

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Wanted: Something More Important

“Wanted: Men and women willing to leave behind their old way of life and become fishers of men.”

There aren't many of us who would jump at this job application. It isn't that we don't want to become fishers of men, its leaving behind our old way of life that we're not too keen on. It seems that there is very little that would persuade us to abandon our own self-interest.

In today's gospel one of the most impressive elements is that the early disciples accept the call to repent, abandon their fishing nets and follow Jesus. That they turn away from a successful business in order to become 'fishers of men' is a measure of their commitment.

Today there are still those who accept the challenge to abandon everything and become fishers of men. Each year, thousands of men and women give their lives to God and join religious orders. How do the rest of us answer to call to become 'fishers of men'? We can't all join religious orders; we have to find a way of answering the call in our own situation, and we might have lots of questions to ask first. What would being a disciple involve? Would we be up to the job? What would we have to leave behind? What would we have to give up? Would part time discipleship be okay ... after all we've got lots else to do!

There would be lots of questions we would ask, but sadly no easy answers. There is no one answer that is right for everybody. But the one important message for us today is that discipleship usually means a major shift in direction; a change that involves leaving behind things that get in the way of our relationship with God. It is left to each of us to decide what our particular mode of discipleship might be, and what stands in the path of our new direction. Our new direction has to start with some good hard soul searching, and a real desire to do something more important with our lives.

Bitesize – “The man who is happy is fulfilling the purpose of existence.”
~Fyodor Dostoyevsky



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 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

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST. MARGARET MARY
[Registered Charity 278742]

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

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

Email: martin.sanderson@rcdea.org.uk

Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: michaeljwking@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds:

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24TH JANUARY 2021 – 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B

[3rd Week of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 3]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 23 Jan.	6.00 pm	3 rd Sunday in Ord. Time	Victor Jolly (Mealy)
Sun. 24 Jan.	9.00 am 11.00 am		Bill Sibley The People of the Parish
Mon. 25 Jan.	10.00 am	Conversion of S Paul	Margaret Oliver (Cummings)
Tues. 26 Jan.	-	Ss Timothy & Titus	No Mass today
Weds. 27 Jan.	10.00 am	Feria	Noel O'Callaghan
Thurs. 28 Jan.	10.00 am	S Thomas Aquinas	Douglas Mattingley
Fri. 29 Jan.	10.00 am	Feria	Noel O'Callaghan
Sat. 30 Jan.	-	Feria	No morning Mass
Sun. 31 Jan.	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	4 th Sunday in Ord. Time	Martin Sanderson (UCM) Susanna Meeks (Reid) The People of the Parish

All Celebrations of Mass are live-streamed on YouTube

The Church is open daily until 4:00pm

Anniversaries this week: Queenie Minnie Hogan, Stanley Brocklesby, Anne Cairns, Laura O'Halloran, Bill Sibley, George Mayer, Ivor Vincent, Magdolna Toth, Hilda Stearman, William Harrell, Kenneth Rayner, Joe Kennedy, Sheila Christie, Mary Hetherington, Marguerite Eastwell. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

MASS LIVE STREAM – 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.

Hospital Visits: If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn (QEII), 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 call the NNUH Hospital Chaplaincy direct on 01603 287470 for people needing urgent spiritual attention, or for visits to QEII Hospital, call Fr. Peter Rollings on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament or Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – Please pray for: Jenny Rudd, Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Una McWeeny, Derek Williams, Greta Cummings and Patsy Gray.

Money Matters: 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.

130 Club Draw for December 2020 - Quarterly Prize £100 - Ticket No. 174, Alf Cornwell; 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 9, Suzanne Stone; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 88, Patricia Arnold; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 50, Hilary Bushell; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 33, Merelina Raker; 5th Prize £10 – Ticket No. Kathleen Crowley.



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.

Church Hygiene - Please do not leave back copies of religious magazines in the church porch or at the back of the church. We are not allowed to circulate books or papers at the moment. The parish bulleting is distributed at the end of Mass for reasons of hygiene. I put back copies of bulletins and other papers in the bin.

Conversion of St Paul, January 25th - When we are struggling to find change in our lives, we could hardly do better than look to the story of Saul, the great persecutor of Christians, who saw the light on the road to Damascus. The story of the conversion of Saul, from the persecutor of Christians to the zealous and holy instrument of evangelisation, Paul, shows the strength of God's power in our lives, and how He can change anything. Although misguided, Saul had always been sincere and committed. In him God saw a tremendous instrument for all that he wanted to accomplish. The lesson here is to remember that for God, nothing is impossible.



Holocaust Memorial Day, 27th January 2021 - The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2021 is **Be the light in the darkness**. It encourages everyone to reflect on the depths to which humanity can sink, but also the ways individuals and communities resisted that darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide. Be the light in the darkness is an affirmation and a call to action for everyone marking HMD. His theme asks us to consider different kinds of 'darkness', for example, identity-based persecution, misinformation, denial of justice; and different ways of 'being the light', for example, resistance, acts of solidarity, rescue and illuminating mistruths. We can all stand in solidarity. We can choose to be the light in the darkness in a variety of ways and places – at home, in public, and online.

CTBI's Spring Magazine 2021 - 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland' have launched their Spring Magazine. It contains articles on the Climate Conference later this year and activities around the Black Lives Matter movement plus much more. To download a copy, visit www.ctbi.org.uk/download-ctbi-spring-magazine/

Hong Kong Ready Churches - Large numbers of Hong Kongers are expected to come to the UK from 31 January 2021. The government has estimated that 130,000 people will come to the UK in the first year. This will be the biggest planned migration of people to the UK from outside of Europe since Windrush. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the Church to play its part in welcome and witness with these newcomers. Over the next few years, we will be looking at our how well our churches are equipped to show hospitality and to be Hong Kong ready churches.

Prayer for the Election of a Bishop

*"I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who shall do according to my heart and mind: I will establish a lasting house for him and he shall walk before me all my days."
(1 Sam 2:35)*

O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Our Lady of Walsingham, Pray for us.

St. Felix, Pray for us.

All Holy Martyrs and Saints of East Anglia, Pray for us.

Copies of this prayer are printed on a card and are available to take away from the back of the church.