

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin, Croxteth.

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PASTORAL AREA of St Raphael and St Paul

Holy Name and Our Lady & St Philomena 476 0289
Blessed Sacrament 474 2682. St Teresa's 226 1354

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Kelly.

Deacons: Chris Housbey & Malcolm Fletcher.

Safeguarding Representatives: Catherine Housbey & Malcolm Fletcher.

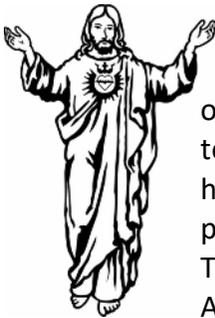


Second Sunday of Lent.

Gospel Reflection

13th March.

Believing Jesus is the Son of God



Jesus is the Son of God, but there are those who have other opinions. Perhaps he was just a very good man with a gift for teaching and healing. Perhaps he was just a prophet. Perhaps he was just a charismatic leader, a social worker, a philanthropist, a rebel or some kind of religious genius.

Today Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain to pray. And as Jesus was praying the appearance of his face is changed,

and his clothes become a dazzling white. Suddenly they see two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They have appeared in glory and are speaking of his departure, which he is to accomplish at Jerusalem.

What the Bible is saying here is that Jesus of Nazareth was no ordinary human being. Jesus was no ordinary carpenter from Galilee. Jesus was not just a miracle worker, not just a teacher, not just a healer. In the 'Transfiguration' Jesus reveals his true identity. Jesus is the Son of God, the only Son of God'.

It's no wonder that Peter wants to erect three tents to hold onto this truth. How privileged the early disciples were to have been given this vision. We have not been given first hand experience of the Transfiguration, but what we do have is the evidence of how the disciples' lives were changed by the Knowledge of Jesus' identity. The disciples had the memory of the Transfiguration to motivate them through the difficult times ahead. We have the memory of Peter's commitment and influence to motivate us similarly.

There are those who think it is good enough simply to believe Jesus was a good man. For those of us who believe Jesus is the Son of God, we will never attend the funeral of a loved one with thoughts of never seeing them again. Believing in God, means believing that one day we will share in Jesus' glory.



17th MARCH ST PATRICK'S DAY

Saint Patrick, at the age of sixteen was captured by a group of Irish pirates from his family's Villa. They took him to Ireland where he was enslaved and held captive for six years. He worked as a shepherd and strengthened his relationship with God through prayer, eventually leading him to convert to Christianity. After his captivity, he heard a voice telling him that he would soon go home, fleeing his master, he travelled to a port, and persuaded a captain to take him. After three days' sailing, they landed, presumably in Britain.

After many adventures, he returned home to his family, now in his early twenties, he continued to study Christianity.

Patrick recounts that he had a vision, I saw a man coming, as it were from Ireland. His name was Victoricus, and he carried many letters, and he gave me one I read the heading: "The Voice of the Irish". I imagined in that moment, that I heard the voice of those very people who were near the wood of Foclut, which is beside the western sea—and they cried out, as with one voice: "We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come and walk among us." Patrick studied in Europe principally at Auxerre, a bishop of the Western Church, ordained him to the priesthood.

Acting on his vision, Patrick returned to Ireland as a Christian missionary.

His most recent biographer, Roy Flechner, writes that he "baptised thousands of people". He ordained priests to lead the new Christian communities. He converted wealthy women, some of whom became nuns in the face of family opposition. He also dealt with the sons of kings, converting them too. Never, did they know of God except to serve idols and unclean things. But now, they have become the people of the Lord, and are called children of God. The sons and daughters of the leaders of the Irish are seen to be monks and virgins of Christ!



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND RECONCILIATION

For those children and parents who missed the session on Saturday 5th March, Catherine and Chris have very kindly offered to repeat it on

Wednesday, 23rd March at 5.30 in the community room.

Please make sure you attend this session in order for your child to receive First Holy Communion this year.



The Pic is 60!

A big happy birthday to the Pic, which this month turned 60! Get your copy now to reflect and celebrate the publication over the past six decades. To view online, visit www.catholicpic.co.uk.



19th MARCH SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH

Saint Joseph was a first-century man of Nazareth who married the Virgin Mary after the birth of Jesus Christ. He is honoured by the church as the lifelong partner of Mary but remains chaste and virgin until his death which took place in the presence of Jesus and Mary. The context of Saint Joseph as the legal father of Jesus is present in Luke and Matthews, which trace him as a descendant of David. The Catholic Church under Pope Pius IX declared Joseph to be the patron and protector of the Catholic Church. Every country that has a strong catholic presence celebrates this day during Lent. They observe a strict fast and abstinence on this day while caring for the poor and needy by providing them with food. These iconic traditions originate from Italy, Malta, Spain, and Poland. Unlike other holidays whose traditions have changed over the years, Saint Joseph's days remain the same. This is because the holiday has traveled to countries with a strong catholic presence.



The traditional way of celebrating the feast has been to wear red clothing, give food to the needy, and observe fast on this day. In some parts of the world, people have a rather symbolic interpretation of this day.

Since Joseph was a father to Jesus, his life is considered an example of what a father figure should look and be. Hence some cultures celebrate Father's Day by honouring Saint Joseph and fathers together. The day is also celebrated by rehearsing a mixture of English, Italian and Spanish scriptures.

Joseph was the legal guardian of Jesus Christ and was venerated by the Catholic Church as a patron saint of workers. The Lutherans celebrate this day and put up altars outside their homes with food items. These items can be eaten by anyone who needs a meal. The day is also known as the Solemnity of Saint Joseph.



Reconciliation

There will be an opportunity for Reconciliation before mass this weekend.

Saturday - 5.15pm – 5.45pm

Sunday - 10.45am – 11.15am

Fr Anton

This weekend we welcome Fr Anthon from St. Agnes parish who will celebrate our masses while Fr Anthony celebrates mass in St Agnes

Tea Rota

Tea and biscuits will be served after mass from this Sunday onwards.

We are looking for male volunteers to make tea on Mothering Sunday, 27th March. Anyone who would like to join the rota please add your name to the list on the notice board

Liturgy for the Week

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin

Saturday	12th	6.00pm	James Morley, Sarah Moore
Sunday	13th	11.30am	Parishioners Intentions
Monday	14th	9.00am	Ukrainians
		11.am	James Reil (Funeral Service)
Tuesday	15th	1.pm	Teresa Ramejkis (Requiem)
Wednesday	16th	7.00pm	Frank Ryan
Thursday	17th	9.00am	Joe McCormack (B,day) Jean Holmes (Anniv)
Friday	18th	No Mass	
Saturday	19th	6.00pm	St Joseph Husband of Mary
Sunday	20th	11.30am	Prayers answered Catherine Ryall

Your prayers are asked for those who have

Died recently

Bobby Gilmartin Bert Tomkins
Billy Fox

Anniversaries and Birthdays

Kath Morley
James Patrick Ehlen

Please pray too for all those who are lonely or housebound and for those who are sick, at home or in hospital, especially.

<i>Bernie Boyd</i>	<i>Angela Adlen</i>	<i>Canon Brendan Alger</i>
<i>Billy Fox</i>	<i>Angela Gregory</i>	<i>Christine & David Fitzsimmons</i>
<i>Diane Bell</i>	<i>Baby Zackery</i>	<i>David & Julie Pearce</i>
<i>Eileen Guy</i>	<i>Brian Threlfall</i>	<i>Eleanor Mawdsley</i>
<i>Ellen Cooke</i>	<i>David Holgate</i>	<i>Joan, Andreas Samaras</i>
<i>Janet Clark</i>	<i>Eddie Unsworth</i>	<i>Margaret & Joseph Maloney</i>
<i>Joan Turner</i>	<i>John Murphy</i>	<i>Margaret Bradley</i>
<i>Josie Dunne</i>	<i>Kenny Morley</i>	<i>Vassilis Alamaniotis</i>
<i>Paul & Kate</i>	<i>Margaret Lace</i>	<i>JG.,</i>
<i>Robbie Ross</i>	<i>Mick Lawrence</i>	<i>MP.,</i>
<i>Toni Dal</i>	<i>Peter Fraser</i>	<i>TC.,</i>

Live Streaming System

All services are live streamed via Church Services TV. You can view Services via the link on our website, Facebook and Twitter sites or at

www.churchservices.tv/croxteth