GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE FEAST OF SS PETER & PAUL



Carrying the Baton - Over the years the Catholic Church has laid itself bare to criticism. Sometimes this criticism is underserved, but sadly at other times it is. At certain times in history the Church has been guilty of making mistakes, and doubtless it will continue to make mistakes in the future because we are all human. There are those who complain that the Church is out of step with an increasingly secular world. There

are even those who point to diminishing Mass attendances and predict that the Church is living on borrowed time. The bottom line however is drawn in today's gospel. Jesus turns to Peter and says, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church." Whether Jesus' idea of 'Church' is our idea of 'Church' is debateable, but one thing is for sure, Jesus intended to leave behind a group of followers initially led by Peter, united in their belief of Jesus and God until the end of time.

Because Peter recognised that God was acting through Jesus, he was entrusted with the job of leading the rest of us. The Church today is a testimony to Peter's faith, it exists because Peter and others like him trusted and believed in God. It exists because Peter and people like Peter acted out their faith despite hostilities and persecution. Fortunately, today's Christians don't get chucked to the lions any more, but we face different sorts of problems instead. Today we face lethargy, conflicting secular values, and the complexities of scientific debate. The Church cannot be silenced. Fearless Christians like Peter and Paul are still needed to carry the baton.

Peter and Paul represent two strikingly different approaches to discipleship. Peter had to learn slowly, making many mistakes along the way. Paul, on the other hand, came to the Faith immediately and never backed away from his zeal for Christ after that. We aim to imitate these two great apostles in our own lives. Like Peter, we know we are likely to fail and to get things wrong, yet like Peter we aim to persevere. Like Paul, we must always fight for what is right, no matter how difficult that might be.

Bitesize – "One measure of leadership is the calibre of people who choose to follow you." ~ Dennis A. Peer



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 – <u>https://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding/</u> Diocesan Website – <u>http://www.rcdea.org.uk</u> Notre Dame High School, Norwich – <u>http://www.ndhs.org.uk</u> Daily Liturgy Website – <u>www.universalis.com</u>

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30TH JUNE 2019 - SS PETER & PAUL - Year C

[13th Week of the Year, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 1]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 29 th June	6.00 pm	SS PETER & PAUL	Priest's Int.
Sun. 30 th June	9.00 am	[Parish Mass Book p180]	Priest's Int.
	11.00 am		The People of the Parish
Mon. 1 st July	10.00 am	Feria	Priest's Int.
Tues. 2 nd July	-	Feria	No Mass today–PP's day off
Weds. 3 rd July	10.00 am	St. Thomas (Feast)	Josie Waring
Thurs. 4 th July	10.00 am	Feria	Priest's Int.
Fri. 5 th July	10.00 am	Feria	Priest's Int.
Sat. 6 th July	11.30am	Ordinations Mass at St. Joh	n's Cathedral – coach departs
		at 10.00am	
Sat. 6 th July	6.00 pm		Priest's Int.
Sun. 7 th July	9.00 am	14 th Sunday in Ord. Time	Priest's Int.
	11.00 am		The People of the Parish

Music for # Sunday in Ord. Time - Setting: Belmont Mass (with Memorial Acclam. 1)		
Entry: 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 372 – By all your saints still striving (v.2 sub. June 29		
Peter & Paul)		
Psalm: (11am sung) R : From all my terrors the Lord set me free.		
Offertory: Hymn 892 – The Lord hears the cry of the poor		
Recessional: 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 866 – I will be with you wherever you go		

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.

Anniversaries this week: Richard Downing, Leslie Neve, Fred Hawkins, Andre Kanssen, Irene Dorothy O'Brien, Mary Costen, Joan Mary Siedlecki and Rosi Hawksbee. *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, 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, Neville Hibberd, Shirley Liebenhals and Catherine Carter.

Money Matters: Thank you for your offering of £430.28 last weekend for the day-to-day maintenance of our parish. There is a **retiring collection for Peter's Pence** after all Masses this weekend.

Diary Dates for this week -				
Mon. 1 st July	2.00pm	Mother Teresa's knitting circle – Emmaus Room. New members always welcome to join in for a knit and natter		
		over a cup of tea. Beginners especially welcome - no experience necessary.		
Tues. 2 nd July	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Emmaus Room		
Weds. 3 rd July	6.30pm	Music selection & practice – Presbytery & Church. All volunteers welcome to make a joyful noise to the Lord!		
Fri. 5 th July	10.00am	SVP 'First Friday' Coffee Morning. After Mass. All welcome.		
Fri. 5 th July	7.15-8.15pm	Altar Servers meeting – Emmaus Room		
Sat. 6 th July	Please note there is no Saturday Club this week due to the Ordinations			
	Mass at the Cathedral.			

St Thomas the Apostle, 3rd July - 'Doubting Thomas' shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the "sons of thunder," Philip and his foolish request to see the Father - in fact, all the apostles in their flaws and lack of understanding. However, we mustn't dwell too much on these facts, for Jesus chose his disciples because he could see their worth despite their weakness. We are shown that God chooses ordinary men and women just like us to do his work.

First Holy Communion 2019 – Eight children in the parish will be making their First Holy Communion next Sunday, 7th July at the 11.00am Mass.

The Rev. Mike Brookes has very kindly agreed to celebrate Mass here on the weekend of $3^{rd} \& 4^{th}$ August. Guess who is taking a break?

Norfolk Show - I spent two days at the Norfolk Show and I feel it was very worthwhile. I met lots of people and spoke to lots of stallholders and there were several other chaplains from the area present. The open-air Service at the end of the first day was very nice with the Band of the Parachute Regiment playing. I did over 18.000 steps on the first day. Enough exercise for a whole week!

Caritas East Anglia - Caritas East Anglia would like to know how Catholics are sharing God's love with the poor and marginalised. If you're involved in any social outreach work, either through church or with another group, please fill in this short questionnaire to tell me what you're doing: <u>https://www.rcdea.org.uk/caritas-questionnaire/</u> Contact Jacinta Goode with any questions: <u>caritas@rcdea.org.uk</u>

Retreats 2019 - The Annual Publication of the Retreat Association handbook includes Information and programmes for over 200 Christian retreat centres in the UK and beyond and details of courses, networks and associations that promote spirituality and spiritual direction, as well as retreats with a theme - including painting and walking, retreats for the beginner and individually guided retreats and quiet days, with map pages divided into regions and an index to all retreat centres. *Order online at* <u>http://www.retreats.org.uk/retreatshandbook.php</u>

The Angelus

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

 \hat{V} . Behold the handmaid of the Lord. \hat{R} . Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary ...

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

v. Pray for us, 0 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.