

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Great Words



Everyone loves listening to a great orator. Everyone appreciates an orator's ability to captivate and inspire audiences with powerful and motivational speeches. Great speeches create a sense of purpose and continuity. Successful orators recognise that great truths can be remembered best by one small quote. Keeping things short and succinct will make one's words more memorable than a great big rambling speech. Then, of course, it takes a big personality to put the weight of truth and integrity behind his or her words.

When Jesus is invited to stand up and preach back at his own hometown synagogue he chooses his reading with care. What Jesus chooses to read is to be a statement about his own mission priorities. He chooses to speak of social injustice. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me," he reads, "... because he has anointed me to proclaim glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed." Then Jesus points to himself as the fulfilment of the ancient prophecy before handing back the scroll and sitting down. Jesus has obeyed all the rules of public speaking, he has considered the purpose of his reading, chosen words that will best convey his purpose, and delivered them powerfully and succinctly.

How will Jesus' listeners respond to his claim? Today's reading doesn't give us the listeners' response so we have time to imagine what our own response would have been. Would we have been inspired and motivated to hear Jesus speak these words? Would we suddenly see the ancient prophecy as just that, an ancient prophecy, or as mission to be fulfilled under Jesus' exciting new leadership? Can we hear the poetry of these words resonating two thousand years later?

Bite Size

"Speak properly, and in as few words as you can, but always plainly; for the aim of speech is not ostentation, but to be understood."

William Penn

English religious leader and colonist (1644 - 1718)

**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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24 JANUARY 2016 - 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Racial Justice Day)

Sunday Masses - Page 130 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	6.00 pm	Stearman (Fdn. *)
Sunday	9.00 am	Frank Eastaugh
	11.00 am	People of the Parish

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Belmont Mass

Entry 6pm - *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 795 - I heard the voice of Jesus say ...

Offertory Hymn 788 - Praise to the Holiest in the height ...

Communion *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

Recessional 11am - *Angelus (said)*; Hymn 779 - O God, you search me and you know me

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION - Saturday at 5.30 - 5.55 pm

Weekday Mass Times (3rd week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 3]

Mon.	10.00 am	Bill Sibley - The Conversion of St Paul (Feast)
Tues.	No Mass today	- SS Timothy & Titus
	7.30 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Una O'Dwyer - Feria
Thurs.	10.00 am	Jack & Ena Connolly (Fdn. *) - St Thomas Aquinas
Fri.	10.00 am	Donor's Int. - Feria
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	10.30 am	Donor's Int. - Feria
	6.00 pm	Donor's Int. - 4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Fdn. = Foundation Mass

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

Anniversaries this week: Queenie Minnie Hogan, Stanley Brocklesby, Anne Cairns, Laura O'Halloran, George Mayer, Ivor Vincent, Magdolna Toth, Hilda Stearman, William Harrell, Kenneth Rayner, Joe Kennedy, Mary Hetherington and Marguerite Eastwell. *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: Michelle Redmond, Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Sheila Christie, 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 and Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £413.16. Thank you very much. Today there is a retiring collection for the Catholic Association for Racial Justice.

130 Club December Draw - Quarterly Prize £100 – Brian Liebenhals; 1st Prize £20 – Mary Fahy; 2nd Prize £15 – Greta Cummings; 3rd Prize £10 – Francis Crawley; 4th Prize £10 – Chris Sayer; 5th Prize £10 – Michael Fenton.

Diary Dates for this week –

- Weds. 27th Jan – SVP meets – 2pm in Emmaus Room
- Fri. 29th Jan – Altar Servers meet – 7.15pm in Emmaus Room
- Sat. 30th Jan – Saturday Club - 11.00am in Emmaus Room

Advance Notice – The Mission Appeal this year will be made by the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) on the weekend of 27th & 28th February. I will be taking the opportunity for a holiday at that time. Later in the year, Survive Miva will also make an appeal; that will be in September.

Parish Meeting - Please keep your items for the agenda coming in. February 14th is the date, following the 11.00am Mass. Please put your name on the list for catering purposes for the shared lunch, which is to be prepared by the UCM.

Prayer Days – I attended a meeting of the ministers from the other local churches during the week and I told them about the possibility of a Day on Silent prayer and a Day on Mercy. The ministers themselves were interested and will take it to their congregations. I have been in touch with Magdalen again about this. Your interest/response to this is important so as to know how to proceed and when.

SVP - We are in the process of updating the list of people that we visit - if you know of anyone who may be in need, or could do with a visit, either on a regular basis or infrequently, could you please let Deacon Martin know, so that we can include them as soon as possible. Many Thanks.

Belmont Mass Setting: Brian Moran has written to suggest that, if there are any like him struggling with the newness of this Mass, if they Google 'Belmont Mass', they will find a YouTube link which gives the sung Mass. Brian says he particularly likes this Mass as "it has that monastic chant-like beauty, lovely sung to just a one key organ accompaniment". I hope this may be helpful.

Conversion of St. Paul - 25th January - The great thing that we learn about God is that forgiveness and conversion are possible for all of us. Paul is portrayed as the greatest enemy of the earliest followers of Christ, but rather than smite him, or demonise him, Jesus instead takes his gifts of zeal and persuasion, and puts them to work for the Gospel. In this Year of Mercy, we remember that God didn't give up on Paul, nor does God give up on us.

Holocaust Memorial Day: 27th February - Don't Stand By - The Holocaust and subsequent genocides took place because the local populations allowed insidious persecution to take root. Whilst some actively supported or facilitated state policies of persecution, the vast majority stood by silently – at best, afraid to speak out; at worst, indifferent. Bystanders enabled the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides. Today we are asked to lend our support wherever we see persecution and injustice.

Saint Thomas Aquinas – 28th January - Against strong family opposition, St. Thomas became a Dominican friar and in 1250, was ordained a priest. He was sent to teach at the Dominican school in Paris where he became increasingly famous for his teaching, preaching and writing. St. Thomas takes his place in history as one of the greatest and most influential theologians of all time.

Day of Prayer for Mercy: "Into a Silent Place" – Tuesday, February 23rd, repeated on Thursday 25th, **at Clare Priory** (9.30am to 3.30pm) - During the day we will focus upon The Mercy of God as revealed in both the Hebrew Scriptures and The New Testament. We will offer our day of prayer for our broken world and pray for an end of man's inhumanity to man. A soup lunch will be provided. Please phone Kathy to book a place. 01787 277326.

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.

Head Teacher Vacancies - Executive Head Teacher: St Benet's, Beccles and St Edmund's, Bungay, Catholic Primary Schools. Head Teacher: St Benedict's School, Bury St Edmunds. Please see the Diocesan website for more details - www.rcdea.org.uk; or see the advert on the notice-board at the back of Church.