

Hello All

This weekend's gospel is the account of the transfiguration. We are told that the disciples were sleepy, which seems to me to indicate that it was night. When we try to imagine the event of the transfiguration at the top of Mount Horeb, of the physical appearance of Jesus changing before the disciples' eyes until the face of Jesus shone like the Sun, somehow being aware of this extra detail that it took place in the dark of night helps.

The background to the event, given to us through the Old Testament reading this weekend is human sacrifice, this time at the top of another mountain, Mount Moriah. It is the story of Abraham showing he was fully prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac, right up to the point when he had him tied up on a bonfire, ready to kill him with a knife and then burn him as an offering to God. Only at that point does God intervene to say it is not his way, he does not want human sacrifice.

Historically speaking God revealed himself to the people of Israel gradually and slowly. Their first understandings of him were very hazy, and they may well have thought God wanted human sacrifice. The account of the near sacrifice of Isaac probably marks the point of the realization that this was not so.

The Orthodox Jewish Rabbis say that this story was kept in the bible to teach all ages that it is never right to kill in the name of God, and we can agree with them on that. But for us there is a further insight.

When we realise the story is real, and try to understand the horror felt by those involved, we can gain an insight into the heart of God; for in the transfiguration, in the darkness and the mystery, he voice of the Father is heard. This is *my* son.

God bless.

Petroc.





Catholic Parish of the Holy Trinity Plymouth



28 February 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

(Year B: year of Mark)

Saturday	Mass (of the Sunday)	5.30pm at St Paul's	Second
		Int: Ronald Fernandez RIP	Collection
Sunday	Mass (of the Sunday)	9am at Holy Family	for
		Int: Hanchard Family RIP	CAFOD
	Mass (of the Sunday)	10.30am at Holy Redeemer	this
		Int: Our parish and families	weekend
Monday	Mass (of St David)	Int: Cyril Anthony RIP FDN	
Tuesday	Mass (Lent Weekday)	10am at St Paul's	
		Int: Those who supported George Finnie	
Wednesday	Mass (Lent weekday)	10am at Holy Redeemer	
		Int: James Wilcock RIP	
Friday	Mass (Lent weekday)	10am at Holy Family	
		Int: George Finnie RIP	

Taking the Vaccines

Many people are now being offered vaccines against Covid, and some have asked whether they should as Catholics take one or other of the vaccines in good conscience.

The answer from the Catholic Church is Yes. Have no doubt—get vaccinated.

Your priest, our Bishop Mark, our Cardinal in Westminster, our Pope Francis, and the Vatican have all said we can take all the vaccines available in the UK with a clear conscience.

Indeed the Church tells us not just that we can but that we should, as this is not a private matter, and we are protecting others as well as ourselves and society.

Here are some links to official church documents which say the same.

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/12/21/201221c.html>

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/12/29/201229c.html>

<http://www.humandevlopment.va/content/dam/sviluppoumano/vatican-covid19-response/reports/2020-EN-AnnualReport-VaticanCovid19Commission.pdf>

Music at Mass

As you know at the moment we cannot sing together during mass because of Covid, and we have been having some recorded music to counter the starkness of mass without any music at all. Generally people have found the recorded music enriching.

Traditionally music at mass is reduced during the penitential season of Lent. In order to take note of this without returning to the starkness of mass without any music, we are not having music during the weekday masses, or before or after weekend masses, but we will have music at the preparation of the altar and at communion during weekend masses.

The music we will use for the preparation of the altar is known as the Lent Prose. It is sung in Latin to a traditional chant. The words are given below together with a translation.

At the time of communion we will play a variation on one of the traditional settings for the kyrie eleison at mass. The words are a repetition of the prayers, Lord have mercy—Christ have mercy—Lord have mercy.

Lent Prose

Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.
Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.

Ad te Rex summe, omnium Redemptor,
oculos nostros sublevamus flentes:
exaudi, Christe, supplicatum preces.

Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.

Dextera Patris, lapis angularis,
via salutis, ianua caelestis,
ablue nostril maculas delicti.

Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.

Rogamus, Deus, tuam maiestatem:
auribus sacris gemitus exaudi:
crimina nostra placidus indulge.

Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.

Tibi fatemur crimina admissa:
contrito corde pandimus occulta:
tua, Redemptor, pietas ignoscat.

Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.

Innocens captus, nec repugnans ductus;
testibus falsis pro impiis damnatus
quos redemisti, tu conserva, Christe.

Attende Domine, et miserere, quia peccavimus tibi.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

1 To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory:
lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

2 O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father
Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial
cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

3 God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated
bow down and hearken to they children
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

4 Sins oft committed now we lay before thee
with true contrition, now no more we veil them
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

5 Innocent, captive, taken unresisting
falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced,
save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinn'd against thee.

This English translation in taken from the English Hymnal and is so designed that the English words can be sung to the traditional chant, just like the Latin

March—the month of Saint Joseph

Traditionally March is the month of St Joseph, and Pope Francis had dedicated this year to St Joseph.

Bishop Mark has encouraged us to pray this prayer to St Joseph on each Wednesday and on 19th of each month.

Hail Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

To you God entrusted his only Son

In you Mary placed her trust

With you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph

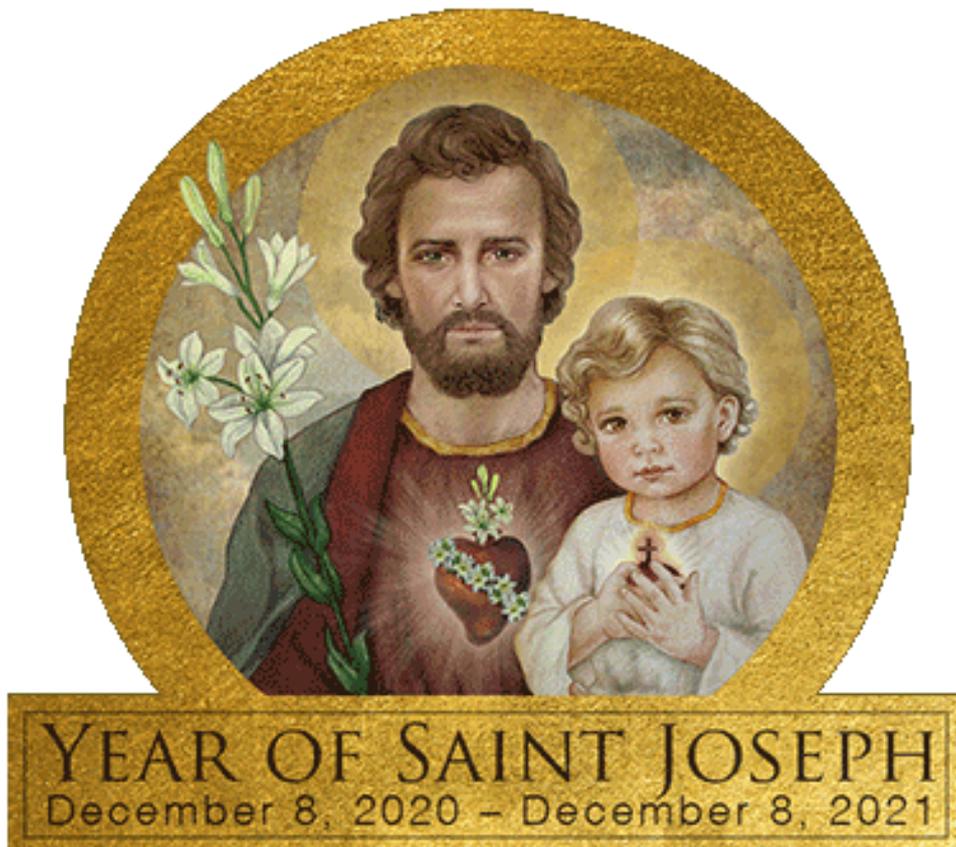
To us too

Show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace mercy and courage

And defend us from every evil.

Amen



On Line Lent Resources

Here are a number of on line resources for Lent. There is a mixture of universal and local diocesan resources.

Parousia: The Bible and the mass.

This is a journey through scripture, hosted by Scott Hahn to uncover why all God's action, in creation and redemption, is ordered to the mass.

<https://stpaulcenter.com/studies-tools/journey-through-scripture/parousia-the-bible-and-the-mass/>

Lenten Bible Course

6 weekly sessions to break open each Lenten Sunday Gospel.....before you go to Sunday mass.
Led by Mauro Iannecelli

<https://comeandsee.org/lent.html>

Sycamore

A 6 week Lent course for practising Christians, or for people with some Christian background, who wish to renew their faith in the season of Lent.

<https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/lent-course/>

CAFOD

CAFOD'S ON LINE Lent Calendar which has a daily scripture, chance to reflect, pray and take justice action with the worldwide family.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent-calendar>

Prayer 11

This Lent course in Christian spirituality is intended as an introduction to some of the themes found in living the Christian spiritual life. Some of these themes might make us feel uncomfortable. For example, the theme of obedience. Our desire to be in control of every aspect of our own lives is often considered normal and good in today's world. Yet, for those who have taken their pursuit of God seriously, it is clear that a willingness to be obedient to God is a necessary attitude if we are going to make progress on that journey. Jesus, himself, says that this is necessary (Luke 11 : 28, John 14 : 23) and makes it clear that he chose to live a life of obedience to his Father's will (John 8 : 55).

<https://www.prayereleven.org/home/spiritual-maturity/ideas-for-lent/lent-2019/>

Diocesan Resources

For Youth: Your Faith in Action.

A series of talks 22nd February – 22nd March, 7.30 – 8.30pm through zoom. Age 13 plus. Organised by Saskia Hogbin our diocesan youth ministry events coordinator.

youth@prcdtr.org.uk

Fr. Ian Hellyer

Lent reflections on the theme of worship through a scriptural approach.

Peverell-st-edward.blogspot.com

Fr. Brian Kenwick

Tuesday 16th February at 6.30 pm - Presentation by Fr Brian 'Jesus Outside of the New Testament'

Tuesday 23rd February at 6.30pm – second presentation by Fr. Brian

www.falmouthcatholicchurch.org.uk,

Fr. Mark Skelton

I have planned a series of 10 talks on zoom from different priests and lay people from around the country. Once I have finalized the dates and zoom links I can let you know. I do intend to record them to so as to enable people who do not 'zoom' to enjoy them as well. The Zoom link for Fr. Mark Skelton's Lenten talks is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84667005013?pwd=eExpQ25naUxqYi95dmVFeVhkMHI4QT09>

Week One.

Mon 22nd Feb Gerard Barry

"The Freedom of Lent"

How celebrating Lent in Prison can be a guide to our reflection in Lockdown

Wed 24th Feb Sarah Kate Adams.

"Transforming and Healing the wounded soul"

Week Two.

Mon 1st March David John

"A Lenten walk in the mountains with Thumper"

Thurs 4th March Peter Coxe.

"Empowering Our Relationship with God, Ourselves & Fellow Creatures"

Week Three.

Mon 8th March Mark Nash.

"Mending the Nets". Preparing for Mission.

Thurs 11th March Peter Montgomery

"Guilt and Shame in a Post modern world"

Week Four.

Mon 15th March Ned Wall

“A radical Jesus in Lent”

Wed 17th March Jonathan Stewart.

“Vice or Virtue -the Path to Holiness”

Week Five.

Mon 22nd March Anthony Hodges.

“The Ecology of Lent – a call to Life”

Wed 24th March Karen Cortes Foong.

“The Black Madonna’s Invitation to honour the Other”

Youth2000

Follow the Sunday Gospels throughout Lent

<https://www.jesuit.org.uk/bbc-and-jesuits-britain-bring-you-special-lent-retreat>

Jesuits in Britain (in conjunction with the BBC)

This Lent, BBC Radio 4 will explore aspects of Ignatian spirituality and point listeners to ‘Knowing Jesus’, an online retreat being offered by the Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow. This retreat is available to anyone in the world with access to the Internet who wants to immerse themselves in the spirituality of St Ignatius.

<https://www.jesuit.org.uk/bbc-and-jesuits-britain-bring-you-special-lent-retreat>