



**OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH
CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15**

**2nd Sunday of Lent
28th February 2021**

On this 2nd Sunday of Lent we read in the Gospel Mark's account of the Transfiguration of Jesus. This is truly a unique experience for Peter, James and John, the three apostles who were privileged to accompany Jesus up the mountain. For a short while as they all stood together on the mountain top, the three apostles have a vision of Jesus transfigured. The divinity of Jesus and the glory of God become visible to them in the human body of Jesus. It is an extraordinary moment of grace for the three apostles, even if at that time they failed to fully understand and appreciate the significance of the event they were witnessing. It was only in hindsight, after the death and resurrection of Jesus, that they really grasped the true meaning of it all.

The transfiguration event shows the care and concern of Jesus for his disciples. Jesus undoubtedly knew that there would be confusion and upset among the disciples following his crucifixion. The transfiguration offers them a message of hope. Death is not the end. The death of Jesus is followed by the resurrection of Jesus exactly as had been promised.

Hope is an important virtue that sustains us in the more darker moments of life. As the years of our earthly life unfold we know, in faith, that we are on a journey that will culminate with us sharing the fulness of life with God in all his glory one day in heaven. It is this hope that keeps us going when times are tough. It is this hope that will help us cope with the trials and tribulations of this Covid-19 pandemic. Our hope, as Christian people, is that one day we too, like Peter, James and John, will see Jesus transfigured in all his glory.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Lenten Talks

A series of Lenten Talks will be available on the Parish Webcam during Lent. A new talk will be uploaded from 7pm on each Monday of Lent.

22nd February: *The Lenten Journey - Fr. Brendan Walsh*

1st March: *My Journey of Hope - Simon Marriott*

8th March: *Listening to the Cry of the Earth - Jane Mellett*

15th March: *Women Witnesses: The challenges of proclaiming the Reign of God today - Sr. Sheila Curran*

22nd March: *A Journey of Hope through Grief - Olive Foley*

29th March: *How to Discern God's Will - Fr. Patrick Cahill*

To listen to the talks click on the Webcam link on the Parish Website. Across the top, above the image of our church, there are four headings. Click on the 4th heading entitled "Featured Videos". You will see a list of available videos. Click on a video to begin the talk.

Trócaire

Trócaire was established by the Irish Catholic Bishops in 1973 as a response to poverty and injustice in the developing world. Since then Trócaire has supported projects in many countries with the help of Irish people. The annual Lenten appeal is the major fund-raising effort to support the work of Trócaire. If you wish to have a Trócaire box in your home this Lent, you can request to have a Trócaire box sent to you by post or you can make a donation directly online on the Trócaire website – www.trocaire.org

First Friday – 5th March

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 10.30am to 6pm.

Statue of St. Joseph

Pope Francis declared a special year in honour of St. Joseph in December last. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, Mount Sackville, have very generously gifted a statue of St. Joseph to our parish to mark this year. The statue, which can now be seen in the church, will be installed in a more permanent manner in the coming weeks.