

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**Does Prayer Work?** - Have you ever prayed really, really, hard for something and not had that prayer granted? Have you ever looked back in life at a prayer you once made and thought thank goodness God didn't grant it? This week's gospel reading is a lesson in prayer, but more importantly, it's a lesson in having faith that God is a parent who will not let us down.

Let's face it, we pray hardest to God when we want something. We pray hardest when something seems beyond our human means and we need some kind of miracle, this often leads us to make inappropriate prayers. How many of us pray that the love of our life will notice us in the launderette? How many of us pray to win the lottery and make secret deals with God that we will donate half the winning to charity in return? How many of us pray to God for our football team to score a winning goal in the closing minutes of a match? Worse... we lose faith when such prayers aren't answered! We find it difficult to believe that unanswered prayers might mean that God knows better, or has a different purpose for us.

Perhaps Jesus' disciples shared some of our frustration when they say, "Lord teach us to pray." In response Jesus gives us a model by which to pray. It's important to recognise it as a model and not a prayer as such. Reciting a prayer is not the same as praying. The model pray Jesus gives us, 'The Lord's prayer', invites us to pray to God as our Father, acknowledging his holiness and praying with the shared commitment to have his will done on earth. We are invited to pray for our 'daily bread', in other words, for the things we genuinely need. Pray for forgiveness, and promise to forgive others. Pray with persistence. Payer is about building a relationship with God, speaking to him often throughout the day. Lastly, and most importantly we should approach God with the faith we approach a loving parent. "What father," reasons Jesus, "would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish?" or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg?" Even parents with very average parenting skills know how to give children what they need. "How much more," says Jesus, "will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"



**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](http://www.universalis.com)

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

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### 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019 – 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C

[17<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 1]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 27 <sup>th</sup> July	6.00 pm	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time [Parish Mass Book p114]	Priest's Int. John Perkins The People of the Parish
Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 29 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am	St. Martha	Eileen & Bernard
Tues. 30 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Feria	<b>No Mass today – PP's day off</b>
Weds. 31 <sup>st</sup> July	10.00 am	St. Ignatius of Loyola	Eileen Couzens
Thurs. 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug.	10.00 am	St. Alphonsus Liguori	Anna Easton (S. Mealy)
Fri. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug.	10.00 am	Feria	Anna Easton (G. Mealy)
Sat. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug.	6.00 pm	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time	Priest's Int. Gerald & Peggy Downes Priest's Int.
Sun. 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	9.00 am 11.00 am		

#### Music for 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time – Setting: Belmont Mass (incl. Memorial Acclam. 2)

**Entry:** 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 908 – Blest are the pure in heart ...

**Psalm:** (11am sung) *R.:* On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

**Offertory:** Hymn 898 – Make me a channel of your peace ...

**Recessional:** 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 969 – Lord of all hopefulness ...

**Anniversaries this week:** Margaret Leonard, Flora Booth, Ellen Storey, John Perkins, Charles Martin, Winifred Mary Fuller, Anthony Eskdale, Anna Taylor and Joanna Sokalska.  
*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

#### Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday at 5.30pm, or by request/appointment

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:** David Peek, Janet Yardley, Jenny Rudd, Rita Smith, Carol Whitesides, Robert Nicol, Eileen Brocklesby, Shirley Liebenhals, Catherine Carter and Alf Charlton.

**Money Matters:** Thank you for your offering of £546.19 for the maintenance of our parish last weekend.

**Missio Red Boxes** - Please will you bring your red boxes to church, so that your donations can be counted and the monies sent to *Missio* (the Association for the Propagation of the Faith). Thank you.

Diary Dates for this week -		
Tues. 30 <sup>th</sup> July	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Emmaus Room
Weds. 31 <sup>st</sup> July	6.30pm	Music selection & practice – Presbytery & Church. All volunteers welcome to make a joyful noise to the Lord!
Fri. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug.	10.30am	SVP 'First Friday' Coffee Morning. After Mass. All welcome.
<b>Saturday Club</b> - Please note that Saturday Club is now on summer break. Classes will resume in September. <b>NB.</b> There is no Saturday morning Mass during this time.		

**Welcome** to any and all visitors to our parish this weekend. We are glad that you have joined with us for Mass and hope that your visit to Dereham will be a pleasant one.

**Next weekend** Father Michael will be celebrating all of the Masses here. I am sure that he will receive a warm welcome from everyone. His ordination recently was a great occasion and it was wonderful that so many of us could attend it.

**Holiday time** means that musicians take time off too. We will be without our usual musicians over the next few weeks. We will just have to see what we can do.

**Confirmation in July 2020** - A number of young people of Confirmation age have expressed an interest in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. We will begin the programme in the Autumn with a Mass of enrolment. There is still plenty of time to join the Confirmation Programme. The format for preparation for the Sacrament will be the same as last time. We will use the YouCat Programme and Michael King will be the catechist.

**UCM** – Members are reminded that a presentation is to be made to Fr. Michael at the 6pm Mass on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August and it is hoped as many members as possible will be able to attend for the occasion.

#### Events in August –

- **Community of Christ the Prince: New Dawn Conference** – This annual Catholic family event is taking place at Walsingham from **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019** – see the poster at the back of church for details. [www.princeofpeace.org.uk](http://www.princeofpeace.org.uk)
- **EA Diocesan Summer Camp 2019, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>-Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August** – for children aged 8-14 years, at Moreton Hall School, Bury St. Edmunds. For more information please email [diocesansummercamps@gmail.com](mailto:diocesansummercamps@gmail.com) or go to [www.facebook.com/diocesansummercamps](https://www.facebook.com/diocesansummercamps). Any parent/guardian needing assistance with costs, is encouraged to contact a member of the Planning Team. Similarly, if anyone would like to sponsor a child to attend camp or make a contribution towards costs, then please get in touch.

**The Norfolk Churches Trust Annual Bike, Walk, Drive ... in the Norfolk Countryside – Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 9.00am – 5.00pm** – Support our historic churches by joining a sponsored bike ride or walk to raise money for their repair and preservation. So, pump up your tyres, dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route to visit as many of the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can. *Simply get sponsored for each building you visit, or make a donation* – find out more at [www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride](http://www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride) or see the poster at the back of church.



**Diocesan Event: How to Defend your Faith in the Public Square** – A team from the well-known Catholic Voices project are set to run a free training day on **Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019 from 11am-4pm at the Parish Hall of Our Lady & St. Thomas of Canterbury Church, 1 Norwich Road, Wymondham NR18 0QE.** To find out more or to sign-up, email [evangelisation@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:evangelisation@rcdea.org.uk)

**Bitesize** - "A strict belief, fate is the worst kind of slavery; on the other hand, there is comfort in the thought that God will be moved by our prayers." ~ *Epicurus, Greek philosopher (341 BC - 270 BC)*

#### The Angelus

∇. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. **R.** *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary ...*

∇. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. **R.** *Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary ...*

∇. And the Word was made flesh. **R.** *And dwelt among us. Hail Mary ...*

∇. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. **R.** *That we may be made worth 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.