

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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The Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust. Registered Charity No. 234091



6th August 2017

THE TRANSFIGURATION
OF THE LORD

TRANSFIGURATION
OF OUR LORD

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Transfiguration of Our Lord	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday <i>St Dominic</i>	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS	
Thursday <i>St Lawrence</i>	NO MASS	
Friday <i>St Clare</i>	NO MASS	
Saturday <i>St Jane Frances de Chantal</i>	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
10th Sunday after Pentecost	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

Is taking a break during the school holidays. It will continue in September.

There are special 'Look' Activity Sheets for our children based on the Scripture Readings for today. Do take a copy for the children to work on during Mass, or to take home.

A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer
in whatever you do and wherever you go.
May you talk to God this summer and every day
and in every situation.
May you talk with God every day.



About Liturgy

Two celebrations of the Transfiguration: Every year on the Second Sunday of Lent we hear proclaimed one the transfiguration gospels. This particular incident in the earthly life of Jesus is also proclaimed on the feast of the Transfiguration. Usually this feast day occurs on a weekday. This year we have the happy circumstance that it falls on a Sunday when many more people come to Mass than during the week. So, is it the same gospel? Yes, in terms of a Scripture selection, it is. But as a liturgical proclamation, these two Sundays offer us something quite different.

Sometimes we hear people complain that Mass is always the same. True, much of it is the same, for example, the *Kyrie* and *Gloria*, Creed, the prayers at the preparation of the gifts, many of the prayers such as the Our Father, the responses. But we can readily name parts of the Mass that change from day to day, for example, the readings themselves, presidential prayers (collect, prayer over the gifts, prayer after Communion), the eucharistic prayer, and so forth. This Sunday's gospel illustrates another example of "variability" in the liturgy. We said above in the first paragraph that this Transfiguration gospel comes in Lent and now, about halfway through Ordinary Time. The liturgical year, then, offers us two very, very different contexts for hearing and interpreting this gospel. During Lent, the Transfiguration gospel is a paschal mystery counterpart to the gospel of the First Sunday of Lent which is always about the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness. During Lent this gospel can be interpreted as revealing a necessary element in the paschal mystery dynamic: we are being called to glorification. During Ordinary Time, hearing this gospel is an encouragement, a strengthening to continue our disciple-journey with Jesus: we are being called to be faithful. Same gospel, two liturgical year contexts, two interpretations. No, liturgy is never the same!

Prayer for the summer break

Lord God, We put ourselves into Your hands,
and pray that You will bless us
and our families during the wonderful months of summer.
May we all help make our home a place of relaxation, joy,
love, peace and safety.
May we be generous and considerate,
not thinking only about ourselves,
but helping others enjoy the blessings of summertime.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Lectionary for Mass

About Today's Feast

The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord reminds us about the depth of mystery that surrounded Jesus Christ – mystery in the sense that we can never exhaust who he really is or categorise him in any way. Fully human, he may indeed have needed a tent or a place to camp on the mountain, like Peter asked. But just when the Apostles may have been getting really comfortable with their understanding of Jesus as friend and teacher, they catch a glimpse of his heavenly glory, challenging them to remain open to Christ communicating to them who he is as Son of God. We have moments like the Apostles each time we encounter and grapple with a new and challenging image of God in the Scriptures. Remaining humble and open to the revelatory action of God's Word and Spirit is a way to enter ever more deeply into the mystery of who God is for us in Jesus Christ.

The **First Reading** gives a sublime description of heaven, with symbolic, mysterious language. God takes his seat amidst throngs of angels. It is both throne room and court of law, and into it comes a man, who is presented to God and given the kingship. For Christians, the "one like a Son of man" is Christ.

Responsorial Psalm 96: we respond to the visions of the First Reading by proclaiming the Lord as king over the earth. God is described as dwelling amid "clouds and darkness" as at Mount Sinai (Psalm 96:2). In as Gospel, Christ is surrounded by a "bright cloud" (Matthew 17:5).

Second Reading: In this passage from 2 Peter, we hear a first-hand account of today's feast: Peter himself describes what he saw and heard on the mount of Transfiguration. He saw the glory of Jesus, the Father's Son, "the beloved" (2 Peter 1:17). These words, Peter says, are a truth to cling to when we find ourselves in difficulty: they are like a light shining in darkness, a glimpse of the Transfiguration.

Gospel: In all the synoptic accounts (Matthew, Mark and Luke) of the Gospel, the story of the Transfiguration comes after Jesus tells the disciples about his approaching Crucifixion and Death. Jesus takes Peter, James, and John with him, and these three become witnesses of Jesus in his heavenly glory. Before their eyes, he is changed: he is still Jesus, but his face and clothing grow bright. The light shines not from without but from within him, Moses and Elijah appear – the Law and the Prophets of the Old Testament – and God's voice is heard, telling them who Jesus is – and reminding them to listen to him. The disciples behold, but do not yet understand. Only after Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection will they understand what they have seen: Jesus is fully human, fully God.

At the **10am Mass** today we **welcome** and **baptise**
Isobel Dahlia Whittaker

Congratulations to her parents, **Chris and Helen**, and her grandparents, with whom we support and encourage with our own example of faith and daily living out the Gospel.
Let us keep Isobel and her family in our prayers this week!

Money Matters

Last Week's Offertory Collection – £143.90

Thank you for your generosity

If you would like to begin supporting the parish through Offertory Envelopes or directly through your bank, please speak with Fr Andy.

AUGUST 2017 edition of The Vine

The Diocese of Northampton newspaper is available. **It's free of charge!**

Are you new to the parish?

If so, you are very welcome! Do introduce yourself to Father Andy after Mass, and please complete a parish registration form.



Tea, coffee and cold drinks are served in
The Guild Room after both of
our Sunday Masses.
All are welcome!

Infant Baptism and Marriage. By appointment with Fr Andy after completing the necessary preparation. **The Church requires** notice of at least six months prior to the Sacrament of Matrimony being celebrated.

WE NEED MORE HELP! We *urgently* need more **helpers to clean** the Church on Friday mornings (or at another time, if that is more convenient to you). Could you spare just one hour once a month? We also need a **least two new teams** of two unrelated people to help count the offertory collection once a month after Sunday Mass, this takes approximately 40 minutes. Do you think you are able to help? If so, please speak with Fr Andy

Diocese of Northampton – Liturgy Commission

Day for those who work with

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saturday 30 September 2017 10.30am – 1pm

NORES Centre, 22 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD

See noticeboard for booking leaflets