

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street N1 0SR

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr Allan Alvarado Gil
Fr Larry Milby (retired, in residence)

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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

8th March 2020

Mountain High Valley Low



When you hit a low do you feel sorry for yourself and complain bitterly, or do you seek to pull yourself back up and learn from it. When you are on a high do you make the most of the moment, working hard and feeling grateful, or do you sit back and become complacent? How you answer these questions is an important indicator of how you are likely to shape your future. Obviously a more positive attitude is going to shape a more fruitful future.

Today we find Peter James and John in low spirits. Discipleship is proving to be more difficult than they had imagined and understandably they were losing the enthusiasm and drive that they had shown previously. Jesus recognises that it is time to treat his disciples to a motivational vision, the vision that we now refer to as the 'Transfiguration'. The glimpse of heaven's glory must surely have stayed with Peter James and John for the rest of their days. But how does that help us? There's no doubt that some people are treated to spiritually motivating moments, but for most of us life seems to be just one long round of paying the bills. Is it any wonder we lose the bright-eyed vision of our youth or could it be that God is sending us little words of encouragement all the time and we simply don't remember them?

Peter lends a little human perspective to the story of the Transfiguration. He proposes erecting three tents in which to keep hold of the vision. It might sound trite but keeping hold of a vision is key to staying motivated. Some people keep letters of encouragement and cards of thanks and congratulations to remind themselves of a time when they were doing a particularly good job. Other people adorn their desks at work with photographs of their children to remind themselves of why they are working or cover their walls with certificates to keep in mind their original ambition. Others simply keep imagining how things will be once they have achieved their goals.

Jesus teaches us that we can't always control what's happening around us, but we can change our thinking. If we adopt a 'can do' attitude we will make much better choices for shaping the future.



CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: Last Friday, 6 March, was CAFOD Family Fast Day. Today there will be a retiring collection for CAFOD. If you are able to gift aid, please use one of the envelopes found by the doors and by the organ. Through CAFOD's global Church family – one of the largest aid networks in the world – your support can reach to the ends of the earth. Thank you for your generosity.

FRIDAYS OF LENT: During Lent there will be Mass followed by Stations of the Cross each Friday evening at 7.30.

CONFIRMATION 2020: the next session is tomorrow, **Monday 9th March**, in the Crypt at St John's in Duncan Terrace from 6.45pm – 8.00pm. Please make every effort to be there on time!

FIRST COMMUNION: Children's classes today and next Sunday, 15 March at 9.45. Please make every effort to be on time. Thank you.

CARITAS VOLUNTEERING: This Lent, Caritas Westminster is offering a volunteering drop-in session on the 17th of March from 10:00 to 12:00 at the small Parish hall at 100a Balls Pond Road, London, London N1 4AG. Have your questions about volunteering answered and get individual help in searching for volunteering opportunities. Not sure what you would like to do? No access to the internet elsewhere? Would you like help with applying online? Then this is for you! No booking required. Open to everyone.

PARISH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: International Celebration, Pentecost Sunday, 31st May and Parish BBQ, Saturday, 13th June.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for May Cullen (her funeral will be here at 12noon on Monday 23rd March) who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries are about this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Liam Buckley, Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), Cassie Robinson, Tessa Charlton, Michael Hehir, Emmanuel Tala, Mary Wallace, Jocelyn Hillgarth, Colin Harris, Maria Carrano, Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Hazel Hoyte, Angela Neary, Irene Cullen, Gerry Twomey, Barbara Johnson, Josephine Onwuka, Pauline Timlin, Kevin Corcoran, Patrick McShane, Margaret Walsh, Florence S Philip, Amidu (Blessing) Yamba, Evelyn Corcoran, Gerry Corcoran, Eamon Hanahoe, Mary Paditey, Kieran Vos, Bridget Ryan, Barbara Baggs, Mary Morgan, Pritti Depala, Elise Koffi, Luke Walsh, Ted Sullivan, Tim Healy and Billy.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 8 th March	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Parish Mass Book p.155)	8.30am	Intentions of Fr John Hai Pham
		11.00am	All our Parishioners
Monday 9 th March	Lent feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 10 th March	Lent feria	10.30am	Intentions of Bl. Sac. School
Weds. 11 th March	Lent feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Friday 13 th March	Lent feria	<u>7.30pm</u>	Private Intention
Sat. 14 th March	Lent feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Sunday 15 th March	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Parish Mass Book p.158)	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Private Intention

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Confessions: Sunday 8am-8.20am: 10.30am – 10.50am

Weekday Mass at St John the Evangelist Monday - Friday at 10.00am – All welcome

Confessions at St John's on Saturday 10.30-11.15am and 5.15-5.45pm