

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL R.C. CHURCH

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The Transfiguration of the Lord

Sunday 6th August 2023

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Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

2 Peter 1: 16-19

Matthew 17: 1-9

The common theme of today's readings is the metamorphosis or transformation of Christ by the empowering of God the Father Who sent His Son as our Saviour and Redeemer. Today's Gospel, describing Christ's Transfiguration, challenges us to revitalize our Faith as true disciples of Christ, just as the passages from Daniel and II Peter were written to strengthen the Faith of their audiences in times of persecution. The first reading, taken from the Book of Daniel, spreads out before us Daniel's vision of God's glorious Heavenly Court of Judgment. The Transfiguration is a prefiguring of Christ's glorification by God the Father in the Court of Heaven after Jesus' Ascension into Heaven. In the second reading, St. Peter argues, in his Second Letter to the Church, that the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ (at which the voice of God the Father was heard by the three apostles, verses 16-18), and the testimony of the Old Testament prophets (in the Messianic prophecies), are the guarantee of the doctrine of Christ's Second Coming. In the Transfiguration account in today's Gospel, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses and Elijah. The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow Jesus to consult his Heavenly Father in order to ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death and Resurrection. The secondary aim was to make his chosen disciples aware of Jesus' Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah and might be strengthened in their time of trial. On the mountain, Jesus is identified by the Heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus, the Transfiguration narrative is a Christophany, that is, a manifestation or revelation of Who Jesus really IS. Describing Jesus' Transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him.

Yours, Fr. Tomy

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving Mass for the 17th Wedding Anniversary of Felicia & Fredrick	Saturday 5th St Addai and St Mari King Abgar the Black, who lived at Edessa in what is now northern Greece, suffered from an incurable disease. He heard of healing miracles of Jesus and sent a letter asking for his help. It is claimed that Jesus wrote a reply to say He would send one of his disciples. The apostle Thomas sent Addai who cured King Abgar and converted him and many of his household including the royal jeweller, Aggai, who eventually was made Bishop of Edessa. Thomas then sent Addai and the much younger disciple Mari to evangelise what is now Iraq. Both were very successful with many converts destroying pagan temples, built churches and founded monasteries. "Liturgy of Addai and Mari", originated around 200 AD, is used by the Assyrian Church of the East.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 6th August The Transfiguration of the Lord Mass for the soul of Mrs Flory Fernandes RIP
6.30pm Mass Thanksgiving Mass or all the blessings received by Noel	Monday 7th St Cajetan of Thiene Born 1480 in Italy to a noble and pious family. Four years at Padua University. Studied theology, civil and canon law. Appointed to Roman Curia by Pope Julius II as diplomat. Ordained a priest aged 36 in 1516. Joined an austere Order which contained men of lower class and upset his rich friends. Cared for sick and poor and worked in hospitals and hospices of the incurably ill. Gained respect from his noble friends who then helped finance his efforts. In Rome founded new Order, <i>Theatines</i> , to care for the sick and poor and reform lax practices of the clergy. The <i>Theatines</i> introduced the 40 hours adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. He helped found the <i>Clerks Regular</i> for the care of orphans and education of youth. Died in Naples 7 th August 1547
10am Mass Joseph Varkey RIP 23rd anniversary	Tuesday 8th St Dominic Born north of Madrid in 1170. Sent by Pope Innocent III to France to evangelise with Bishop Diego of Osma and help Cistercians oppose heresy of Cathars. Cistercians were travelling by horse and stopping at best inns. The two realised this approach or using the power as papal delegates would have little effect. Adopted a different approach, shedding all papal power the two travelled around by foot without money and begging for food. Many Cathars converted. They opened new Convent to rival education of women provided by Cathars. In 1206 Dominic created his first Dominican house in Prouille. <i>Order of Preachers</i> founded by Dominic in 1215. Set up <i>Rule of Life</i> based on St Augustine. Dominic stated "Arm yourself with prayer, not a sword", travel simply with no money, no food to convert souls. Order expanded. Dominic met Francis of Assisi and they agreed simplicity and poverty were essential. Dominic thought education was important as well, unlike Francis. Dominic emphasised the power of praying the Rosary for Dominicans. Died aged 51 in 1221.

6.30 pm Mass	Wednesday 9th St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. Born Edith Stein in 1891 in German, what is now Poland, into an Orthodox Jewish family. Became an agnostic in her teens. She studied German and history at Breslau University. At Göttingen University read philosophy. Influenced by Christian friends and work of St Teresa of Avila. Nurse in WW1 in 1916. Baptised a Catholic in 1922. Too humourless and stiff and failed as a teacher. Worked translating famous theological works into German. In 1933 Nazis started the ill-treatment and deportation of Jews. Edith Stein joined a Carmelite Convent In Cologne in October 1933 and took the name Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. She then wrote <i>The Life of a Jewish Family</i> . Sister Teresa was smuggled into the Netherlands at the end of 1938. Sister Teresa was arrested by the Gestapo on 2 nd August 1942 with her sister Rosa who was also then in the Convent. Both gassed with others in Auschwitz on 9 th August 1942.
10 am Mass	Thursday 10th St Laurence of Rome Born in Spain in 225. Met Sixtus, a Spanish philosopher and teacher, and travelled with him. In Rome Sixtus was elected Bishop of Rome in 257. Lawrence was made the most famous of 7 deacons. He was in charge of the treasury and the raising and distribution of alms to the poor. Roman Emperor Valerian started to persecute Christians. Confiscated property to gain funds to support his defence of Rome. Lawrence was asked to bring any valuables to the Roman authorities. He then distributed the material wealth and brought to the Roman official the poor, the crippled and the blind saying these were the true riches of the Church. For his defiance he was martyred the last of the 7 deacons to die, 4 days after Pope Sixtus II.
NO MASS	Friday 11th St Clare of Assisi Born in 1194 in Assisi, Italy, to a wealthy family with a large palace and castle. At 18 heard Francis of Assisi preach. Inspired to be a Franciscan but Francis could not accommodate women. He sent her to the Benedictine nuns on Mount Subasio which overlooked Assisi. Clare was joined by her sister and widowed mother. She gathered other women to form a Franciscan Order for women. Francis gave them a "Rule" as an enclosed <i>Order of Poor Ladies of San Damiano</i> . Later known as the <i>Poor Clares</i> their life was one of manual labour and pray and very austere. Used the Blessed Sacrament to protect her Convent against a Saracen attack. Governed Convent of San Damiano for 40 years. Called "another Francis". Took care of Francis in his final days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Michael and Nora Hunter RIP	Saturday 12th St Porcarius and martyred monks In 732 Abbot Porcarius had a community of 500 monks, novices, and students at the great Abbey of Lérins, founded in the 5 th century on an island off the coast of Provence opposite Cannes. He was warned by an angel in a vision that his community was about to be attacked by barbarians. Porcarius sent off by ship all his young students and 36 young monks. He then set about preparing the rest of the community for death and prayed with them for courage. The Abbey was then attacked by Saracens, probably Moors from Spain or North Africa, and all the remaining community were massacred except 4 who were taken into slavery.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 13th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION	

Your prayers are needed for the following people					
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley			

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

The Big Church Clean on Saturday 19th August

Volunteers are needed to give our church a brilliant clean on Saturday 19th August from 10am to 12 noon. This is perfect for families or individuals to participate. So whether you can spare 30 minutes or the full 2 hours all would be welcome and appreciated. Refreshments will be provided. Any questions please contact Liz Challand.

New Parish Administrator Margareta Livingstone

Fr Tomy and the Fabric and Finance Committee members are pleased to announce the appointment of a new Office Administrator who will take up the post from the 1st September. Everyone in the parish wishes to offer our sincere thanks to Renee Sharpe for the years of unpaid service in this important and time consuming role in SVP parish.

Invite from Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries to a special Mass on Thursday 14th September

Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries would like to invite all "Red Box" holders and all parishioners to a special Mass to celebrate Mission in the Diocese of Portsmouth. It will be celebrated at 10am on Thursday 14th September at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth BH7 6AN. The Mass will be celebrated by Fr Innaiah Maddineni, Diocesan Director for Missio, and will be joined by Fr Joseph Thangaraj MHM who will share his experiences of Missionary work in the Parish Centre with refreshments. For catering purposes, we would be grateful if you would respond to this invitation by informing your parish secretary Graham Churchill.

Parish collection for last weekend 29th and 30th July

						SPECIAL COLLECTION			
Parish Envelopes	Gift Aid	Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Envelopes	Loose plate	TOTAL of all money
£134	£33.50	£157.16	£242.54	£51.98	£619.18	---	---	---	£619.18