

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Does God Provide? - A senior policy researcher for Oxfam once said, "The world produces more than enough food to feed everyone. Meeting the calorie needs of every person living with hunger would take less than 3 per cent of today's global food supply." That's an astonishing statistic. It's a sobering thought to realise that for the

millions of people who go hungry every day, the problem is not actually a food shortage. The reason that people go hungry is that we just don't seem capable of distributing food fairly and in safety. Even if we could distribute the food fairly, the people who are going hungry couldn't afford to buy it. Solutions to conquering hunger and starvation are elusive, but that doesn't give us the excuse to give up.

The feeding of the five thousand is a story that's very familiar to us all. In it we learn to trust in God. We are taught that Jesus is more than sufficient for our needs both physical and spiritual. When Jesus instructs his disciples to take the five loaves and the two fishes and share them amongst the five thousand, he is teaching them a lesson in faith, trust and reliance. We are being told how to live our lives. We must give up our will for God's. We must trust God to direct our lives and rely on him to know what's best for us. When we pray "Not my will God but yours," we are opening up the way for God's wisdom to replace all that negative thinking.

Putting our trust in God however, isn't an excuse for us to sit back expecting God to magic tonight's tea onto the table. We still need to work to share God's abundant provision fairly around the planet. That might mean supporting communities in third world countries, by funding equipment or being more proactive about campaigning for fair trade deals. It might mean campaigning for peaceful solutions in war torn areas. Does God provide? God has already provided. We have food in abundance, but to save the millions of people who are struggling to believe in that abundance, we have to work with God in keeping our part of the deal.

Bitesize – "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths." (*Proverbs 3: 5-6*)



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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25th JULY 2021 – 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B

[17th Week of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 1]

| Mass Times for the Week | | | Intentions |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Sat. 24 July | 6.00 pm | 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Teresa Revell |
| Sun. 25 July | 9.00 am 11.00 am | | The People of the Parish First Holy Communions |
| Mon. 26 July | 10.00 am | Ss Joachim & Anna, Parents of the BVM | Kelly Gray |
| Tues. 27 July | - | Feria | No Mass today |
| Weds. 28 July | 10.00 am | Feria | Roger Pearson |
| Thurs. 29 July | 10.00 am | St Martha | John Perkins |
| Fri. 30 July | 10.00 am | Feria | Mr. & Mrs. Cyriac – Thanksgiving |
| Sat. 31 July | - | St Ignatius of Loyola | No morning Mass |
| Sun. 1 August | 6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am | 18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Holy Souls The People of the Parish Joao Lobo & Thanksgiving |

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - from 9.25 a.m. – 9.55 a.m.
before each weekday Mass.**

The Church is open daily until 6:00pm

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 this week: David Thompkins, Elizabeth Sapcote, Errol Alexander Patrick Cowell, Thomas Losco-Bradley, Olga Secker, Doris Webster, Naomi Dance, Margaret Leonard, Flora Booth, Ellen Storey, John Perkins, Charles Martin, Winifred Mary Fuller, Anthony Eskdale, Anna Taylor. *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.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £252.35 last weekend for the day-to-day running of our parish. Thank you also for the offering of £10 for Stella Maris.

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.

Moving forward: As the restrictions that had been placed on us are now rescinded, the church has reverted to a more normal appearance. The rows of seats are all now open for use. The books are back in place with the music sheets and the laminated Mass cards. Some things stay such as hand sanitizing at the entrance. The wearing of a mask is of your own decision. However, in order to accommodate everyone safely and to allow some distancing, all of the chairs are available for use. The partition doors will remain open and there is as much seating available as there is at Christmas. Holy Communion will be distributed from the centre of the aisle and I will sanitize my hands before the distribution of Holy Communion at every Mass. The doors of the church will be left open to allow for ventilation in between Sunday Masses. The Prayer Group, The S.V.P., the U.C.M., and the Knitting Group, Altar Servers and Catechism Classes are all welcome to make their arrangements for their meetings. Moving forward, the way to go safely.

Global Hunger Appeal - Christian Aid is urgently calling for our support to help the 41 million people around the world who are facing extreme hunger. £25 could buy food for a family for a month. Consider donating online at www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/global-hunger-emergency-appeal

CAFOD Summer News – [Laudato Si' encyclical resources | CAFOD](#) - this online link will take you to a range of resources for study, reflection, prayer and action. CAFOD's **Live Simply award** is a popular community action and the award is given to parishes and communities who have taken significant steps in response to the call to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with others. For more information, follow this link: [Livesimply award | CAFOD](#). Finally, many Catholics have been meeting with their MPs this summer in response to Pope Francis' call for a better kind of politics. Dialogue has focused on debt cancellation for the world's poorest countries, action to tackle the climate crisis and vaccine equity. You can support CAFO's action on this, if you wish, by following this link: [petition to the Prime Minister](#).

The Retreat Association Handbook 2021 - Everyone occasionally feels a need for inner rejuvenation. Whether you want simply to reclaim your inner peace in the midst of a hectic life, or do some soul searching over your life directions, or go deeper into your spiritual life, going on retreat can be a perfect solution. The Retreat Association publishes a popular resource which includes:

- Information and programmes for 170 Christian retreat centres in the UK and beyond
- Details of courses, networks and associations that promote spirituality and spiritual direction
- Retreats with a theme - including painting, walking, Christmas and Easter
- Retreats for the beginner
- Individually guided retreats and quiet days
- Map pages divided into regions
- An index to all retreat centres

Order your copy online or by post: www.retreats.org.uk

Prayer for the Election of a Bishop

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.

St. Felix, Pray for us.

St. Fursey, Pray for us.

St. Edmund, Pray for us.

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