

On the second Sunday of Lent in each Lectionary cycle, the Gospel reading proclaims the story of Jesus' Transfiguration. This event is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This year, in Lectionary Cycle B, we hear Mark's report of this event.

The context for Mark's Transfiguration story is similar to that found in both Matthew's and Luke's Gospel. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his passion. After this, in each of these Gospels, there is also a discussion of the cost of discipleship.

In each case, Jesus takes three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospel, there is reference to a conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel includes the detail that this conversation is about what Jesus will accomplish in Jerusalem.

Elijah and Moses are significant figures in the history of Israel. Moses led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and received from Yahweh the Ten Commandments. In appearing with Jesus at his Transfiguration, Moses represents the Law that guides the lives of the Jewish people. Elijah is remembered as one of the most important prophets of Israel who helped the Israelites stay faithful to Yahweh. Some Jews believed that Elijah's return would signal the coming of the Messiah for the Jewish people. This belief is evidenced in the question posed by Jesus' disciples after they have witnessed the Transfiguration. The appearance of these two important figures from Israel's history with Jesus signifies Jesus' continuity with the Law and with the prophets and that Jesus is the fulfilment of all that was promised to the people of Israel.

On seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses and having witnessed his Transfiguration, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Mark reports that the disciples are terrified by what they have witnessed and that Peter's offer is made out of confusion. We also notice that Peter has reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus rabbi instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding the disciples to obey him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, Jesus instructs the disciples to keep secret what they have seen until after the Son of Man has risen from the dead. The disciples' confusion continues as they wonder what Jesus means by rising from the dead. The disciples cannot possibly understand Jesus' Transfiguration until they also witness his passion and death. We hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection, even as we prepare to remember Jesus' passion and death.

First Confession

In St. Bride's, the catechism children in Primary 4 will make their First Confession on **Thursday 8th March at 4 p.m.**

The Primary 4 children from St. Thomas' Primary will make their First Confession in St. Thomas' Church on **Tuesday 13th March at 6 p.m.**



Penance

Second Sunday of Lent

25th February 2018

Next Sunday: Third Sunday of Lent

Year B

Diocese of Dunkeld Charity Number SC001810

Parish Clergy

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Welcome to the Coastal Parishes of

St. Thomas', Arbroath;

St. Anne's, Carnoustie

and St. Bride's, Monifieth

Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5 p.m. in St. Bride's

Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Anne's

Mass at 10.45 a.m. in St. Thomas'

Mass at 11.30 a.m. in St. Bride's

Sacrament of Reconciliation—this week

St. Thomas': Monday 6 to 6.30 p.m.

St. Anne's: on request before Sunday Mass

St. Bride's: Saturday 4 to 4.30 p.m.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 26th February

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 7 p.m.

Tuesday 27th February

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Wednesday 28th February

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Mary's Home: 6.30 p.m.

Thursday 1st March

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Friday 2nd March

St. Anne's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.; St. Bride's: 10.30 a.m.

Saturday 3rd March

St. Bride's: 9.30 a.m.; St. Thomas': 10 a.m.

Stations of the Cross

St. Bride's: Friday at 5.30 p.m.; St. Anne's on Sunday at 4 p.m.; St. Thomas': 30 mins before each weekday Mass.

Please pray for those who are sick: Bishop Vincent Logan, Jane Higgins, George Hill, Eddie Lebida, Jessie Low, Susan Chalmers, Alison Oakes, Debbie McArthur, Baby Isobel McCaskey, George Kelbie, Cathie McLean, Ailsa McIntosh, James McDonald, John McKee, Laura Bennett, Robert Meikle, Cathie Walls, Duane Joseph, Father Luke Fong, Frank Osborne, Annie McCormack, Marie Fenton, William Docherty, Annie McKenzie, Helen Lukas, Joan and Mick Gartland, Janet Howie, Helen Blyth, Moira Fallone, Irene Burton, Rea Beattie, Norma McAra, Riley Johnston, Marion Jones, David Allardice, Adam Rennie, Margaret Spink, Tom Tait, Ina Stuart, Teresa Ritchie, Kim Scott, Gerard Lukas, Frances Toshney, Isabel Carroll, Peggy McGhee, Wendy Wilcox, Marjorie Robson (Bishop Stephen's mother), Vera Swifte, Craig and Kerry McFadyen, Father Jim McCrudden, Father Andrew Clark, Carine Hill, Bernard Colvin, Sister Marie Claver LSP and Brian Duncan.

those who have died recently: Bobby Barnett, Edward Smith, Giuseppina Carena

and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Gerard McEwan, Margaret Cairns, Frank Haughey, Brian Savage, Margaret Sweeney, Ray Ingram, Jackie Malone, William McKinlay, Jean Bollen, Jane Mcintosh, Elizabeth Ireland, Joan Mitchell, John Ireland, Jane McIntosh McKinlay, Anna Black, Alexina Kelly, John McLauchlan, Frank Chaplain, Margaret Ferrie, Jane McCabe, Edward Slane, Alexander Gadie, Madge Andrews, Sarah Ellen McCann, Margaret Chalmers, Brian Bruce, Ronald Byers.

DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT DAY—Saturday 3rd March: Preparing for the Easter Triduum: a day conference and celebration as Holy Week approaches, to be held at the Diocesan Centre, Lawside Road, from 10.15am until 3.30pm. Keynote address on The Spirituality of the Easter Triduum by Fr. Steven Mulholland. This day will be of particular benefit to readers, cantors, musicians, servers and all involved in the liturgies of the Easter Triduum. Participants are asked to bring a packed lunch. To register please call 01382 225453 or email kevinjamesgolden@hotmail.com

“We adore you O Christ and we praise You!” Coastal Parishes Lenten Retreat Day will take place on **Saturday 10th March in St. Anne's**. More details on posters on noticeboard. If you are interested in attending please sign up on the sheets in the church.

St. Thomas' Hall: Some time ago it was suggested that recognition be given to the importance of St Thomas' church hall. From 1878 until 1965 this building was the town's Catholic School. It was planned/hoped to record these years with a "memories" booklet and perhaps a plaque in the hall. Response to requests for memories by pupils up to 1965 have been very scarce. Surely everyone has school day memories, serious, scary or often humorous, not story proportions, but a few snippets or events would be interesting. Further information from Mary Taylor or Anita Walker who will be glad to have a good selection to go ahead with a booklet.

40 Hours/Quarant'ore will take place in St. Thomas' from Sunday 18—Tuesday 20 March. More details in next week's newsletter.

Communion Tablesong: My apologies over the confusion last week. I forgot that Communion Tablesong changes in Lent and should be, “We hold the death of the Lord deep in our hearts.” Also at the recent PPC meeting in St. Bride's it was suggested that during Lent in St. Bride's we omit the Tablesong and have a period of silence or background music. At the Vigil this would follow on from the folk group's normal communion piece.

St. Bride's Fairtrade Pancake Breakfast Will take place on Sunday 4th March after 11.30am Mass in the hall. *COME ON IN* is the theme for this year's Fairtrade fortnight. This year we are supporting the farmers and workers who grow our food, and all proceeds will go to SCIAF. Fairtrade has the power to change the world every day. It opens doors and helps people grow too. If anyone is willing to make pancakes for the event, please let Gillian Coyle, Eleanor Grieg or Mary Holligan know. Tickets will be available nearer the time.

SCIAF Hunger Lunch Join us for soup and bread in the hall after Mass today. There is no set price; please give what you can as a donation.

Lenten Soup and Rolls in St. Anne's on the Sundays of Lent after 10 a.m. Monies raised will be donated the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

World Day of Prayer take place on Friday 2nd March. This year the theme is “*All God's creation is very good!*” The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Suriname. Join us at one of the ecumenical services:

Arbroath: 2.30 p.m. in Town Mission Centre, Grant Road.

Carnoustie: 7 p.m. in Erskine UF Church, Kinloch Street.

Monifieth: 7 p.m. in St. Bride's

Bulletin Distribution at St Thomas' We could really do with some additional volunteers – two or three who could deliver bulletins each week and two or three available to cover rounds when the regular distributors are on holiday. If you're able to assist, please speak with Father Michael or contact Chris Boyle by email at chrisboyle1965@gmail.com.

Many thanks for your continued generosity in the parishes. The offertory collections last Sunday were: £662 in Monifieth, £376 in Carnoustie and £465 in Arbroath. The special collection for Catholic Education raised: £337 in Monifieth, £160 in Carnoustie and £149 in Arbroath.

There will be a special collection for the Sick and Retired Priests Fund. this weekend.

Children's Liturgy at St Thomas' Our Children's Liturgy at St Thomas' is positively thriving! Thanks to all parents, relatives and carers whose children attend each week. However, we really do now need extra help – many of our Leaders have been delivering and assisting in Children's Liturgy for nearly 12 years! If you're interested, please speak with Father Michael or any of our Liturgy Leaders after Mass.

St Patrick's Night—Saturday 17th March Tickets are now on sale for this exciting social evening. Entertainment from the St. Bride's Folk Group. Tickets cost £7 (including buffet) and are available from Eddie Mahoney 01382 532007 or any member of the St. Bride's Social Group.

An Evening with the Swizzle Sisters Advance notice of the return of the always popular 'Evening with the Swizzle Sisters' at St Thomas' Hall on **Saturday 21st April**. Last year's special guest Kenny Martin will be returning too. Ticket sales to follow, but meantime please save the date!

40 Days for Life will take place this Lent in Dundee at the East side pavement of the roundabout on Ninewells Avenue outside the entrance to the hospital. This is a peaceful prayer vigil praying for an end to abortion. The hours for the vigil are Monday to Sunday 12-2. If you would like to sign up for a regular hour or just to let the organisers know you're coming please email: 40daysdundee@gmail.com

SPUC Coffee Morning in St. Bride's Church Hall on **Saturday 10th March from 10 a.m. to 12noon**. All the usual stall, and an Easter Cake raffle. Tickets on sale after Masses this weekend.

Rite of Enrolment: This Sunday we welcome to St. Bride's the boys and girls of the P6 catechism class who will take part in the rite of enrolment in preparation for their Confirmation next year.