



Parish of Our Lay Help of Christians &
St Lawrence

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Diocese of Northampton

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13 th March 2022 Psalter Week 2	Second Sunday of Lent THE TRANSFIGURATION	
First Reading	Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18 <i>God enters into a Covenant with Abraham, the man of faith.</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	The Lord is my light and my help.	
Second Reading	St Paul to the Philippians 3:17 - 4-1 <i>Christ will transfigure our bodies into copies of his glorious body.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to Him!" Glory and praise to you, O Christ!	
Gospel	Luke 9:28-36 <i>AS Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed.</i>	
Saturday 12 th March +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday 13 th March +	10.30am	Mass – (Bill & Mary Senior RIP)
Monday 14 th March Feria	10.00am	Mass – (Deceased members & beneficiaries of the SVP)
Tuesday 15 th March Feria	10.00am	Mass - (Bernie Wogan Int)
Wednesday 16 th March Feria		No Parish Mass today
Thursday 17 th March St PATRICK, Bishop – Patron of Ireland - Feast	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Patrick & Mary Fitzgerald RIP)
Friday 18 th March St Cyril of Jerusalem - Commemoration	9.15am 10.00am 2.30pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Alice Sapwell RIP) Stations of the Cross
Saturday 19 th March St JOSEPH, Spouse of the BYM - Solemnity	10.00am 10.30am	Mass (Tony Roche RIP) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT		
Saturday 19 th March +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday 20 th March +	10.30am	Mass – (Brian O'Connor RIP)

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY



St Francis Mary, DHS, Requiescat in Pace

On Friday 4th March, we learnt that dear Sr Francis Mary had been called home by the Lord – just twelve days short of her 100th birthday. We pray for the repose of her soul, for her family & friends and especially for the Sisters here at Olney and those at Burlington Hall. Her Requiem Mass will take place here at Our Lady's on Thursday 24th March at 11.00am.



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Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent we will be praying the 'Stations of the Cross' each Friday afternoon at 2.30pm finishing with Exposition at 3pm for 15 minutes of quiet prayer and reflection.

NOVENA FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE – If you would like join in praying a Novena for Peace in Ukraine, please follow this link: <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-for-peace-in-ukraine>

WORKING WITH REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE – If you would like to see some of the work being done for refugees from Ukraine on the Hungarian border by the Hungarian Charity Service of the Knights of Malta, where Dániel Solymári, a guest of Fr David in our parish from time to time, please see <https://ukraine.maltai.hu> You can also donate to their work from that website.

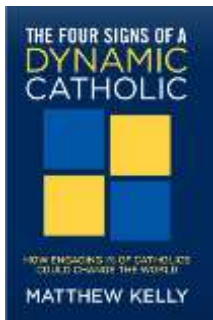
PARISH DONATIONS: We have **£127.01** left from the donations we received back in 2020 to help with the purchase of the original camera to enable us to live stream the Mass. Similarly, the statue appeal, we have £30.00 left as someone paid the full amount but we also received an additional **£30.00**. In order for us to be able to reallocate the money a notice must appear in the newsletter over a 4-week period in case anyone has any objections. If you do have any concerns about this please speak to Fr David or Denise.



PARISH LENTEN APPEAL 2022 CHANGE FOR FOOD - CAFOD AFGHANISTAN

As you are aware the people of Afghanistan have suffered terribly over the last year. In these difficult conditions CAFOD remains active, providing all round support for the Afghan people. Please take a bottle of water and a pot of seeds, which will be given out after Mass next weekend (19th/20th March). Pray for those who do not have access to basic food or water. Use the water to nourish the seeds, then fill the empty bottle with loose change and return it to Church the week of 24th April.

Thank you for your generosity - **CAFOD Parish Group**



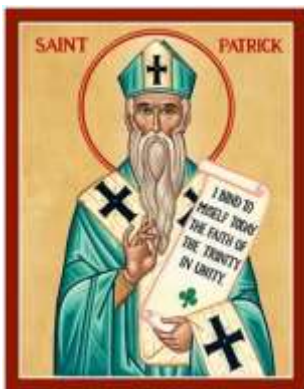
THE FOUR SIGNS OF A DYNAMIC CATHOLIC

We continue to be very grateful to Connie & her family for providing us with spiritual readings during Advent & Lent. For Lent this year, we have a book written by Matthew Kelly titled 'The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic'

Copies are available in the Narthex for you to take if you wish. Many thanks to Connie for donating these to the parish.



On the one-year anniversary of the Ever Given ship getting stuck in the Suez Canal, Catholic charity Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is hosting a webinar about modernisation in the shipping industry. It will look at the history of the container ship, the rise of the ultra-large container vessels, and explore what impact modernisation of the shipping industry has had on seafarers around the world. Please register now at www.stellamaris.org.uk/modernisation



ST PATRICK, Bishop – Patron of Ireland was born in Great Britain about the year 385. As a youth he was taken captive to Ireland as a slave and worked as a herdsman. After making his escape he wished to become a priest and after being made Bishop for Ireland he was untiring in preaching the Gospel and he converted many to the faith. In addition, he organised the Church throughout Ireland. It is believed that he died in 461 and was buried at Downpatrick.



ST JOSEPH – Spouse of the BVM – A comparison can be made between Joseph and the whole Church of Christ. Joseph was the specially chosen man through whom and under whom Christ entered the world fittingly and in an appropriate way. So, if the whole Church is in the debt of the Virgin Mary, since, through her, it was able to receive the Christ, surely after her, it also owes to Joseph special thanks and veneration.

Extract from the sermons of St Bernardine of Siena

On this day in 1990, Patrick Leo McCartie was installed as 10th Bishop of Northampton. Also, on this day in 2020, Canon David Oakley was ordained as 13th Bishop of Northampton. Please keep them and the Sisters at St Joseph's in your prayers

From Fr David's desk...

Today's Gospel is the scene of Christ's Transfiguration, found in the Gospel according to St Luke. The following is taken from a homily of Pope St Leo the Great (Pope from 440 to 461).

The Lord reveals his glory in the presence of chosen witnesses. His body is like that of the rest of mankind, but he makes it shine with such splendour that his face becomes like the sun in glory, and his garments as white as snow.

The great reason for this transfiguration was to remove the scandal of the cross from the hearts of his disciples, and to prevent the humiliation of his voluntary suffering from disturbing the faith of those who had witnessed the surpassing glory that lay concealed.

With no less forethought he was also providing a firm foundation for the hope of holy Church. The whole body of Christ was to understand the kind of transformation that it would receive as his gift: the members of that body were to look forward to a share in that glory which first blazed out in Christ their head.

The Lord had himself spoken of this when he foretold the splendour of his coming: *Then the just will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.* Saint Paul the apostle bore witness to this same truth when he said: *I consider that the sufferings of the present time are not to be compared to the future glory that is to be revealed in us.* In another place he says: *You are dead, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, your life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.*

This marvel of the transfiguration contains another lesson for the apostles, to strengthen them and lead them into the fullness of knowledge. Moses and Elijah, the law and the prophets, appeared with the Lord in conversation with him. This was in order to fulfil exactly, through the presence of these five men, the text which says: *Before two or three witnesses every word is ratified.* What word could be more firmly established, more securely based, than the word which is proclaimed by the trumpets of both old and new testaments, sounding in harmony, and by the utterances of ancient prophecy and the teaching of the Gospel, in full agreement with each other?

The writings of the two testaments support each other. The radiance of the transfiguration reveals clearly and unmistakably the one who had been promised by signs foretelling him under the veils of mystery. As Saint John says: *The law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.* In him the promise made through the shadows of prophecy stands revealed, along with the full meaning of the precepts of the law. He is the one who teaches the truth of the prophecy through his presence, and makes obedience to the commandments possible through grace.

In the preaching of the holy Gospel all should receive a strengthening of their faith. No one should be ashamed of the cross of Christ, through which the world has been redeemed. No one should fear to suffer for the sake of justice; no one should lose confidence in the reward that has been promised. The way to rest is through toil, the way to life is through death. Christ has taken on himself the whole weakness of our lowly human nature. If then we are steadfast in our faith in him and in our love for him, we win the victory that he has won, we receive what he has promised.

When it comes to obeying the commandments or enduring adversity, the words uttered by the Father should always echo in our ears: *This is my Son, the beloved, in whom I am well pleased; listen to him.*

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Zarvaniza, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St Edmund, St Patrick, St Cyril of Jerusalem pray for us all.

With our love and prayers,

Fr David and Deacon Peter