

THE TRANSFIGURATION

THE STORY of the Transfiguration is hard to place. If we concentrate on the straight facts, we miss the very rich symbolism. If we focus on the symbolism, the story collapses into allegory. St Matthew's Gospel calls it 'a vision' and it certainly fits into a sequence. Coming after the first prediction of the Passion and the calls to 'take up the Cross' and follow Christ in his suffering, it is clearly too a prequel to the glory of the Resurrection. The figures of Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets. Mention of Moses reminds us that Jesus has come not to set aside the Law but to fulfil it. Mention of Elijah is linked to the work of St John the Baptist who, Jesus tells us, is the Elijah figure who must come before the Christ is revealed.

The passage comes just after Cæsarea Philippi, where Simon Peter has confessed that Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah) and Jesus has told St Peter that he is the Rock on which the Church is built. It is almost as if, once we have the Church, we have the worship of the Church, the vision of Christ in Glory, surrounded by representatives of all that has gone before him (Moses and Elijah) and of what will come after him (the apostolic band).

In our Lenten scheme of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving, this story is a reminder that the vision of the glory of the Risen Christ is at the heart of Prayer, at the heart of our lives. Here he is— heaven in our midst—in the Mass, itself a foretaste of glory. Prayer does not displace Almsgiving—care for our neighbour, care for the poor. After the Transfiguration, after worship, the Lord comes down the mountain, with Peter, James, and John, and there a crowd is waiting. The first task ahead is the healing of an epileptic boy. Prayer precedes and empowers loving and caring for others. It never replaces it.



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area
www.thamesisis.org.uk

EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

St Mary's Church, East Hendred
St Patrick's Church, East Ilsley

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| Sunday 12th March | Sundays: Year A, SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's | Divine Office: Week 2 [PURPLE] <i>Pro populo</i> <i>Pro populo</i> |
| Monday 13th March | <i>Second Week of Lent</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's | [purple] <i>Sick & Housebound</i> |
| Tuesday 14th March | <i>Second Week of Lent</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's | [purple] RIP Fr James Fanning MHM (Naughton Family) |
| Wednesday 15th March | <i>Second Week of Lent</i> Adoration: 11.45am St Mary's Mass: 12.15pm St Mary's | [purple] FM John Joseph Eyston 1917 |
| Thursday 16th March | <i>Second Week of Lent</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's | [purple] RIP Dick Phillips (Steve McDonagh) |
| Friday 17th March | St Patrick, Bishop Mass: 8.30am Hendred House Adoration: 3pm at Hendred House Stations of the Cross: 5.30pm St Mary's | [white] <i>The Irish People</i> |
| Saturday 18th March | <i>Second Week of Lent</i> Mass: 9.30am St Mary's | [purple] RIP Irene Mary McDonagh (Steve McDonagh) |
| Sunday 19th March | THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's | Divine Office: Week 3 [PURPLE] <i>Pro populo</i> <i>Pro populo</i> |
| Confessions: Sunday 8.45am or by appointment | | |
| www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk | | |

LENT ALMSGIVING

There will be a special collection following the **CAFOD** Fast Day on Friday 10th March. Please put your gift in one of the envelopes specially provided. We shall also be collecting for **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** on **Sunday 2nd April**. Meanwhile the ongoing collection, via the red boxes, for **MISSIO** continues. **CAFOD** is the Catholic Church's work for the relief of famine and suffering. **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** focuses on rebuilding shattered lives and communities where the Church is persecuted. **MISSIO** is the work of worldwide evangelisation. Margaret Maytham runs the **MISSIO** collection-box scheme.

MUMS ON THE RUN

The next meeting is on **Monday 20th March at 8.00pm** in the Holy Family Room. If you are a mum raising children, who would like a bit of time to chat and reflect with other mothers, please come along to these meetings. Contact Gillian Groeger for more information gilliangroeger@hotmail.com

QUIET MORNING

There will be a Quiet Morning at St Mary's on **Saturday 1st April**. Mass at 9.30am will be followed by Adoration (10am to 12 noon). During Adoration there will be a short address and an opportunity for Confession. Coffee &c will be available.

DOMESTIC CHURCH: (9)

Bible Reading In some homes, reading together the Gospel of the Day or some other reading scheme would be a lovely thing to do. Some families might find it embarrassingly pious. Some might find it hard to start with but easier once into the rhythm. On the Sunday sheet of Antiphons, Prayers and Readings you can find the daily reading scheme, followed by the Church at Mass. The text is available in the monthly magazine *Magnificat*, or the Weekday Missal. Best of all is to have copies of the Bible, since finding your way round the Bible is something which many people never manage to do. What version? The usual version in the Catholic Church is still the Jerusalem Bible but, before that and in the near future, it will be the Revised Standard Version. That is the version we use in East Hendred and East Ilsley for Mass. The Revised Standard Version (Second Catholic Edition) is published by Ignatius Press, San Francisco. It is a handsome volume.

LOST PROPERTY

There is a box at the back of St Mary's with items that have been left in church. Any unclaimed objects left there for some months, will be donated to charity. Please check the box!

FUTURE COLLECTIONS

Sunday 26th March: Clergy Assistance Fund



NEWSLETTER | Please send all notices for next week's Newsletter to Maria at hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by **Wednesday 10 am**



BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

We remember in our prayers those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

We remember in our prayers *Kathleen Doyle, Sr Catherine, Diana Tuson, Mary Wallace, Des McNichol, Brenda Paddon, Alfie Bartlam, Jenny Ayres and Jadyga Adasko*. Names remain for four weeks. Please request further inclusion.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We remember in our prayers those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *William Mooney, Mary Dainty, Thomas Rivers, Thomas Dearlove, William Dearlove, Pietro Melotti, Beatrice Burgess, Martin Power, Janet Dunn and Irene McDonagh*.

GATHERING IN CHRIST

Our small, ecumenical, lay group will meet again on **Tuesday 4th April**. We will be focussing on chapters 17, 18 and 19 of the first book of Samuel, to see how God's relations with his chosen people work out in the story of David and Goliath and David's escapes from Saul's attempts to kill him. We discuss and pray together. All are welcome, coffee and biscuits in the parish rooms at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start; we finish at 8.30-8.45pm.

CHRISM MASS, ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, PORTSMOUTH – TUESDAY 11TH APRIL 2017

The Pastoral Area is once again running a bus to the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass this year. The bus will leave Our Lady and St Edmund's, Abingdon at 7.45am and English Martyrs, Didcot at 8.15am, returning at around 3pm. The cost of a seat is £12, payment required on booking. Please call Didcot parish office to book a place on 01235 812338, or email didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. All bookings must be received by **Friday 31st March**.

"APF" RED BOXES

Please bring your boxes to church for counting before the end of March. Thank you. Margaret Maytham 01235 850126.

HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY INTENTION - SUPPORT FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS. That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

DIOCESAN INTENTIONS - PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The repose of the souls of all who have died recently, especially Fr David Hutton, Cong. Orat. a priest of the Bournemouth Oratory in Formation, for all deceased clergy and people of the Diocese and for all the faithful departed. For all who have died as a result of warfare, violence, terrorism and persecution. Requiescant in pace.

For all the sick clergy and for all in our Diocese who are sick and in need of our prayers. Archbishop Cornelius and the clergy and people of our twin diocese of Bamenda following recent outbreak of violence and unrest and the City of Bamenda and for all who have been killed or injured and for Auxiliary Bishop-Elect Michael Bibi who will be ordained Bishop on 25 March.