

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Pitfalls of a Prophet - There's an old saying, "An expert is someone who carries a briefcase and works two hundred miles from home." The saying finds resonance in Jesus' own words, "No prophet is accepted in his own native place. In today's reading Jesus is invited to preach back in his hometown synagogue. At first, Jesus' audience are impressed, but then they start to mutter to each other. Surely this is just the son of Joseph the carpenter! When this truth dawns on them, they are enraged and drive him out of town. It doesn't

matter how successful or famous or distinguished one has become, once you return home you will always be that little runny nosed seven-year-old who refused to wash behind his ears.

The readings over the Epiphany season are all about human kind coming to understand who Jesus is and what he is about. In particular, the readings tell us how this understanding is communicated. Jesus was an excellent communicator, but not even he was free of prejudice. The business of communicating with others on the subject of God is not without problems and pitfalls.

There is nothing elite about being a prophet. A prophet is anyone who stands up and speaks the truth. As Christians we are all required to stand up for the truth. There is plenty of injustice in the world to speak out against, but before speaking out, we are warned of the pitfalls. Today's gospel warns us of the pitfall of familiarity breeding contempt. What other pitfalls might we encounter in speaking out? It is easy for instance to imagine that everyone's faith should be the same as one's own. Might we misjudge the mood, readiness or interest of our audience? Might we be tempted to patronize, or worse, bore out listeners?

For two thousand years inspirational communicators have stood up in Jesus' wake and amplified his words. Today we are invited to choose our own words, weigh up our audience, examine the pitfalls and add our voice.



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]

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt – Telephone: 01362 694066

Email: Brendan.Moffatt@rcdea.org.uk

Address: The Presbytery, 35 London Road, Dereham NR19 1AS

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:

Email: kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com

30TH JANUARY 2022 – 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C

[4th Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 4]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 29 Jan.	6.00 pm	4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Seabrooke (Fdn.)
Sun. 30 Jan.	9.00 am 11.00 am		Stearman (Fdn.) The People of the Parish
Mon. 31 Jan.	10.00 am	St John Bosco	Susanna Meeks (Reid)
Tues. 1 Feb.	-	Feria	No Mass today
Weds. 2 Feb.	10.00 am	The Presentation of the Lord	Ellen Harrington (Cummings)
Thurs. 3 Feb.	10.00 am	Feria	Liam Lacey (PM)
Fri. 4 Feb.	10.00 am	Feria	Tanya Cauci (Sanderson)
Sat. 5 Feb.	-	St Agatha	No morning Mass
Sun. 6 Feb.	6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00 am	5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jane Cutter (Sanderson) Ellen Harrington The People of the Parish

(Fdn.) = Foundation Mass

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

The Church is open daily until 5:00pm

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-B40VTvbzezZ83MxQ/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: Reginald Walter Bowles, Marguerite Eastwell, Alice Page, Victor Rawding, Patricia Cox, Patrick Carroll, Alfred Edward Macdonald, English Family, George Maguire, Benjamin Wyand, Stanley Snellgrove, George Gay, Mary Hirst, Joao Costa, Bernard O’Shea, Doris Marie (Babs) Dyer, Lynes Smith, Marian Longhorn. *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: Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Derek Williams, Greta Cummings, Patsy Gray, Allan Michael Howard, Collette Barrow-Nessian, Betty Reavey, Marion Ring-Davies.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £272.52 towards the upkeep of our parish last weekend.

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.

Diary Dates for this week		
Weds. 2 Feb.	7.30 pm	Fabric Committee - Emmaus Room
Sat. 5 Feb.	10.30-11.30 am	First Holy Communion Class – Emmaus Room

Liturgies this Week - Wednesday next is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. After exposition we will gather in the Emmaus Room for the blessing of candles. On Thursday the Blessing of St. Blaise (of throats) will be given after Mass.

The partition doors in the church: I feel that it is now right to close them again following the 11.00 am Mass on Sundays. It allows us to use and heat the Emmaus Room for meetings during week. There is still room for social distancing during weekday Mass in the church. Volunteers to close the doors and stack the chairs are needed and appreciated.

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, 2nd February - In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is normally attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. Today the Universal Church unites in prayer for all men and women in consecrated life and asks the Lord of the harvest to inspire and call our present generation of young Catholics to follow Jesus in religious life. Today you are invited to pray for someone you know who is living the consecrated life or presently discerning a vocation as a religious brother, sister or priest. Keep them in your prayers today!

Candlemas, February 2nd - Candlemas is a traditional Christian festival that commemorates the ritual purification of Mary forty days after the birth of her son. The Feast of Purification is called 'Candlemas' because that was the day on which the year's supply of candles for the church were blessed. Christians were observing 'Candlemas' in Jerusalem as early as the fourth century A.D. By the middle of the fifth century, candles were lit on this day to symbolize that Jesus Christ was the light, the truth and the way.



The Blessing of St Blaise, 3rd February - For many decades Catholics sought this annual ‘St. Blaise blessing’ for their throats. “Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

CAFOD Spring Raffle 2022 - CAFOD's spring raffle is now open and the top prize is £7,000. Tickets are only £1 each, and you can buy your tickets online. The proceeds will go towards CAFOD's life-changing work. If you play by 4 February, you will be entered into the fast reply draw to win extra prizes. The raffle closes on 6 May and the draw will take place on 20 May. **To buy a ticket visit www.cafod.org.uk/Give/Spring-Raffle**

Bitesize – ‘Familiarity breeds contempt, while rarity wins admiration.’
Apuleius, Roman philosopher, rhetorician, & satirist (124 AD - 170 AD)

Prayer for the Election of a Bishop - God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unflinching 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*.