



# Church of the Transfiguration of Our Lord in Old Town, Stevenage

Grove Road, Stevenage Old Town, Hertfordshire.

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Web Address: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stevenagetransfiguration>

Parish Priest of THE COMBINED STEVENAGE PARISHES: **Fr Michael Doherty, SDS**, resident at St Hilda's, Shephall, SG2 9SQ, Tel: 01438 352182

Assistant Priest **Fr Nigel Woollen**, resident at St Joseph's, Bedwell, SG1 1NJ, Tel: 01438 351243

**Lister Hospital:** The Catholic Chaplain can be contacted on 01438 285138 (24/7 urgent need 01438 314333) or via text message 0788 418 7463

Archbishop's Safeguarding Service Co-ordinator: Confidential phone numbers 01582 712245 or 07814 879129

Parish Safeguarding Representative: **John Sloan** 01438 226857 / 0790 013 8371 or Email: [stevenageshephallsq@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:stevenageshephallsq@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Year A

Psalter: Week 1

1<sup>st</sup> March 2020

**29<sup>th</sup> Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

5:00: Mass

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

9.00: Mass

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday:** Lent feria

9.30: Mass

followed by Bible Study in the Church

**4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday:** Lent feria

9.30: Service of the Word

**6<sup>th</sup> Friday:** CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY

9.30: Mass

Stations of the Cross following Mass

**7<sup>th</sup> Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

5:00: Mass

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

9.00: Mass

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**Sunday Reading Cycle:** Year A

**Weekday Readings:** 7<sup>th</sup> week of Year 2

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year

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**WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN HOSPITAL,  
THOSE UNDERGOING TREATMENT, OR CONVALESCING:**

*May the Lord grant them healing and strength.*

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**PARISH SECRETARY IN THE OFFICE NEXT WEEK**

Tuesday 8:45-11:30am, Wednesday 11:00am-1:00pm &  
Friday 8:45am-2:00pm

If your enquiry is urgent please email the Secretary  
[stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk)  
(email accessed daily)

### CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2020

*Cardinal Nichols thanks you for your generous support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. Your donations help fund initiatives in parishes, schools and charities in three mission areas. Marriage and Family Life: enriching and supporting marriages, the essential building block of society and the Church. Youth and Evangelisation: supporting young people, the future of the Church, as they grow in their relationship with God and deepen their Catholic faith. The Church's Service in Society: putting our faith into action by serving poor, lonely and marginalised people. This year, the Cardinal is asking us to think about families who are struggling to put food on the table, even though they may be in work. Sadly, poverty is deepening across our Diocese and more people are turning to foodbanks for help. For children who get free meals at school, the holidays can be a time of hunger because the family budget doesn't stretch to cover three meals a day. One initiative the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal supports is school holiday clubs, where children can have fun, and prepare and eat a healthy meal during the school holidays. Please take a donation leaflet as you leave Mass today.*

### YEAR OF THE WORD

**Reading the Bible together ("Lectio Divina")**

Every Monday after 9.30am Mass, in the Church of the Transfiguration, Old Town Parish, with Fr Nigel. Tea & coffee provided.  
All welcome.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone."  
(Matthew 4:10)

## **ROTAS**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>** : Volunteer required

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>** : Paula Osmond

**Cleaning Rota** : Segun & Marianne Omosilade

Please see Cleaning Instructions on cleaning cupboard door

**Linen for March** : Barbara Segadelli

### **WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH**

Wednesday 7:00pm, Thursday and Friday 9:15am

### **WEEKDAY MASSES AT ST HILDA'S CHURCH**

Monday & Tuesday 9:30am & Thursday 8:00pm

### **CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March** is the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first Family Fast Day led by our founding mothers and, as it has been for sixty years, is an opportunity to reach out and support highly-skilled local experts around the world who help the poorest members

of our global family. Please collect your Family Fast Day envelope this week and give whatever you can to help experts like Sister Consilia - a nun and trained pharmacist who treats people in rural Zimbabwe - continue their vital work.

**Next weekend we welcome Michael Downing who will be talking to us about the great work of CAFOD.**

**Envelopes will be available next weekend.**

### **LENTEN RETREAT WITH FR NIGEL**

**On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2-5pm in the Transfiguration Church: Talk, Rosary, Holy Hour with Confessions, then usual Mass at 5:00pm. Theme: "The joy of the Lord is your strength."**

### **LADIES LUNCH ON WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**At The Coopers next door to Sainsbury's at the Poplars 12noon for 12:15pm. Good meals at reasonable prices, warm welcome of new and old diners. Raffle prizes welcome.**

### **CALLING ALL STEVENAGE CATHOLIC TEENAGERS**

**Westminster Youth Ministry is preparing a youth event aimed at those aged 13-18, to take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March.**

The event will be a chance for young people in the Diocese to socialise, share a meal together, learn more about their faith and be introduced to a deeper level of prayer and adoration. **Based at Our Lady, Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City, the Summit will run from 7-9pm** and will be a great chance to meet other young Catholics and enjoy our exiting programme of guest speakers, live music, prayer and of course some lovely food! Best yet, the event is free and does not require you to have a ticket so please come along and encourage your friends, families, classes, youth groups, confirmation groups, colleagues and whoever else to join us for what promises to be a great evening of fun and faith. We look forward to seeing you soon!

'Do not be content with a mediocre Christian life' I ask you, instead, to be revolutionaries, to swim against the tide; yes, I am asking you to rebel against this culture that sees everything as temporary and that ultimately believes that you are incapable of responsibility, that you are incapable of true love.'

Pope Francis. **Summit Parental Consent forms are available from the blue holder on the side of the bookshelf.**

### **MARCH ROTA**

For Readers and Eucharistic Ministers available from the wall beside the tabernacle.

## **REFRESHER TRAINING FOR ALL READERS AND**

## **MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 11:00am Readers and 12noon Ministers. This training is for both existing and new.**

## **ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY, WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL,**

## **SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 3:00PM**

**The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2020. If you are celebrating an Anniversary, please write your details on a sheet of paper and post it through the Presbytery door or email**

**stevenageoldtown@rcdow.org.uk. Name of husband and wife, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number if no email). Information by Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March.**

### **SETTLED STATUS FOR EUROPEAN CITIZENS**

**All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: [gov.uk/eusettledstatus](http://gov.uk/eusettledstatus)**

**Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Information on assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: [gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme](http://gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme) The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities.**

### **SALE OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION GIFTS AND CARDS**

**On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 10:00am in St Vincent de Paul School infant Hall.**

### **MEDITATION DAY AT OUR LADY'S, CHURCH, HITCHIN**

**People of all faiths and none are invited to an experience of Christian Meditation on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30 for 11 until 2pm. Martin Zetter of The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) will be our leader for the day. There will be books for sale and literature to take away and a shared lunch will be provided. If you would like to come or need more for information, please contact Mary Dawson: 01462 713872 or mdpegs@yahoo.co.uk**

### **MASS REGISTRATION**

**Please remember to sign in your Pre-School to Year 6 child BEFORE or AFTER Mass on the registration sheet, which can be found on the table near the organ. This information is used for the completion of the Certificate of Catholic Practice Form for school admissions.**

**Please only sign if your child is with you at Mass.**

### **HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH**

**Evangelisation: Catholics in China: We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.**