



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Second Sunday of Lent: 16 March 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 16th March

John Sutton(A)
Patsy McCauley (A)
Gabriel and Eucharist Alilionu & Family
(Thanksgiving for God's protection)
Emily Dale (D)
Cora & Christy Campbell (A)
Dr. Michael Hayes (A)

Monday, 17th March

Feast of St Patrick

Public Holiday

John Lawrence (3rd A)
Eddie Lawrence (D)
Rose Hunter (A)
Pat Hunter (D)
Christy & Ellen Crosbie (D)
William (Liam) Condren (SI)
Frances Rita Condren (SI)
Joe Patrick (SI)

Tuesday, 18th March

Rita McCabe (D)
William & Teresa Dale (D)
Jack Donaghy (D)

Wednesday, 19th March

Josie Manscier (BR)
Patricia Heaslip (A)
Bridie & Wyburn Powell (D)

Thursday, 20th March

John & Catherine Dale (D)

Friday, 21st March

Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)
Thomas Abbey (1st A)
Mary & Percival Heitman (D)

Saturday, 22nd March

Connie & Lizzie Doyle (D)

Transfiguration in the Eucharist

The great mystery of our faith

While preparing this reflection for the second Sunday of Lent, I recalled an experience I had many years ago when, I attended an evening Mass at home. The Mass followed a removal service for someone who had died in the parish. As I was approaching the altar that evening, to receive Holy Communion, I became aware of an overwhelming sense of the presence of God in all who had gathered to pray. It seemed to me that Jesus was saying to me, I am here, I am risen from the dead; those who die will rise with me. In the deepest part of myself, in that moment, I knew this to be true.

In today's gospel story of the Transfiguration of Jesus, Peter, James and John had an extraordinary experience of the divinity of Jesus. Up until then they had known Jesus only in human form but at the transfiguration, 'His appearance changed dramatically...His face shone with heavenly glory, clear and bright like the sun and His clothing became white as light'. (Matt 17:2). Later John was to write, 'We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only'. (John Chapter 1 verse 14).

The Transfiguration story is mirrored in the Eucharist's power to transform us. Just as the disciples were changed by encountering Christ's glory, we too are transformed when we take part in celebrating the Sacred Mystery of the Lord's passion death and resurrection. The Eucharist is for each of us a channel of grace, which has the power to renew and cleanse us, drawing us more deeply into a relationship of love with Jesus.

St. Louise de Marillac, was struggling to know what path to follow in her life. She too had a 'transfiguration moment' while attending Mass, on Pentecost Sunday 1623. During Mass on that day, all her doubts and fears about her future, were dispelled by a revelation of the Holy Spirit. She wrote this Pentecost experience on parchment and carried it with her as a reminder that despite her difficulties, God was guiding her life. She would eventually establish the Company of the Daughters of Charity with St. Vincent de Paul.

The highlight of our faith is the Eucharist in which Jesus reveals Himself to us in His word and in the Sacrament of Himself. As we journey through Lent, let us appreciate more deeply, this great gift of our faith.

Sr. Claire Mc Kiernan DC



ONLINE - LENTEN TALKS



WEEK 2 (16th March) - TRANSFIGURATION - Sr. Claire McKiernan, DC

<https://www.vincentianfamily.ie/transfiguration-a-moment-of-grace/>

Lent Weekday Mass Times 17th - 22nd March

Monday - 17 March, Feast of St Patrick, national patron
Mass at 10.30am **NO evening Mass** as it is a public holiday

Tuesday - Saturday inclusive Masses 10.30am and 6.30pm

Friday - (Stations of the Cross after 6.30pm Mass)

What's Happening this week

- Tuesday 18th March, Patrician on 'St Patrick' 7.30pm – St Peter's Club The topic this month is 'St Patrick'. There will be a brief paper on the topic, and then we gather to talk (or listen) about what we have heard. We have a cup of tea and light refreshments mid-way. Everyone is very welcome to come along
- Wednesday 19th 7pm - Retreat for men (Most Precious Blood, Cabra West)

LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 16 March 2025

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Genesis

Taking Abram outside the Lord said,

'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him.

Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord, he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.'

'My Lord the Lord,' Abram replied, how am I to know that I shall inherit it?'

He said to him,

'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.'

He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him.

When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves.

That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Philippians

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things.

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ !

From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'

Glory and praise to you, O Christ !

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.

Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus,

'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here;

so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah'.

— He did not know what he was saying.

As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid.

And a voice came from the cloud saying, **'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.'**

And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone.

The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Members of Viatores Christi will speak at Masses in St Peter's next weekend Sat/Sun 22nd/23rd March, 2025.

What is Viatores Christi?

Viatores Christi (VC), is an association of Catholic lay missionary/development workers, founded in 1960. VC brings about positive change by improving access to healthcare, education and livelihood opportunities in the marginalised communities in which we work.

Why are they talking at The Masses?

- To raise awareness about the missionary work of the Church and the role of lay missionaries, both at home and overseas.
- To thank the people of the Dublin Archdiocese for your support for our work over the years
- To offer an opportunity and preparation to anyone who feels called to volunteer.
- To appeal for ongoing help both financially and above all through prayer.
- There will be an exit collection in aid of the work of VC.

COLLECTIONS - Sunday 9th March

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online/Payzone) = €1,372.66

Envelopes (incl. Online/Payzone) = € 447.20

Share (2nd Collection) = € 300.52

SVP (monthly collection) = € 544.44

Thank you for your support to the parish and to the Diocese.

Thank You - World Day of Prayer

Thank you to all those who attended the World (Women's) Day of Prayer last week here in St Peter's. We thank you for your support and your generosity. €170 was raised and has been lodged to the Ireland branch.

Next year's service will be held in All Saints, Phibsboro Road.