our own failings.

Bite Size

"If thou desire the love of God and man, be humble, for the proud heart, as it loves none but itself, is beloved of none but itself. Humility enforces where neither virtue, nor strength, nor reason can prevail." *Francis Quarles*

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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23RD OCTOBER 2016 - 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses - Page 155 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday 6.00 pm Int. Francis Perrin Sunday 9.00 am Donor's Int.

11.00 am Int. People of the Parish

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Belmont Mass

Entry 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 406 – O praise ye the Lord ...

Offertory Hymn 892 – The Lord hears the cry of the poor ...

 ${\bf Communion}\ {\it Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence}\ ...$

Recessional 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 468 – Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! ...

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 5.30pm, or on request / by appointment

Weekday Mass Times (30th week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 2] Mon. 10.00 am Feria – Int. Joy Bussey

Tues. No Mass today Feria
7.30 pm Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room

Weds. 10.00 am Feria – Donor's Int. Thurs. 10.00 am Feria – Donor's Int.

Fri. 10.00 am SS Simon & Jude, Apostles – Donor's Int.

5.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer

6.15 pm Evening Prayer (Vespers)

Sat. **No morning Mass** Feria

6.00 pm 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Donor's Int.

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week. **Anniversaries this week:** Peter Giles, Winifred King, Bernadette Winstanley, Fr. Harry Wace, Francis Perrin, Marie Jones and George Marshall. *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, Robert Nicol, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd, Ellen Flood, Margaret Leggett, Diana Cater, Ken May, Muriel Harmer, Joy Bussey and Peter Brown.

Please remember the late Michael Reavey in your prayers and Betty in this sad time. Michael's Requiem Mass and burial will take place on Wednesday, 9th November at 10.00 a.m.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £400.04. Thank you all very much.

National Mass Count – The last of the four national Mass counts during October takes place this weekend.

130 Club September Draw – Quarterly Prize £75 – Marcia Slee; 1st Prize £20 – Maureen Jessup; 2nd Prize £15 – Rita Knocker; 3rd Prize £10 – Catherine Cox; 4th Prize £10 – Pat Sutton; 5th Prize £10 – Anne Sibley.

Diary Dates for this week -

• Sat. 29th Oct – Saturday Club is on half-term holiday. Classes resume on 5th Nov.

A Novena of shared Masses is being offered for our Parish in Dereham by Mgr. John Armitage at the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham between the 19th and 27th October at the request of Anne and Derek Williams and family.

World Mission Sunday - 23rd October - Today the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special retiring collection for *Missio*, his official charity for overseas mission. Your prayers and donations today will support the work of missionaries, like those in Rwanda, as they share God's mercy and love with those who are suffering. The World Mission Sunday collection will support mission projects worldwide that bring God's love and the Gospel message of dignity for all. Please give what you can, and if possible, please use the Gift Aid envelopes if you are a taxpayer. Thank you. Gift envelopes are available at the back of church.

Saint Jude and Saint Simon - October 28th - Saint Jude of Thaddaeus, not be confused with Judas Iscariot, is invoked in desperate or hopeless situations because his New Testament letter stresses that the faithful should persevere in the environment of harsh and difficult circumstances. Saint Simon was surnamed the 'Zealot' for his enthusiastic adherence to the Jewish and Canaanite laws.

Notre Dame High School Admissions 2017 - Year 6 parents are reminded that the closing date for September 2017 applications to Notre Dame is 31st October. Please apply both to the local authority, and also to the school using their Supplementary Information Form ('green form'), available on their website www.ndhs.org.uk. Notre Dame is rated outstanding by Ofsted and welcomes applications from all parents. In summer 2016 over 78% of Year 11 pupils achieved at least 5 A*- C grades at GCSE, amongst the best in the County.

Finance Manager - Notre Dame High School has a vacancy for a Finance Manager to join its finance team at the school in the centre of Norwich. Visit www.ndhs.org.uk for full details and application form, or see the poster at the back of church. Closing date for applications is 30th October 2016.

Dereham Local Plan – A reminder that Dereham Town Council will be holding a public meeting to hear views on the latest round of Local Plan Consultation and the Dereham Transport issues. The meeting will take place on the on Monday, 24th October between 7:00pm and 9:00pm at the Memorial Hall, Norwich Street. The meeting will give members of the public a better understanding of the Transport Study and how it relates to the Local Plan and give elected councillors a chance to hear views and concerns from members of the public.

The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary...

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy 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