



Saint Bartholomew's Catholic Church, Norbury

Fathers Deodat Msahala & Innocent Ezeonyeasi and Deacon Ged Perkins

159 Ellison Road, London SW16 5DE

Tel 020 8679 3545

Email: parish.office159@virginmedia.com

Website: stbartsnorbury.co.uk

The Parish Office is open from 9.30am - 3.30pm Monday to Friday (not Bank Holidays)

Roman Catholic Diocese of Southwark Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 235468

SUNDAY 6th AUGUST 2017

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

YEAR A

Thought for Today:

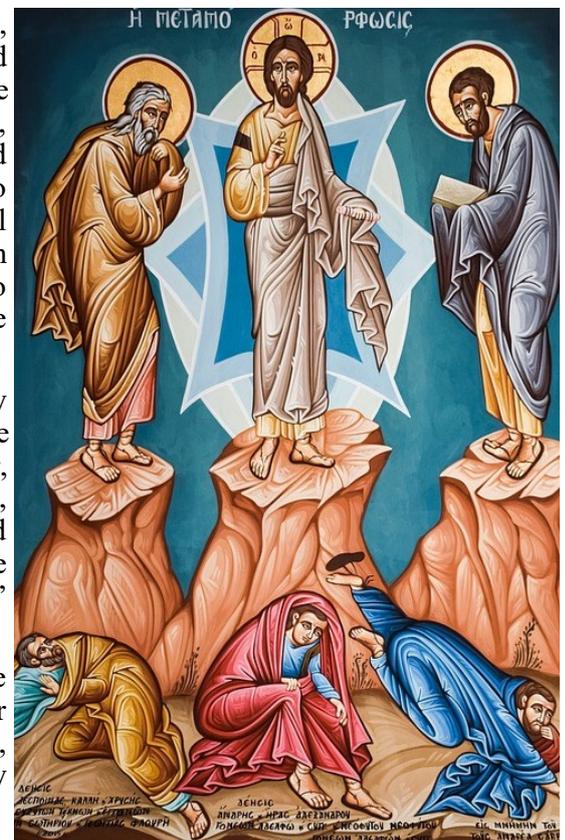
In the *Entrance Antiphon* and *Gospel* for this day we hear, as did Peter, James and John, *the Father proclaiming Jesus* as His Beloved Son, and *calling on us* to 'Listen to Him'. The Apostles were granted this advance sight of the Risen and Glorified Jesus and the Prophets, Moses and Elijah, to strengthen them for the coming ordeal of witnessing His Passion and Death; the vision was pointing them beyond that traumatic challenge to their faith which would come on Good Friday (when the forces of evil appeared to have abruptly ended Jesus' Mission) to His ultimate Triumph over Satan. This is the triumph in which, should we hear and choose to live by the Word of God in our lives we, like Moses and Elijah, will share for all Eternity in Heaven.

The Supreme Kingship of Christ, prophesied in the Old Testament by *Daniel*, is acknowledged by us, the People of the New Covenant, in the *Response to the Psalm*. Our first Pope, *Saint Peter*, in his *second Letter*, recalls the momentous vision on the mountain; directly from God, independent of any human agency it confirms the Prophecies of old and 'spotlights' Christ as our sure guide through the challenges of life; we need only watch the daily news to see how destructive is 'independence' from God's Laws!

In the Gospel account, the humanity and humility of Saint Peter are demonstrated in his offer to construct some kind of earthly dwelling for Jesus, Moses and Elijah. Of course, as The Father reminds him (and us), what is needed for our worship of God and consequent Salvation is, firstly internal, i.e. our loving acceptance of and positive response to the Truth.

As created beings of flesh and blood, we are called to and certainly must employ our God-given bodies and our senses in participating in the Life of the Church. Today's Feast firmly grounds all that we think, do and say on the '*Truth that comes from God...*' which, alone, can strengthen us against and, ultimately, free us forever from the constant 'pull' of our Fallen Nature. Through the Teachings of the Church, challenging as they undoubtedly can be in this life, and through the Mass and the Sacraments, we are provided with a sure 'route-map' to our Heavenly destiny. God has endowed Humans, His highest Creation, with intelligence; we are capable of reason and can discern right and wrong. While intimately knowing our weakened Nature and making full allowance for our being misled, through ignorance, into genuine error, He will respect any choices we make with full knowledge and understanding for or against His Laws.

Perhaps we can interpret The Father's words to the Apostles that day as reminding us that although, being Human, we must live as and where God has put us, we have immortal spiritual Souls and so we must keep our sights firmly set on our true purpose, to '*know, love and serve God in this life so as to be Happy forever with Him in Heaven*'. May God continue to grant us the Gifts of Faith, Hope and Charity, ever drawing us Homewards! May we ever, "...listen to Him..'



Thank you for your generosity

Last week's collection came to **£1806.00** (£1161.00 in baskets; £645.00 in standing orders.)

Sick and Housebound *If you know of anybody who is sick or housebound, or in a local care home, who is unable to come to Mass, and who would like to receive Holy Communion, Reconciliation, an Anointing or a Blessing, please contact the parish office. Dedicated chaplains meet the pastoral needs of Catholic patients in hospitals.*

Please pray for our Sick and Housebound parishioners:

Jessica Anane, Lilian Armstrong, Mrs Austin, Juliette Blake, Alan Blaquiere, Anita Blaquiere, Barry Breese, Frances Caulfield, Philip Chapman, Fr Gerald Coates, Audrey Draude, Teresa Florek-Smail, Raffaella Forte, Giovanni Franco, Rachel Gadd, Eamon Gillespie, Elaine Gunther, Anne Harris, Agnes Healy, Evelyn Hyland, Felix Isichei, Mary Kenny, Elsie McCleave, James McDonald, Breda McDonagh, Michael Madigan, Gerard Mascarenhas, Ajitha Mahatantila, Mary Meyern, Edgar Ming, Maria Parnis, Marion Robertson, Parwar Saib, Frederic Saint-Rose, Alice Scott, Elizabeth Scott, Christine Shaughnessy, Maggie Sunich, Edythe Thirlwall, Monica Vergara, Mary White, Ethelda Williams, Carole Winch, John Windsor, Charmaine Wise, Georgette Yoo Foo.

We welcome into the Church, through the Sacrament of Baptism, **James Thomas Manuel**, who was Baptised here last Sunday.

Congratulations to Charles Clariza and Julia Ly, who were married here last Saturday.

We wish them both a long and happy married life, with much love and many blessings along the way.

Church Cleaning: Group 1:

Ena Holland, Mary Icheke, Eileen McCarthy, Nancy McNamara, Kathleen O'Toole, Nwamaka Offor, Polin Rajaratnam, Irene Reynolds, Christiana Muoghalu. Many of our cleaning groups have shrunk, with some having ceased attending. More members are urgently needed to help shoulder the burden once every six weeks. Please could you help clean God's house? Kindly contact the parish office. If you can no longer help, please let us know.

We welcome Canon Joseph Collins once again to say our 10am and 11.30am Masses today.

The Hall

For insurance purposes, only pre-arranged use of the hall should take place. Please call at the Parish Office on both entering and leaving the premises, as we need to know when the hall is being used and by whom. There are no Coffee Mornings held during the month of August. A number of dates are still available for the rest of the year.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME FOR 2018.

Please will all parents who seek to enrol their children in next year's First Holy Communion Programme please collect an application form from the black folder in the porch. The form includes dates for next year. If you take a form, please write your name and your children's names on the list in that folder. Please remember to detach the actual programme, so that you will know the dates of all the sessions which will be taking place.

DEACON GED PERKINS WRITES: I am still seeking volunteers to participate in my Confirmation Survey. If you are Confirmed and aged between 18-29 please email me at gerardpdissertation@yahoo.com. Alternatively, look at the page on the Parish website for the link to my online survey, or see posters in the porch.

TANZANIA-ON SAFARI WITH FR DEO-2018

Fr Deo "Attenborough" H Msahala will be leading a parish trip to his home country next summer. If you are interested in joining Fr Deo, then please check your diaries for the period 25th July to 8th or 11th August 2018. Names are already flooding in! So please kindly declare your interest via the parish office as soon as possible! Exact dates, costs and all arrangements have yet to be finalised. Fr Deo will announce these in due course.

Father Deo is on holiday in Tanzania, and he will be returning towards the end of August. Cover has been arranged for all 10am & 11.30am Sunday Masses in his absence, with Canon Joseph Collins joining us this Sunday. Next weekend, we welcome our Vicar General, Monsignor Matthew Dickens, to say the 10am & 11.30am Masses.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING LOCAL ROAD WORKS

Special speed humps are to be placed in Ellison Road, Danbrook Road and Arragon Gardens. This will take place up until Friday 11th August 2017, depending on the weather. These traffic calming works may involve road closures and diversions, and will undoubtedly make it more difficult than usual to find parking spaces near the church. Please drive and park with care and with thought for others during this period.

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED LADY

A timely reminder that this great feast of the Church falls on a weekday, that is Tuesday 15th August 2017.

The Assumption is a Holy Day of Obligation, and there will be Masses at 7.30am, 10am & 8pm as usual.

OUR PARISH AGM

Advance notice is hereby given of this year's Parish AGM, to be held on Wednesday 11th October 2017 in the parish hall at 7.45pm. This will be followed by a short social event. Parish Pastoral Council members will be present, and parishioners are encouraged to attend and review what the parish has achieved in the last twelve months, and indeed to participate in the planning for the coming year. All parish groups are now invited to submit a short written report, with a maximum of 500 words, to be received by the parish. These reports will be available for parishioners to read both before and after the AGM. You are strongly encouraged to come along and take part in your parish AGM. Please see the posters in all porch areas advertising this important event.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND SCHOOL OPEN DAYS IN THE CATHOLIC SPHERE

You will find these in the yellow folder in the porch.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS TO THE CHURCH

Street level access is available to the side of the church, that is via the gallery entrance on Ellison Road. Anybody who cannot manage stairs may find this easier than using the front door. There are large buttons both inside and outside the door. Please note that the doors open OUTWARDS, so please ensure you do not move beyond the button on the post outside until the doors have fully opened. They will remain open whilst you pass through them. Please NEVER force the doors, as you could damage them in so doing. They are electrically controlled and managed by a computer chip. If you need help, kindly inform the clergy.

PARISH WHEELCHAIR

This is kept in the right hand side of the old confessional box. Please ask if you need to use it.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Whenever you come to church, why not familiarise yourself with the various emergency exits? It's always good to know where to go in the unlikely event that you need to leave quickly. Look around and look up for the green and white fire exit signs, which will guide you towards the quickest way out.

CONFIRMATION PHOTOGRAPHS & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PHOTOGRAPHS

All orders have now been completed, and these may be found in the large box on the right hand shelf in the porch. Please remember that John Taylor prints these photos at his own expense, so please make payment promptly.

GIFT AID

Please kindly collect your end-of-year letters and envelopes as soon as possible. The letters are essential for tax purposes. They are in the room at the front of the Church, behind Our Lady's altar. Next year, by popular demand, we shall introduce reduced size sets of envelopes for those who give by Standing Order. It seems rather pointless and expensive to maintain sets of boxes which are never collected. The smaller sets will contain envelopes for second collections, with some spares as required, mindful that Standing Orders do not include second collections.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish Mass to be said for a particular intention, please use one of our **new** Mass Intentions Envelopes from the porch. We hope that you will find them easy to use. Please complete as many details as you can, and enclose your offering. Please note that what you give is an offering towards the work of the Church, and not a payment for the Mass. There is no set amount, though as a guide, most people tend to give £10.00. Please do not feel embarrassed if you are unable to make such an offering. Please hand your envelope to one of the clergy, the collectors or else at the repository. Please be aware that Mass intentions will be moved whenever a funeral takes place. We shall endeavour to contact you, should that be the case. *If it is not possible for Mass to be said on the particular date and at the time you request, we shall not contact you unless you specifically ask to be informed.*

GIFT AID GIVERS MAY GIFT AID THEIR MASS OFFERINGS. PLEASE SEE THE ENVELOPES.

Offered free—London Oratory School 6th Form blazer.

Size: 44" chest; 22" length. Please call Berni Knight on 020 8679 1209, preferably in the evening.

OUR LADY'S ALTAR

The electric votive lights to the left hand side of Our Lady's altar are currently out of action, awaiting mending. In the meantime, kindly make use of the lights to the right of the altar. It may take some time to get this fixed.

FORTHCOMING DIVINE MERCY EVENTS (PLEASE SEE POSTERS)

Saturday 19th August—Retreat, Ponders End; Saturday 26th August—Retreat, Kilburn;

Monday 28th August—Pilgrimage, The Friars, Aylesford; Saturday 9th September—Retreat, St Boniface, Tooting.

THE PILGRIM

The August edition of our Diocesan newspaper is now available FREE of charge from the porch. It contains information on the forthcoming National Eucharistic Congress, to be held in 2018. Representatives from every diocese and parish in England and Wales will meet at the Echo Arena in Liverpool, with the central theme being the centrality of the Eucharist, 'the source and summit of the Christian life'.



In Our Parish This Week

Sunday Masses:	Vigil, Saturday 6.15pm; Sunday: 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am and 5pm	
	Parish Mass Book: This Sunday - p.173	
Weekday Masses:	Mon - Fri: 7.30am; Mon – Sat 10am	
Morning Prayer of the Church:	Monday - Saturday 9.15am	
Adoration and Benediction:	Monday - Saturday 9.30am; Sunday 4pm (<i>Rosary and Benediction in May & October</i>) <i>On First Fridays - Adoration after 10am Mass, closing with Benediction at 2pm</i>	
Rosary:	Monday - Saturday after the 10am Mass	
Confessions:	Saturday, after the 10am Mass, until 11am; then in the afternoon from 5pm to 6pm	
Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 6th August 2017		
THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	6.15pm (Sat 5th August)	Kevin Forkan RIP
	8.30am	Marianna & Lucian Sass RIP
	10am	People of the parish
	11.30am	Holy Souls
Benediction	4pm	
	5pm	Holy Souls
<i>Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time:</i>		
Monday 7th August 2017	7.30am	Holy Souls
	10am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 8th August 2017	7.30am	Holy Souls
St Dominic, Priest (Memorial)	10am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 9th August 2017	7.30am	Holy Souls
St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), Virgin & Martyr, Patron of Europe (Feast)	10am	Hazel Abreo RIP
Thursday 10th August 2017	7.30am	Holy Souls
St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr (Feast)	10am	Margaret Nicol RIP & deceased family members
Friday 11th August 2017	7.30am	Holy Souls
St Clare, Virgin (Memorial)	10am	Holy Souls
Saturday 12th August 2017		
Our Lady	10am	Holy Souls
Next Sunday 13th August 2017		
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.15pm (Sat 12th August)	Holy Souls
	8.30am	Tom Houlihan RIP
	10am	Welfare of Riccardo D’Souza-Garabello
	11.30am	Ellis Foundation Mass
Benediction	4pm	
	5pm	People of the parish