



NEWSLETTER



Parish of Larkhill/Whitehall & Santry Parish Office: Church of the Holy Child, The Thatch Road, Dublin 9. Tel (01) 837 5274 Website: www.whitehall.dublindioocese.ie.

"This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him."

8th March 2020

heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain."

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is always read on the second Sunday of Lent. At the heart of Saint Matthew's writing stands a great invitation to each and every one of us. It resonates to us down through history: *"This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him."*

The Gospel of the Transfiguration which describes a unique event: Jesus climbing Mount Tabor with three of his disciples to encounter two of the great figures of the Old Testament, Moses and Elijah. And then they are present on one of the few occasions in the New Testament when God the Father speaks.

The account of the Transfiguration can be found in all three of the synoptic Gospels: Mark 9:2-8, Luke 9:28-36 and here in Matthew which we read today. Also, John 1:14 may also refer to the Transfiguration: *"We have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."* And, in another reference in 2 Peter 1:18, we read: *"We ourselves heard this voice that came from*

Jesus chose his inner circle of Peter, James and John to accompany him and they were also present with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Often an event can be only written in two or three Gospels but the fact that we have the five references to the Transfiguration in the New Testament shows that the writers appreciated its great importance.

It speaks to our moments of doubt, disappointment and suffering, just as Jesus was preparing for his own suffering on Calvary. Yet, before these events unfolded, he is given a glimpse of the eternal life and he is once again in the presence of his heavenly Father. This should also give us all hope that, despite our difficulties, there is a greater reality that awaits us.

There can be occasions in our lives when God's presence can seem to be particularly close by. Perhaps at the birth of a child or

grandchild, while we are walking in the countryside on a summer's day, listening to an inspiring piece of music, when looking at a photograph or painting that speaks to us in a particular way or while we are praying when visiting a church during a moment of quiet in a busy day.

I think it is also important to reflect today on the words of God the Father which remind us of the voice from heaven at the Baptism of Jesus in Matthew 3:17 when he said: *"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."* At the transfiguration, the additional phrase *"Listen to him"* is also included. I think it is very important to take time and space to listen to God in our own lives and to reflect on what God may be asking us to do for him.

Pope Benedict has said that *"Transfiguration of Jesus was essentially an experience of prayer."* When Jesus went up the mountain, he was immersed in contemplation of the loving plan of the Father, who had sent him into the world to save humanity.

When speaking about the transfiguration, Pope Francis said: *"We need to climb the mountain and go to a place of silence, to find ourselves and better perceive the voice of the Lord. The encounter with God in prayer again pushes us to come down from the mountain where we meet many brothers and sisters weighed down by fatigue, injustice, and both material and spiritual poverty."*

We are encouraged to "listen" to Jesus as our Gospel reading requests. Let us try to take time in the coming week to listen to the words of Jesus and ask him to guide and assist us on our journey of faith. We pray that, during this Season of Lent, we may create opportunities in our busy lives for listening to God so that we can be sustained and refreshed by the His Word. And may we allow "time out" to experience being closer to Jesus as Peter, James and John were at the Transfiguration.

Especially during this Springtime, may we be inspired by the revitalising of nature all around us and perhaps to come out of our comfort zones a little so that we can reach out to those in any kind of need as we encounter them in our daily lives.

Gerard Reilly - Permanent Deacon in Donaghmede and Ayrfield parishes

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE – Bethany Support Group



Ladies who find it difficult to cope with bereavement or loss of any kind are invited to avail of the help and support of the Bethany Bereavement Support Group. They will be warmly welcomed every Wednesday between 2.30p.m. and 4.00p.m. in the Parish Centre at Holy Child Church. Please note they no longer meet in the Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball.

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes

9th – 14th September - Hotel Solitude 5 nights – Full Board
Fully inclusive Price €765. (Single rooms subject to availability €180).
In conjunction with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage
For details & to book please contact the Parish Office Tel : 8375274.



Remembrance Mass



Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 8.00p.m. Upstairs in the Parish Centre, Church of the Holy Child, Whitehall. The Mass is for family & friends of parishioners who have died in the last few months & will include a Candle Lighting Ceremony. Refreshments will be served after the Mass.

Congratulations to the boys and girls who made their First Confession last Tuesday. We ask God to bless them on their journey of faith as they continue their preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in May.

We welcome in Baptism:
Ethan Vogelsang
Charlie Jake Sheehan
May these newly baptised children always know and love Jesus as their friend.



Church Collections 01-03-2020	
1st Collection	€1779.00
SHARE	€1390.00
Family Envelope	€1093.00

Ministers of the Word
The new Group C roster is available for collection from the reception area in the parish centre.

Recently Deceased: You are asked to remember in your Prayers:
Elizabeth Murphy
Mary Darcy
May they enjoy perfect peace and reconciliation in the presence of God.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) Guidelines for Religious Services
Signs of Peace
 The shaking of hands as the method of conveying the Sign of Peace, is suspended. The sign of peace prayer will still be said and it will be conveyed by turning to the person each side of you and offering a smile or nod or bow.
Shaking Hands
 The practice of shaking hands on greeting & departure at Mass or religious services is suspended for both clergy and laity.
Holy Communion
 To minimise the risk of spread of infection, only the celebrant should drink from the Chalice. No one else should drink from the Chalice – this includes other priests, Ministers of the Eucharist and members of the congregation.
 Holy Communion should be administered into the hands only and NOT onto the tongue.

SAVE THE DATE – Evening of Reflection with Cardinal Tagle. Trócaire and the Young Church Dublin invite you to join in an evening of prayer and reflection with Cardinal Tagle on Monday, 9th March at 6.30p.m. St. Paul's Church, Arran Quay

Church Gate Collection:
 This weekend the Church Gate Collection will be for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Mass Intentions – Church of the Holy Child

- Sat. 7th Mar. Vigil 7.00p.m. Liam Nolan – R I. P. recently deceased
 Stephen Bolton – Birthday Remembrance
 Michael Matthews – Anniversary & decd. Members of the Matthews Family
- Sun. 8th Mar. 11.15a.m. Ellen & Patrick Lalor – Anniversaries
 Rosemary Savage, Vincent Kavanagh – Anniversaries
 12.30p.m. Brigid Adderley – 1st Anniversary
 Loreto Dempsey – Anniversary
 Owen & Nellie O'Reilly – Anniversaries
 6.00p.m. Imelda McDonnell – Anniversary
 7.00p.m. Fintan McMahon – Month's Mind
- Fri. 13th Mar. 7.00p.m. Betty & Ned O'Leary – Anniversaries
 Sat. 14th Mar. 10.00a.m. Bernadette Bonny – Month's Mind
 Vigil 7.00p.m. Liam & Ursula Stobie - Anniversaries
- Sun. 15th Mar. 11.15a.m. Charles Barnwall R. I. P. – Recently Deceased
 Phyllis Mellon – Anniv. & decd. members of the Mellon Family
 12.30p.m. Thomas Kennedy, Angela Gibbons -1st Anniversaries
 Seán & Paul Crowe, Catherine Higgins – Anniversaries
 6.00p.m. Peig & Pat O'Callaghan – Anniversaries
- Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball**
- Sun. 8th Mar. 10.00a.m. Martin Power – Month's Mind
 Tom Tyrrell – Anniversary
 Bernard & John Connolly – Anniversaries
 Sadie Redmond, Willie Evans – Anniversaries
- Sun. 15th Mar. 10.00a.m. Richard Dignam & granddaughter Lauren Johnson – Anniv.
 Jo & Liam Dornan – Anniversaries
 Kathleen McGovern, Peggy Eaton – Anniversaries

Christ Our Light – Towards Easter 2020 Fr. Kieran O'Mahony OSA presents *the Sunday Reading Lent Programme* in St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral every Wednesday of Lent

Santry River Restoration: This Group invite you to an Information Evening about Santry River on Thurs. 12th Mar. in St. John the Evangelist, Tonleagee Road, Coolock. 6.30p.m – 8.30pm Booking - riverrestoration@dublincity.ie

Parish Lotto Please Support your Parish Lotto
 Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:
 1st Jackpot: 4 18 22 29 2nd Jackpot: 6 12 15 27 No Jackpot winner.
 The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: P. Carolan; B. Cooke; M. McQuillan; A. Soden; A. Watkins; T. Walsh; L. Cullen. The winners of the 5 Special Prizes of €100 were M. Redmond; M. Nolan; A. Bradley; A. Hackett; M. Kilmurray.
 Next Week's Lotto Draw: First Jackpot €15,000 Second Jackpot €1,050 Plus 7 consolation prizes of €25 .