



St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church

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OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER 17th March 2019

Second 'Transfiguration' Sunday of Lent - Year C : Weekdays - Year 1

1st Reading: **Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18** Psalm: 26

Psalm Response: **The Lord is my light and my help.**

2nd Reading: **Philippians 3:17, 4:1** Gospel: **Luke 9:28-36**

Fr Gerard writes on Transfiguration Sunday:

What's the Transfiguration doing here in Lent? Why, in the midst of this Season of penance, with its Lenten discipline and sombre purple, does the Church present us with this image of Jesus' garments becoming 'glistening, intensely white, as no fuller on earth could bleach them'? Wouldn't that fit better with the mood of Eastertide? But we need to journey through Lent with Easter in our minds and hearts. Many commentators on this episode in the Gospels suggest that this is the vision of the Risen Jesus, pointing forward to his Resurrection, or even to his Second Coming. That still doesn't tell us what this account of it is doing here on the second Sunday of Lent. Perhaps by looking at the other readings appointed for today, and especially the account of the sacrifice of Isaac in Genesis 22, we can find out what it is to which the Church is pointing. In this passage, we hear how Abraham, in obedience to God, is prepared to sacrifice his only son. At the last minute, an angel of the Lord stays his hand and, having sacrificed a ram instead, Abraham is told of the reward for his faithfulness: his descendants will be multiplied, and by his offspring shall all the nations on the earth will be blessed.

This sacrifice of an only son gets us thinking: The Church has often seen in the figure of Isaac carrying the wood for his own sacrifice a figure of Jesus carrying his cross to Calvary. That sacrifice, of course, was not stopped or swapped at the last minute. Only on the third day did it become clear that this was not a pointless and incomprehensible death but the glorification of Jesus – that descendant of Abraham in whom all the nations on the earth will be blessed.

So, what is the Transfiguration doing here in Lent? Just as it was for the disciples who saw it before they witnessed all the events of Christ's passion and death, I believe it is a sign of Hope – a reminder for us of the goal of our Lenten journey. It is a sign of Hope that God can transform and give meaning to our lives, even when they may seem pointless or consist of incomprehensible suffering. Jesus has shared in our humanity, has shared in our suffering, and shares even in our death, so that in those times of trials and difficulties we too can hope to share in the glory He revealed to his disciples in his Transfiguration. We as a parish have an amazing community and the Faith is growing here. I was thanked for bringing spirituality back to the parish. But it's not about me. It is about our spirituality as a parish community. If we're not looking after our spirituality, if we are not going to Devotions, or going to Confession, or making the Masses as beautiful as we can, if we are not improving our church to be more holy and beautiful, if we are not concerned about the teaching of the Faith for the young and even for the old, if we do not believe in the truth of the Church and the Faith that is passed to us, if we are not looking after each other and the poor, then where is our spirituality? Lent is a wonderful opportunity to bring us back to Jesus Who wants to live with us in our lives, and to enjoy and experience the beauty of our Church. Just as the disciples had a vision of the Transfigured Jesus, so too can we look with joyful hope towards Easter and the joy of the Resurrection.

Fr Gerard Update

Fr Gerard went to St. George's Hospital for a check up this week and the doctor was very happy with his progress. He has completed the four week course of daily intravenous antibiotic treatment and is now on oral antibiotic medication. He continues his recuperation and is taking complete rest.

Mass Intentions: During his recuperation Fr Gerard celebrates daily Mass and would welcome Intention requests. If you would like him to celebrate a Mass for a special Intention please contact the parish office and he will be happy to celebrate the Mass for you.

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD - Prayer Intentions

As in previous years during the 24 Hours For the Lord, there will be a Prayer Board for prayer intentions for the living and for the dead. If you have an intention, place the monetary donation in an *ordinary* envelope and post it through the Presbytery letterbox. Mark the envelope with "24 Hours For the Lord Prayer Intentions." and write the intention on the envelope, either "John Doe RIP" (for a deceased person) or "For the intention of Jane Roe" (for a living person). Multiple intentions will be most welcome and your donation does not have to be large. Donations towards candles would also be very welcome - we get through a lot of candles during 24 Hours of Adoration!

PARISH PARKING

May we please remind you again that when using road parking for Mass to be considerate to our neighbours and avoid double parking and blocking drives.

PARISH ACTIVITIES DURING LENT 2019

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| Tuesdays (morning) (repeat) | 6.30am 10.45am 8.00pm | Morning Prayer & Adoration followed by continental breakfast CaFE DVD Course : 'How Mary Helps Us to be Filled With God' CaFE DVD Course : 'How Mary Helps Us to be Filled With God' |
| Fridays | 7.30pm | Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent except 29 th March |
| Mon 25th March | | Solemnity of the Annunciation : Evening Mass with Fr Dominic followed by a Bring and Share celebration in the Hall. <i>No Lenten discipline this day!</i> |
| Fri 29th March | | 24 Hours For the Lord from 6.00pm on Friday 29 th March to 6.00pm on Saturday 30 th March. Please sign up for an hour before the Lord. We need a minimum of two people per hour. Sheets available in the Narthex. |
| Sun 31st March | | 'Laetare' Sunday - the 4 th Sunday in Lent when the vestments are Rose. Wear something pink to Mass! |

'Let It Be Done Unto Me' CaFE DVD Course during LENT

Our Lent course has now started but it's not too late join, just come along to our second session on **Tuesday, 19th March either 10.45am or 8.00pm**. This is a 'CaFE' reflection course, with the theme 'How Mary Helps Us To Be Filled With God', on five Tuesdays during Lent in the Hall.

The course looks at who Mary is, what her role is and how she points the way to Jesus. Each participant will have their own course book for private reflection. For more information see the poster in the Narthex or contact Roger (01483 481944, rogandmad.furnell@btinternet.com)

The Voluntary Retiring Collection THIS Sunday is for CAFOD Lenten Fast Day

Newly Formed Benedictine Community in France: This newly formed community is half French and half English, and Fr Gerard has been asked if we could help them financially. Especially during Lent, when we are encouraged to practise Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving, financial support to this community would be a very good Lenten practice.

A Charity has been set up which is now legally able to receive donations, which are eligible for Gift Aid, and the monks are profoundly grateful to all who have helped them in its establishment.

Cheques may be sent to: **FRIENDS OF THE MONASTÈRE SAINT-BENOÎT**
110 Fairfield Drive, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1JJ, England

Transfers may be made directly to the Charity's bank account:
Sort code: 40 52 40; Account No. 00032475

To set up Gift Aid or for any other questions, please contact: amici.msb@gmail.com

Reward, O Lord, with Eternal Life to all those who do good to us for the sake of Your Name. Amen.

St Hugh's Quiz Night in the Church Hall Saturday 23rd March. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Tickets are £10 to include fish and chip supper (either cod, jumbo sausage or veggie burger) or £5 with no food. BYO alcohol, but there will be a limited bar (corkage donation appreciated). For tickets contact FriendsOfStHughesPTA@gmail.com

Woking Refugee Support Programme: Woking Borough Council (WBC) are holding a 'Volunteer Information Afternoon' on **Monday, 25th March, 1.30-2.30pm** at Knaphill Methodist Church (KMC) in order to recruit committed volunteers to assist with the integration of Syrian refugee families into Woking by helping at a 'Conversation Café' (Mondays 1:30-2:30pm), where they will have discussions on set topics to help the families feel confident about their communication skills. The Café will be held at KMC with a rota of helpers from the four main churches in Knaphill. Trained volunteers are also required to visit families in their homes to provide further 1-1 English support and to occasionally accompany families to and from hospital appointments and other events in Woking. If you want to get involved in this worthwhile project please come along to the Volunteer Information Afternoon. For further information contact either Hina Ashraf, Volunteer Co-ordinator (Refugees) at WBC on hina.ashraf@woking.gov.uk / 01483 743819 or Roger (rogandmad.furnell@btinternet.com / 01483 481944).

PARISH PROJECT

At the beginning of the year we asked for nominations for our Parish Project & received the following:

Home Project : Woking Mind; Woking Hospice; York Road Project.

Overseas Project : Ahotokurom Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre, Ghana and Aid to the Church in Need.

This weekend and next weekend we will have a short talk at the end of Mass as follows:

Woking Mind : Saturday 16th March at 6.30pm Mass

York Road Project: Sunday 17th March at 9.30am and 11.30am

Ahotokurom : Sunday 24th March at 6.30pm, 9.30am and 11.30am

The Parish will then be invited to vote on their preference.

Sacristy Items: Donations are being received for the various sacramental items in need of replacement, and to date £532 of the £3,000 required has been received.

If you would like to donate money for these projects in Memory of a loved one, or in Thanksgiving for favours received, or just because you care, your donation will be gratefully received.

Jackpot Club: Congratulations to Maureen & Roderick O'Connor, and Danielle Cousins on winning £52/£26 respectively. You have to be in it to win it!
Contact Anne on 01483 480677 or email: am.rushton@btopenworld.com.

ONE THOUSAND ROSARIES for Fr GERARD

Heartfelt thanks for all the prayers which are greatly appreciated and need to be sustained as Fr Gerard recuperates. So far **1125 Rosaries** for Fr Gerard's return to complete health have been prayed. Please continue praying and recording each complete Rosary prayed. Rosaries recorded on the Parish Facebook page will be recorded in the Book by the Parish Secretary.

On the pages at the back of the Book please write your personal messages to Fr Gerard - perhaps include a favourite quotation, or an extract from a poem.

Our aim now is to fill the Book from cover to cover with prayed Rosaries and Messages to be presented to his family, together with the card which has been made.

Appreciative thanks to a wonderful, supportive, and caring Parish.

IMPORTANT DATES

| | | | |
|-----|----|-----|--|
| Tue | 19 | Mar | Morning Prayer at 6.30am followed by continental breakfast |
| Tue | 19 | Mar | Lenten preparation - CaFE Reflection course in the Parish Hall at 10.45am & 8pm |
| Tue | 19 | Mar | St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Solemnity: <i>No Lenten discipline this day</i> |
| Thu | 21 | Mar | RCIA meeting in the Parish Hall at 8pm |
| Mon | 25 | Mar | Annunciation of the Lord - Solemnity : <i>No Lenten discipline this day</i> |

LITURGY TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS

Second 'Transfiguration' Sunday of Lent - Sunday 17th March 2019

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|-----|----|---------|--|--|
| Sat | 16 | 6.30pm | Vigil Mass | Thanksgiving Imogen & Joseph Peaston |
| Sun | 17 | 9.30am | Morning Mass | Don Dunne RIP |
| Sun | 17 | 11.30am | Morning Mass | For the Recovery of Fr Gerard |
| Mon | 18 | 10am | Morning Prayer & Rosary | <i>Intention moved to Sun. 18th May 6.30pm</i> |
| Tue | 19 | 6.30am | Morning Prayer & Adoration followed by continental breakfast | |
| Tue | 19 | 10am | Morning Prayer & Rosary | <i>Intention moved to Sun. 24th March 9.30am</i> |
| Wed | 20 | | No Mass | ***** |
| Thu | 21 | | No Mass | ***** |
| Fri | 22 | 10am | Morning Prayer & Rosary | <i>Intention moved to 8pm 25th March (share)</i> |
| Fri | 22 | 7.30pm | Stations of the Cross | ***** |
| Sat | 23 | 10am | No Mass | ***** |

Third Sunday of Lent - Sunday 24th March 2019

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|-----|----|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sat | 23 | 6.30pm | Vigil Mass | Thanksgiving - Andrew Larkham |
| Sun | 24 | 9.30am | Morning Mass | Recovery of Fr Gerard |
| Sun | 24 | 11.30am | Morning Mass | Fatima Moraes de Raga RIP |
| Mon | 25 | 9am | Annunciation of The Lord | Doug Robbins RIP |
| Mon | 25 | 11am | Annunciation of The Lord | <i>Available</i> |
| Mon | 25 | 8pm | Annunciation of The Lord | Mary Hirth RIP/Don Dunne RIP |

Sacrament of Reconciliation 5.45pm - 6.10pm on Saturdays

Vespers and Adoration - 6.00pm Sunday

Offertory Collection (cash & standing orders) last weekend: £1,218.69 Many thanks.



THE MEMORARE:

“Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, our Mother; to thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy, hear and answer us. Amen.”