

Sunday 25th February 2024

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priest:** Fr Ananda Maddineni MSFS

Parish Pastoral Associates: Sandy Starbuck & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

The Partnered Parishes of:

St. Mary's

204 Grimshaw St.,
Greensborough, 3088

Parish: 9435 1543 **Presbytery:** 7036 9329

Email: Greensborough@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam1.org.au/greensborough

Secretaries: Lisa Leahy

Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & **5.00pm**

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 5.45pm-6.15pm before evening
Mass

Parish School Principal

Mrs. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**
principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

Sacred Heart & St Peter's

25 Gipson Street,
Diamond Creek 3089

Parish: 9401 6361

Email: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au

Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek

Secretary: Pat Guatta

Mass Times

Wednesday & Friday: Mass 9.15am

St Peter's: 1st Saturday 7.15pm

Sunday: Mass 9.00am

Reconciliation Times

Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am

Acting Parish School Principal

Mrs Gina Murphy **Ph:** 9438 1590 **or Email**
principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au

St. Thomas the Apostle

251 Diamond Creek Road,
Greensborough Nth 3088

Parish: 9434 7373

Email: greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au

Website: www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth

Secretary: Lisa Leahy

Mass Times

Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sunday: Mass 10.30am

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.30am to 10.00am

Acting Parish School Principal

Mrs Jo Nolen **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email**
principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

Please send any bulletin contributions to greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend bulletin. Thank you



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: THIS IS MY SON, THE BELOVED

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.

Second Sunday of Lent Year B, 25th February 2024.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/reflection-2-lent-year-b>

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

www.cam.org.au

St Mary's Facebook page

facebook.com/stmarysgreensborough/



Our Partnered Parishes respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.

PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

LENTEN THEME 2024 – CREATE A NEW HEART

Lent is the liturgical season for prayer, reflection and contrition for any wrongdoing we have made in our lives as we prepare for the joyous season of Easter.

The theme for this year, *Create a New Heart*, offers all of us the opportunity to open our minds and hearts to embrace and live by the Word of God. When we look around our communities, our country, our world, we often see war and turmoil, hate and revenge, and many people who have turned from a spiritual relationship with God. To follow the teachings of Jesus we need a new heart, one that is open to and knows the will of God. And with a new and transformed heart we can fulfil our mission: "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).

Create a new heart, holy Lord, beckon our lives through your word,

Open our eyes to your call, united as one for your world.

Heighten our minds to your thoughts, heal us of pride and of hurt,

May we go forth in your name, we pray our hearts change.

(A New Heart for a New World, T. Watts and M. O'Brien)

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

Week 2

Today is the second weekend of Lent and we pause to reflect.

In the Gospel today, on a mountain top with three of his apostles, Jesus is transfigured and shown to be the Son of God. The apostles were overwhelmed and wanted to stay up high with Jesus, worshipping him. But Jesus took them back down, for his ministry was with the people, being with those who needed him, the poor, the oppressed, the marginalised.

Jesus' message to the apostles and to us is the same: we have a new relationship with God that calls us to open our hearts and reach out to those around us, who are in pain and in need.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

COMBINED CHURCHES OF DIAMOND CREEK: St John's Anglican Church 61 Main Street Diamond Creek will host World Day of Prayer 2024 on Friday 1st March 1.30pm with Afternoon Tea to follow. All welcome.

TOGETHER COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION: at St John's Anglican Church Diamond Creek 19th – 28th April at 12 noon until 4pm. TOGETHER 2024 is inviting local artists to display their work in the welcoming space of St John's. All mediums welcome. Art has the power to transcend words, fostering connections that go beyond the ordinary. TOGETHER aims to be a space where community members connect, resonate, and find common ground through the language of art. Free Entry. www.stjohnsdc.org.au/together



'ASHES TO EASTER':LENTEN CONCERT-REFLECTION with Peter Kearney. Friday 1st March, 7.00pm. St. Luke's Church, 1A David Street, LALOR. Donations welcome.

Hosted by St. Luke's Parish, Lalor. Enquiries: 03 9465 2180.

Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter, singer and guitarist whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House', 'The Beatitudes' and 'Where Is Your Song, my Lord?'

His 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week and Easter. Mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy.

"A beautiful Lenten reflection ... prayerful and spiritual ... a worthwhile part of our Lenten journey".

Invite your friends; walk-ins welcome or book to save to your calendar. Book your free tickets online at www.trybooking.com/COXOR



STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Stations of the Cross will be held at St Thomas Church every Friday during lent commencing at 7.00pm.

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT WEEKEND OF 24-25 FEBRUARY 2024

REFLECTION

When Jesus took his closest friends to the top of a high mountain, they experienced something quite extraordinary. The transfiguration gave them a glimpse of what it meant for Jesus to be the son of God. It is hardly surprising that Peter said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here.' The Gospel also tells us that Jesus' friends were frightened, and this is also easy to understand. They were overwhelmed. Nevertheless, it's not long before Jesus reminds them that he is destined to die. His friends must come down from the mountain and walk with Jesus through all the ordinary days and weeks that lie ahead.

We can all say 'it is wonderful for us to be here' no matter where that happens to be. Life is full of wonder. That doesn't mean it is always easy. We live in the arms of a very deep mystery. God's love enfolds us.

Throughout Lent, we are called to support Project Compassion, an initiative of Caritas Australia. This year, Project Compassion celebrates 60 years of partnership with some of the most marginal communities in the world. With your help, we have walked alongside literally millions of people in dozens of countries.

This week we encounter the story of Ronita who lives in Quezon City, part of metro Manila in the Philippines. Becoming a mother at a young age meant that her schooling was cut short. Her husband, Lean, leaves for work at 3am and returns at 9pm, earning less than \$US10 per day in a demanding job in waste disposal. On such a small income, Ronita and Lean, along with two young children, are able to rent a room of about 10 square metres.

Thanks to your support of Project Compassion, Ronita's life can be transfigured. She has been able to continue her education through the Alternative Learning System (ALS), run by Caritas Australia's partner, the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). The FCJ sisters provide a safe space for young people such as Ronita to finish school and find better jobs.

Caritas Australia believes that the world can be transfigured to become more like the kingdom of God of which Jesus spoke. We can encounter people whom others choose to ignore. When we do so, we discover that here, too, are children of God. We are asked to listen to them.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION



We pray for gratitude for the wonder of faith in God and the beauty of life. May our vision be broad and deep as we embrace people in great need through our support of Project Compassion, organised by Caritas Australia. Lord, hear us.

FUNDRAISING IDEA

Each Sunday, play a short film (found on the USB) to highlight the positive impact your community is making. Integrate weekly stories, reflections and prayers into Mass (found in this booklet and on the USB) to further emphasise how your community's donations are transforming the lives of vulnerable people around the world.

BULLETIN NOTICE

You can help people like Ronita to find work and create a better future for herself and her loved ones by making a donation through Project Compassion boxes and envelopes, visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

RONITA'S STORY, PHILIPPINES



22-year-old Ronita lives with her husband and two children in a barangay (local district) in Quezon City, which is situated in Metro Manila in the Philippines.

Ronita left school when she became pregnant as a teenager. This could have had a life-long impact on her ability to find work and provide for her family.

Thankfully, Ronita was given a second chance at completing her studies when she heard about the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), Caritas Australia's local partners in the Philippines. Through the FCJ's Alternative Learning System (ALS) program, Ronita was able to re-enrol in her studies, and continue learning in a safe and flexible environment – even with the arrival of her second child, Egzy Grey.

After completing her ALS classes, Ronita went on to earn her Grade 12 Senior High School Diploma. With her new diploma, Ronita has now secured a job at a call centre which she hopes will allow her to support her family while she continues her studies.

With the support of the FCJ, Ronita has overcome tremendous obstacles to enjoy better employment prospects and a brighter future for her whole family.

"I have now graduated senior school and I am so proud of myself," she said, "I feel hopeful for the future ... Now it's not impossible for me to achieve my dream... Thank you."



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART & ST PETER'S



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: *Tuesday & Thursday 10.00am-1.00pm, Wednesday & Friday 8.30am-2.30pm.*

Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

BAPTISMS: we pray for Mason, Havana & Piper who will be welcomed into our Sacred Heart community in February.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: at Sacred Heart on Fridays, when Fr Steven is away on holidays this year, we are planning to celebrate Liturgy of the Word instead of Mass. Any generous volunteers, interested in leading Liturgy of the Word, would be most welcome to contact the Parish Pastoral Council via email at ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com Support and formation will be provided.

With thanks, Marg Farrell. PPC Chair

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Agenda items welcome for our next PPC Executive meeting Thursday 29th February. Next meeting 14th March. Suggestion box in church or email: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

PARISH RAFFLE: tickets are now available in the church for next month's raffle, the prize is a Voucher for Vines Café/Nillumbik Cellars.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024: Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join our parishioners at St John's Anglican Church Diamond Creek **next Friday 1st March** 1.30pm with Afternoon Tea to follow.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: 'Let the little children come to me' Mathew 19:14

Children's liturgy of the word is commencing in 2024 during 9am mass on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of school terms for children from preschool to grade 3. Volunteer leaders are welcome. Working with children card and safeguarding training is mandatory. Training provided. For information call Jasna Bruce 0403827350.

SENIOR MOMENTS: Wednesday 6th March 12pm lunch at Diamond Creek Hotel.

Wednesday 20th March 12pm Lunch & Scrabble in the Parish Centre.

HALL HIRE: Sacred Heart Hall is for hire. For all enquiries regarding cost and terms and conditions contact Alison Pieper on 0417571535 or alisonpieper52@gmail.com

ROSTERS:

Cleaning: Week 27th February C. & F. Ledda

Saturday 2nd March St Peter's 7.15pm

Reader: E. Gittins **Commentator:** Amindha

Sunday 3rd March Sacred Heart 9am

Reader: *Loyola College* **Commentator:** *Loyola College* **Eucharistic Ministers:** A. Schellens, R. Padget

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:

Antonietta Nesci, Grace Wein, Chris Padget, Pam Collins, Katie Pittle, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran,

Bridie Burke, Thomas Keenan, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper, Kath Rickard, Fr Terry Kean

We pray for those who have died and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of February that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Nese Roberts, Leanne Lynch, Judy Vincent, Mary Crothers

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

Vision Statement "To be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world"



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 10am-4pm, Wednesdays 8am-12noon, Thursdays 10am-4pm.

Please send any bulletin contributions directly to greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au or greensborough@cam.org.au by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin. Thank you

MUSICIANS AND SINGERS: Because of a copyright issue affecting all parishes we can no longer embed music into our slides on the data projector (until further notice). So you will notice that at some of our Masses there will be no music at all. Consequently, we are looking for volunteers who can play an instrument together with anyone who could lead the congregation in song at the 8am Mass or two Sundays at the 10am Mass. Please contact Megan via email mamitchem@gmail.com for further information.

LADIES AUXILIARY: Mark your calendar for the 20th. March at 10.30am in the gathering space for our St.Patrick's Day celebration. Enjoy light refreshments & wonderful entertainment for \$15.00 per person. Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906 Lucy9435 6990 Bookings 9/10th March after Masses.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP: Our Bereavement group will have their first Memorial Mass on Friday 23rd February at 9.15am.

OUR LENTEN ENVIRONMENT During Lent, our worship space is simplified with no flowers or greenery in the church or gathering space representing the barren desert where Jesus fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. This is symbolic of the Lenten Season when we are encouraged to pare our lives back to the basics and look into the depths of our hearts with honesty - only then can we truly see our need for repentance and change.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT Three Stations of the Cross services are available: one based on the *Gospel of St Mark*, another *Mary's Stations*, and a video *Way of the Cross* with images of the Stations at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Deepdene carved by Austrian immigrant Leopoldine Mimovich.

CHOIR PRACTICE FOR HOLY WEEK: Choir Practice for Holy Week Ceremonies will take place on **Fridays 1, 8, 15 & 22 March** in the Church from 1:30 - 3:00 pm. Dom LaFerlita our Saturday night pianist will accompany us. The Liturgy is the centre of the Church's life and music adds another prayer dimension. We sing at the Palm Sunday Vigil (Sat 23/3), Holy Thursday (28/3), Good Friday (29/3) and the Easter Vigil (Sat 30/3). All are very welcome to join and no experience is necessary.

Please contact Megan Mitchem via email: mamitchem@gmail.com if you would like to be part of the choir so that music can be organised for you.

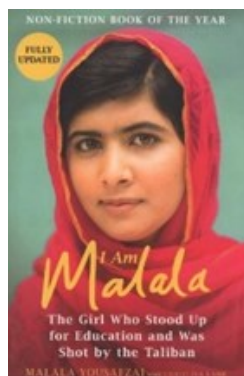
SUNDAY CATECHIST CLASSES: For primary school children attending Government Schools classes commenced in February at 9.00am in St Mary's School. Classes are for children from Grades 3 to 6, and include the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation, and are held during each school term. **All enquiries - Geraldine - 0438 148 896**

HOLY ROSARY is recited every Thursday morning after 9.15am Mass.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The prayer shawl ministry meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays.

Enquiries: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

Be informed, inspired and entertained



I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

Malala is a Pakistani activist for female education and the youngest-ever Nobel Prize winner. She is known for human rights advocacy, especially education of women in her native northwest Pakistan where the Taliban had at times banned girls from attending school. Her advocacy has since grown into an international movement.

Find this book and many other inspirational biographies in your Library.

Online access to the catalogue is available at: cloud.collectorz.com/247780



St Mary's Parish Library

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Baptisms: Marcus, Darcy, Eliza, Jackson, Riley

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners & friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:

Peter Mejak, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan , Olivia MacDonald, Helen Quigley, Lorraine Alexander, Harley McAleer, Pat Milczakowsky, Rosie Bray, Lois Jones, Peter Miles, Leon Gray, Amparp Sarmiento, Mick O'Meara, Fr Terry Kean

Recently Deceased:

We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Brigid Donovan, Mary Krohn, Mary Murphy, Graham Walsh, Carolina Cioffi, Maria Tosetto, Nicanora Calinisan, Arthur Wallace, Wladyslawa Wojdyla, Ellen Lewin, Sam Cincotta, Mary Hodges

Francis Dunn, Albino Mazzarolo, Leo Considine, Jim Baird, Patricia Crawford, Joe Muscat, Puspa Yani, Maria Fernandes
Cindy Solomon, Mary Duffy, Hollis Moyle, Kathleen Minney, Elsie Patersen, Angela Antons, Geoff Smith, Othmar Vockner
Jack O'Brien, Francis Todd, Giuseppe Bonotto, Brian Case, Noel Godwin, Maria Pillwien, Yohanna Ngjtjauwngit, Alice Websdale
Leonard Rigg, Mary Handley, Eileen Ferguson, Bernard Hickey, Austin Kavanagh, Alice Deed, Jean Grey, Bryan Grey, Melissa Young, Mona Evans, Antonietta Desensi

Joseph Heagerty, Veronica O'Brien, Rita Archibald, Agnes Thornley, Zita Walsh, Sr Aileen O'Loughlin, Dorothy Hawkins, Jack Ellis, Stephen Godwin, Bernard O'Shea

Robyn Colbeck, Sara de Leon, Mary Elizabeth Belcher, Gavan O'Loughlin, Sr. Angela Joyce S.J., Carlos M Licupi, Bob Santamaria, Damian Kennedy, Savari Gammal, Savariyammah

TIME OF PREPARATION Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ 31 January 2024

Lent is a time of preparation. It asks us through prayer, reflection and penance to deepen our understanding of the Gospel and its riches.

Read the full story at: <https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/time-of-preparation>



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday: 8.00am-4.00pm Wednesdays 12.30pm,-4.00pm
Thursdays 8.00am-11.30am (**Wednesday 8.00am-12.00pm & Thursday 12.00-3.00pm St Mary's**)
Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

Baptisms: Please keep in your prayers Willemina, Oliver, Conor and Gabriel who are being baptised later this month.

BUILDING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP: Come up join us for a coffee and chat on **Thursday 22nd February** at 1.30pm at Phoenix, 285 Diamond Creek road Plenty.

So I can book a table please email stewmarg@bigpond.net.au or text 0408 370685.

Everyone welcome Marg.



LOYOLA MASS: MacKillop House Mass Sunday 3rd March, 10.30am.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS St Thomas PPC. StThomas.PPC@cam.org.au

Roster for Weekend 24th & 25th February

Saturday 6.00pm

Readers: P. Carty

Commentator: A. Fernando

Eucharistic Ministers: T. Holland, L. Carty

Set Up: K. Salm

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: B. Iacobucci

Commentator: T. Williamson

Eucharistic Ministers: C. O'Brien, A. Kerr

Set Up: C. O'Brien

St Thomas prayers are asked for the following Parishioners:

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:

Miran Kasalo, Peter Kernjak, John Geretschlager, Dominic Cambareri, Fr Terry Kean, Dawn Ellis

We pray for those who have died recently and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of February that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Fr Peter Fulton, Mary Crothers, Francesca Serrao, Reginald Chircop,, Sanico de Carlo, Brian Kenny, Nick Buttifant, Giuseppe Piccolo, Eddie Scully, Leslie Lowe, Kevin Phin, Rosemary Schneider, Alfonso Nguyen, Maria Nguyen, Vito Zuccola

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close This is the third Lenten gospel reading in which a solitary place is mentioned. On Ash Wednesday we are advised to pray in our rooms with the doors shut. On the first Sunday of Lent the Spirit drives Jesus into the wilderness. In today's gospel Jesus and three disciples go 'up a high mountain apart, by themselves'. An extraordinary theophany is experienced by the disciples in this remote place. Here, the presence of God is signalled by both bright light and shadow. Is Mark mixing his metaphors, or does this amazing event confound homogeneous imagery? Try looking at last week's image and this one together – an unusual relationship between the two emerges.



Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

25 February 2024

First Reading Gn 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am,' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:10, 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. *(R.)*
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. *(R.)*
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 8:31-34

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

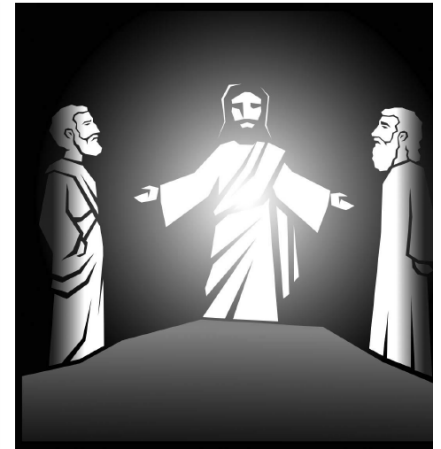
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Mk 9:2-10

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said '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 to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

St Thomas Aquinas famously said 'If only my soul is saved, I am not saved.' And yet many Christians think that our ultimate goal is, the grace of God, to end up with souls in Heaven.

No, I am a human being, bodysoul. If I am to be saved, then this stardust, this fraction of material creation, this earthling, needs to be immersed into Divine energy at light.

The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ, especially as recounted in the other gospels, shows what happens when human nature is in total communion with God. Every molecule of his body was evidently pulsing with Divine energy at light. The amazing truth is that God ardently desires that each one of us should share in the transfigured life of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

For this to occur, we must play our part, accepting that Jesus of Nazareth is indeed the Beloved Son of God, listen to him, and put into practice what we hear.

We could take a moment to pray that after the "repose of the soul" after death, we may participate with bodysouls in the transfigured humanity of the Risen Lord.

mtate@bigpond.com

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