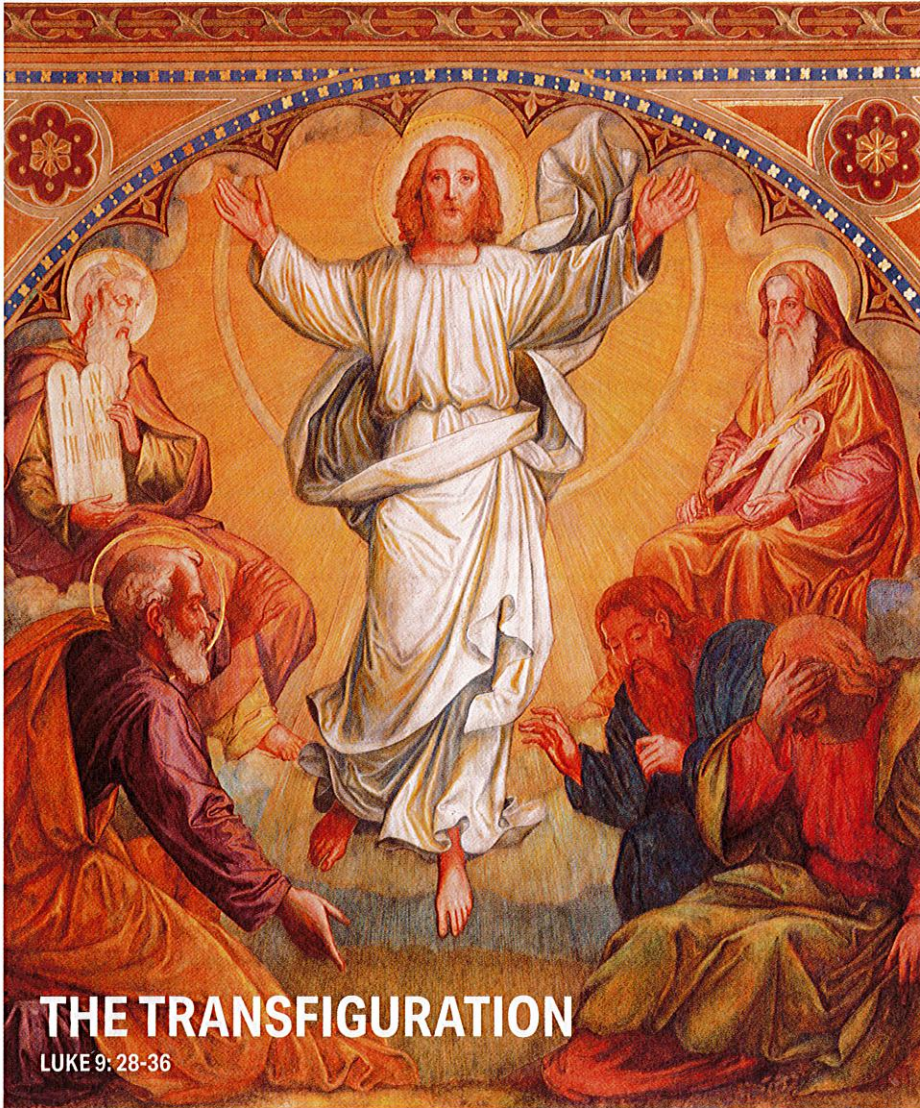


# Sunday Message

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WORD

Year C • 16th March 2025 • Psalter Week 2



## THE TRANSFIGURATION

LUKE 9: 28-36

The story of the transfiguration is told each year on this Sunday. This is because in each of the gospels, it comes after Jesus has warned his disciples that he will be rejected in Jerusalem and suffer the ultimate penalty.

There are, therefore, two aspects to the story of the transfiguration. One is that it affirms Jesus' identity as the beloved of God despite the shadow of the cross that now hangs over his ministry. The second is that it serves as a reminder to the disciples that their task as they accompany Jesus on the road to Jerusalem is to really listen to him. This puts our Lenten efforts into the right context as the sole purpose of the season is to bring us to a closer relationship with Jesus and to understand more fully the meaning of his passion, death and resurrection.

This gospel challenges all the easy reductions that we make about Jesus: Jesus the inspiring teacher, Jesus the compassionate preacher, Jesus the friend of the poor. He is all these, but he is also the One who comes from the Father, the One who, we believe, was prepared for by the prophets, the One who stands at the centre of history. The transfiguration calls us to expand our labels or definitions we might have of Jesus. The Lord of history is transfigured with these earlier prophets each side of him, and Peter wants to set up a campsite! This shows the intimacy with which the human and the divine are present in Jesus: he is with his friends and interacts with them; he is present in the glory of God. God is always greater, and what we can say about God is what we can see in Jesus. ■

## REFLECT

After reading this Gospel passage, we can very easily be drawn to our own mountain top experiences. The last mountain I climbed was in Newcastle in County Down and I reached the top of Slieve Donard by lunch time. A climb that's surrounded by beauty is an experience that stays in the mind for some time. You have your own experiences of beauty and connection to nature that you can share and places I'm sure you return to time and time again to reenergise the mind and body. Some of us might talk about a real sense of God's presence as we encounter the peace and beauty and stillness of being on a mountain.

You could probably say the same about the followers of Jesus in today's Gospel. They were energised by what they saw, the beauty of the scene was striking on top of the mountain as the clothing of Jesus changed to a brilliant white. They are transformed by the presence of God, which shone through Jesus. This journey with Jesus is an intimate one and the memory of their encounter with God will nourish their lives and their ministry forever. ■

## DO

Take some time in silence this week to reflect on how you imagine the scene of the Transfiguration.



## SAY

Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ,  
Who renewed our humanity so  
that we may share in his divinity.

## LEARN

"Lord you have made us for yourself, therefore our hearts are restless until they rest in you."  
(Saint Augustine)



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.*

Or

*Remember your compassion, O Lord,  
and your merciful love, for they are from of old.  
Let not our enemies exult over us.  
Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.*

**COLLECT**

O God, who have commanded us  
to listen to your beloved Son,  
be pleased, we pray,  
to nourish us inwardly by your word,  
that, with spiritual sight made pure,  
we may rejoice to behold your glory.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

*Amen.*

**FIRST READING** Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

In those days: God brought Abram outside and said, 'Look towards heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.' And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

And he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying,

'To your offspring I give this land,  
from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Psalm 27(26):1. 7-8b. 8c-9c. 13-14. R. 1a

**R: The LORD is my light and my salvation.**

1. The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
whom should I dread? **R.**
2. O LORD, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer me.  
Of you my heart has spoken,  
'Seek his face.' **R.**
3. It is your face, O LORD, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.  
Dismiss not your servant in anger;  
you have been my help. **R.**
4. I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the LORD; be strong;  
be stout-hearted, and wait for the LORD! **R.**

**SECOND READING** Philippians 3:17-4:1

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians.

*(For shorter form read between > <)*

>Brothers and sisters: <join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But >Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.<

*Thanks be to God.*

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL** Matthew 17:5

**R: Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.**

From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:

'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.

**R: Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.**

**GOSPEL** Luke 9:28b-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah' – not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!' And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray,  
cleanse us of our faults  
and sanctify your faithful in body and mind  
for the celebration of the paschal festivities.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;  
listen to him.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

As we receive these glorious mysteries,  
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,  
for allowing us while still on earth  
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*



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# THE BEACON

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& St Luke's Church  
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Clergy: Fr Joe Donlan, Fr Michał Łatuszyński M: 07926 044405 E: stafford@pcmew.org

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Office: The Presbytery, King Street, Wellington, TF1 3AP E: ourladyandstpatrick2024@gmail.com T: 01952 – 242423

16 MARCH 2025

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTON – Please add your envelope or donation into the box in the porch

Sat	15th	17:30	Keith Tracey (Health) Kathleen Tracey (Birthday)	St Patrick's
Sun	16th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
<b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b>		09:00	Clare Kendrick (Health) / Bina Dyche Anniversary	Our Lady's
		11:00	Dumitru Puiu	St Patrick's
		15:00	Stations of the Cross	Our Lady's

Mon	17th	<b>St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland, Patron of the Parish</b>		
		19:00	Parishioners -followed by refreshments	St Patrick's

Tues	18th	<b>Ferial</b>		
		12:00	Martin Gaughan (Ann) /Suzanne Hoskinson (Bday) - CWL Mass	St Patrick's

Wed	19th	<b>St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>		
		12:00	Joan Daly (Birthday Intention)	Our Lady's

Thurs	20th	<b>Ferial</b>		
		19:00	Holy souls in Purgatory	St Patrick's

Fri	21st			
		12:00	Martin Walsh RIP - followed by soup lunch.	St Patrick's
		18:00	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's

### Second Collection for WALSINGHAM – as directed by the Bishops of England and Wales

Sat	22nd	17:30	Hugh and Bridget Canavan/ Doreen Biddulph 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary	St Patrick's
Sun	23rd	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>		09:00	Davis Family Intentions	Our Lady's
		11:00	Peter Costello RIP	St Patrick's
		15:00	Stations of the Cross	St Patrick's

### SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

**RIP:** We Pray for all those whose Anniversaries are at this time.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

**BAPTISMS:** 23<sup>rd</sup> March – **Maya Bradburn-Williams**,  
6<sup>th</sup> April – **Arlo Vincent**, 27<sup>th</sup> April – **Louie Haynes**.

**Weekly Offerings:** Total: £1748.14 - Standing Orders £687 (£549.25 Gift Aided), Envelopes £467.50 (£384 Gift Aided), Loose Plate £593.64 (Not Gift Aided). We can only add Gift Aid if donations are identifiable.

**COLLECTION ENVELOPES:** Envelopes for the next financial year are available from the porch for current users. They will begin on April 6<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to start giving via envelope or standing order forms are available. Please complete a gift aid declaration if you can. We can claim an extra 25% on your offerings if we can identify your gift.

**Bank details:** St Patrick Wellington

Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account Number: 54546760

Our Lady & St Luke Telford

Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account Number: 54582160

### ROTAS

**Sat 5.30:** **W:** Denzil & Joanne **EM:** Nicky **Next Week:** **W:** Lynne & Lewis **EM:** Ann N

**Sun 9:** **W:** John & Thomas **EM:** Catherine **C:** Bruce & Mick **Next Week:** **W:** Kevin & Katrina **EM:** Rita **C:** Laura & Edith

**Sun 11:** **W:** Evangeline & Shreya **EM:** Jarmila **C:** Jarmila & Jane **Next Week:** **W:** Krystyna & Nancy **EM:** Anna **C:** Lottie & Krystyna

*The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)*

### DATA PROTECTION PRIVACY NOTICE

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).

**LIVESTREAM:** Our Masses from St Patrick's are available online at <https://churchservices.tv/wellington>



**ST PATRICK'S DAY:** All our parishioners are invited to a special mass at St Patrick's Church on Monday, 17 March at 7pm, followed by refreshments. This year, our reception will be organised by the RCIA candidates, who are going to be received into full communion at the Easter Vigil. Service to the community is part of their initiation into the Catholic faith.

## SACRAMENTS

**Baptism Preparation Sessions:** We have already had two Parish Baptism preparation sessions in 2025. Anyone organising a Baptism are strongly encouraged to attend one session before the celebration of the sacrament. The next session will be on 29<sup>th</sup> March at 12noon.

**Sacrament of Forgiveness:** Around 50 children celebrated the Sacrament of Forgiveness for the first time last Tuesday. It was a moment of grace for them and their families. We thank Moira, Gay, Cheryl, Mac, Anna, Jarmila, Mary & Theresa..., who helped prepare them for this special celebration. Their Holy Communion celebrations will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> May at OLoR and 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May at St Patrick's.

**Confirmation** Candidates need to be in Yr 8 or older (including adults). Forms are to be returned by Palm Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> April.

**Pastoral Care of the Sick:** Fr Ravi has begun his Lenten Communion visits to those unable to attend church due to health reasons. If anyone is in need of a pastoral visit, please do encourage their next of kin to contact Fr Ravi, directly. Eucharistic ministers visiting them are encouraged to take a copy of our newsletter as many show a keen interest in supporting our Parish activities.

**ST PATRICK'S MAINTENANCE UPDATE:** The new Diocesan property manager has visited St Patrick's and has agreed to look into the outstanding issues regarding our buildings. The cellar and the chimney in the presbytery are being looked into and an ensuite on the ground floor is being considered. Thanks for your support.

**PARISH CONVERSATIONS:** Thanks to all those who participated in our Parish conversations last weekend. Going forward, many expressed support for the Sacred Triduum celebrations to be celebrated in a common venue, which will also serve to bring our parish together. Celebrating our unity as one Parish with forming effective leadership teams at all levels was identified as an urgent need. The need for evangelisation and outreach to young people/children was emphasised. Parishioners are encouraged to consider using Gift Aid/Standing Order for their church support and getting a Card Reader for our two churches was strongly recommended. Suggestions were put forth for common activities, like pilgrimages, trips, socials etc., as well as the need for a Sunday evening Mass in the area.

**LIVING OUR FAITH – MARCH 2025:** A four-page questionnaire on our Parish Life and Mission – covering all aspects (Word, Worship, Service, Community) is available in church porches. Please return them when completed, preferably by the end of March. Such review exercises in a Parish setting can help in our growth and renewal.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** 3pm on Sundays in Lent.

Date	Leader	Venue
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Bill Dukes	Our Lady's
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Youth Group	St Patrick's
30 <sup>th</sup> March	Pauline H & Pauline H	Our Lady's
6 <sup>th</sup> April	St Patrick's SVP	St Patrick's
13 <sup>th</sup> April	Our Lady's SVP	Our Lady's

**LENT 2025:** Due to there being a Bishop's Pastoral letter on 5/6 April we will welcome Fr John Rafferty on another weekend.

Lenten Reconciliation celebrations led by Fr Chris Walsh will be on Wednesday, 9 April at OLoR & SL and Thursday 10 April at St Patrick's, both at 7pm.

We will welcome Fr Bill Fitzgerald to lead the Sacred Triduum at Our Lady's this year.

**WALSINGHAM 2025:** We have only two seats left on the coach to Walsingham: if you want to find out more, please contact Alex Beyer urgently 01952 410315.

**CWL:** On Tuesday the presentation by Hannah Moore, from Mary's Meals will begin 1.30 pm in the meeting room. On Friday there will be a bread and soup lunch after the noon Mass . All welcome to both events.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

### Palm (Passion) Sunday 13/14 April

Palm crosses will be blessed at each Mass.

### Wednesday 16 April

#### Mass of the Chrism

Saint Anthony's Wythenshawe - 7pm.

### Holy Thursday 17 April

#### Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

St Patrick's Church at 7.00pm.

*(in English and Polish languages)*

Our Lady's at 7.30pm

*Watching until 10pm.(both churches)*

### Good Friday 18 April

#### Solemn Celebration of the Passion

In both churches at 3.00pm

Stations of the Cross at 5.30pm *(Polish)*

**Solemn Celebration of the Passion (Polish) 6.00pm**

### Holy Saturday 19 April

#### The Easter Vigil

Our Lady's Church at 7.30pm

St Patrick's Church at 7pm.

*(in English and Polish languages)*

### Easter Sunday Morning 20 April

Masses at the normal times