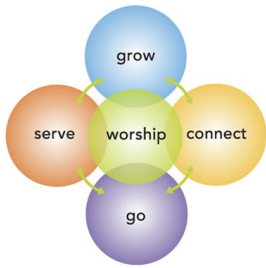


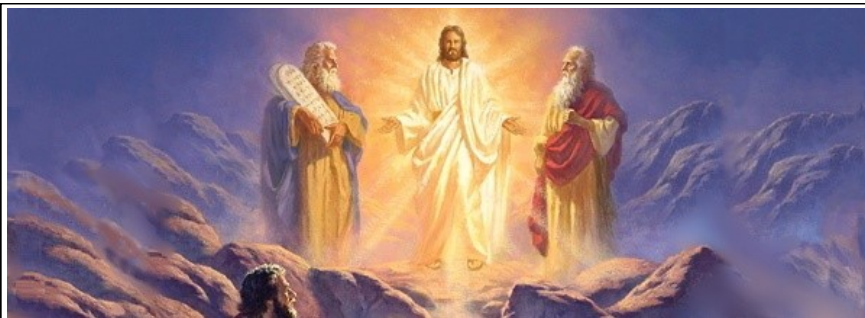
The Parish of  
**STONY STRATFORD**  
 with  
**CALVERTON**



**THE PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**  
**SUNDAY 6th August AD 2017**



*Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)*



Our Redeemer, about a year before His sacred Passion, took with him St. Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, Ss. James and John, and led them to a mountain in Galilee. Tradition assures us that this was Mount Tabor, which is exceedingly high and beautiful, and was anciently covered with green trees and shrubs, and was very fruitful. It rises something like a sugar-loaf, in a vast plain in the middle of Galilee. This was the place in which the Man-God appeared in His glory.

Whilst Jesus prayed, he allowed that glory which was hidden due to his sacred humility, to diffuse a ray over His whole body. His face was altered and shone as the sun, and his garments became white as snow. Moses and Elijah were seen by the three apostles in his company on this occasion, and were heard discoursing with him of the death which he was to suffer in Jerusalem. The three apostles were wonderfully delighted with this glorious vision, and St. Peter cried out to Christ, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" Whilst St. Peter was speaking, there came, on a sudden, a bright shining cloud from heaven, an emblem of the presence of God's majesty, and from out of this cloud was heard a voice which said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; listen to him" Those three apostles, upon hearing this voice, were seized with a sudden fear, and fell upon the ground; but Jesus, going to them, touched them, and bade them to rise. They immediately did so, and saw no one but Jesus standing in his ordinary state.

This vision happened in the night. As they went down the mountain early the next morning, Jesus bade them not to tell any one what they had seen till he should be risen from the dead.

In the Transfiguration Christ enjoyed for a short while that glorified state which was to be permanently His after His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The splendour of His inward Divinity and of the Beatific Vision of His soul overflowed on His body, and permeated His garments so that Christ stood before Peter, James, and John in a snow-white brightness. The purpose of the Transfiguration was to encourage and strengthen the Apostles who were depressed by their Master's prediction of His own Passion and Death. The Apostles were made to understand that His redeeming work has two phases: The Cross, and glory - that we shall be glorified with Him only if we take up our cross and follow after him.

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

- TODAY:**  
**9:30am**  
**11:00am**  
 Pray for:
- TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**  
**PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**  
**FAMILY MASS at All Saints**  
 Our Parish
- Monday: Feria**  
 Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage begins today  
**9:30am**  
 'Squeals on Wheels' in Parish Hall  
**8:00pm**  
 Bell Ringing Practice  
 Pray for: the Sick, Housebound and Disabled
- Tuesday: St Dominic, Priest**  
**10:30am**  
 Mass at All Saints + 'Elevenses'  
 Pray for: All Dominican Religious Communities
- Wednesday: St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross**  
**7:30pm**  
 Mass at St Mary & St Giles  
 Pray that: for all victims of Genocide & The Shoah
- Thursday: St Laurence, Deacon, Martyr**  
 Pray for: all those ordained Deacon this Petertide
- Friday: St Clare, Virgin**  
 Pray for: all Consecrated Virgins
- Saturday: Feria**  
 Pray for: Visitors to our Parish Churches
- Next Sunday: THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
**9:30am**  
**11:00am**  
 Pray for: Our Parish
- READINGS NEXT SUNDAY:**  
 1st Reading: Revelation 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab  
 Psalm: 45 (part)  
 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-27  
 Gospel: Luke 1: 39-56
- Lych gate Works:** Louise Brown needs the help of a few strong men or ladies on Saturday 12th August at 10:00am to help put up the new scaffold tower so that we can remove the moss from the lych gate roof and then put the scaffold tower away again into the churchyard shed. *Thank you.*
- From Deb Kidd:** As many of you know some of our youngsters go on a pilgrimage to Walsingham. This year Jamie, Rosie, Kezzi and Keno are going. Please pray for them while they are away and ask them how they got on when they return. (N.B. the Pilgrimage runs from Monday to Friday of this week)

Sidesmen	Team 1	Altar Servers	Team 2
Offertory		Ladies Group	
Cleaning	Team 1	Gardening	Team 3

Worshipping Numbers last Sunday: 134  
 Weekday Worshipping Numbers (w/e 29/7): 356

# MASS TEXTS PROPER TO TODAY'S OBSERVANCE

**Reflection prior to Mass:** *Today the liturgy invites us to focus our gaze on this mystery of light. On the transfigured face of Jesus a ray of light which he held within shines forth—the same light that was to shine forth from Christ's face on the day of Resurrection. In him, God's light henceforth illumines definitively human life and the course of history. Those who follow him "will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).*

## **The Collect**

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain, and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross that in the world to come we may see him as he is; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (SIT)**

**The First Reading** Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14  
*SMSG Reader: Tricia Brassington Old Testament Page 745*  
*All Saints Reader: Rita Shelley*

**The Responsorial Psalm** (from Psalm 97)

**R/. The Lord is king,  
most high above all the earth.**

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,  
let all the coastlands be glad.  
Cloud and darkness are his raiment;  
his throne, justice and right. ®

The mountains melt like wax  
before the Lord of all the earth.  
The skies proclaim his justice;  
all peoples see his glory. ®

For you indeed are the Lord  
most high above all the earth  
exalted far above all spirits. ®

**Second Reading** 2 Peter 1: 16-19  
*Reader: Margery Shaw New Testament Page 199*

**Gospel Acclamation** (STAND)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
This is my Beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;  
listen to him.  
**Alleluia!**

**The Gospel** Matthew 17: 1b-9  
*New Testament Page 16*

**The Prayer of the Faithful** (Biddings: Fiddy Abraham)

*Priest:* My brothers and sisters, let us pray that we and all God's people may please our heavenly Father by listening to the voice of his Son.

*Intercessor:* Lord of glory, it is good that we are here. In peace we make our prayer to you. In trust we confirm our faith in you. Help us to set our faces steadfastly where you would go with us.....

V/. Lord, hear us.

**R/. Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord of glory, look with favour on your Church, proclaiming your beloved Son to the world and listening to the promptings of his Spirit..... May it be renewed in holiness that it may reflect your glory.

Lord of glory, look with favour on the nations of the world, scarred by hatred, strife and war, and crying out to be changed by the touch of your hand..... May they know the good news like a lamp shining in a murky place.

Lord of glory, look with favour on those in need and distress, suffering as your Son has suffered and waiting for the salvation you promise...*Fiddy Abraham, Polly Barclay, Shirley Brown, Lesley C, Steve Cooper, Peter Fulcher, Russell Herbert, Jane Holman, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Sheila Redgrave, Pete, Alan Shaw, Lionel Stobie, Susan, Eric, Wendy...* May the day break and Christ the Morning Star bring them the light of his presence.

Lord of glory, it is good if we suffer with you so that we shall be glorified with you. According to your promise bring all Christ's brothers and sisters...*Ted Atkinson, David Barker;* and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week, amongst them.....**6<sup>th</sup>** Ethel Braggins, John Haycock; **7<sup>th</sup>** Arthur Webb; **8<sup>th</sup>** Irene Beardmore, Michael Booden; **9<sup>th</sup>** Mary Downing; **10<sup>th</sup>** Anne Clarke; **11<sup>th</sup>** Walter Rofe; **12<sup>th</sup>** William Read, Francis Halliwell, Ray Jordan, Shaun Dytham.....to see him with their own eyes in majesty and to be changed into his likeness from glory to glory.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

**And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Priest:* Lord God, it is wonderful for us to be here! Receive the prayers of this community, assembled to hear the word and to offer the sacrifice of your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**

## **Communion Reflection:**

Let every Christian pray on this Feast: Fiat lux! (*Let there be light!*)

## **NOTICES**

**Friday Mass during the School Holidays:** will normally be celebrated at 12:00noon, except when there is a Soup Lunch and Organ Recital on the first Friday when it will be at 11:15am

**Art Exhibition:** will be held in St Mary & St Giles on Saturday 5th August. If you would like to know more or join Rita's Art Group, then please contact her on: MK 564702 or 07484772612

**Calverton Fete:** Is held this year on the 27th August from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. If you can help with setting up and clearing away, or with running stalls, or with donating home-made cakes and offers of books and/or bric-a-brac do please see Jill Barby, Jonathan Dunn or Eric & Diane West. Many thanks.

**St Mary & St Giles School:** is looking to appoint a handyman/woman from September. Please contact Kieran Salter for further details.

**From St Oswald's Tile Hill:** We cannot express just how grateful we all are for the generosity of you and your Parish. We look forward to seeing being at Walsingham in a very short while so that we can thank your group of pilgrims in person. All that remains is for the marquee to be blessed and it seems most appropriate to us that Fr Gary should perform the blessing in the field where the last one attempted to take to the skies! Thanks again from all of us at St Oswald's.

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**Parish Website:** www.parishstonystratfordcalverton.com

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Tel: 01525 790954

**Honorary Assistant Priest:** Fr Joseph Loveday SSC  
Tel: 01327 351511

**Parish Hall Booking Secretary:** Lesley Salter: 01908 567404