

SCARBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISHES



CHURCHES OF ST PETER, ST JOSEPH, ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Part of the Middlesbrough Diocesan Trust: Reg. Charity No. 233748



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Welcome Fáilte Merĥba Croeso Witajcie Swagatam Mabuhay
Benvenuto Bienvenu Bienvenido Benvindo Benvinguts Willkommen

WEEK COMMENCING 2 AUGUST 2020 - YEAR A
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

DIVINE OFFICE: week 2

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION - THURSDAY 6 AUGUST

The **Transfiguration of Jesus** has been an important subject in Christian art, especially in the iconography of the Eastern Church, which had changed little over the centuries. There, the **Feast of the Transfiguration** has been celebrated since at least the 6th century and is one of the 12 Great Feasts of Eastern Orthodoxy. In the Western Church, the Feast was not celebrated universally, or on a consistent date, until 1475. Raphael's **Transfiguration** is considered the most important *Western* painting of the subject. It was Raphael's last painting (Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino 1483-1520), commissioned by Cardinal Giulio de Medici, later Pope Clement VII (1523-1534) as an altarpiece for Narbonne Cathedral in France. The painting now hangs Pinacoteca Vaticana art museum in Vatican City.

Unusual in iconography of The Transfiguration, Rafael's image is divided into **2 halves** which combine **two biblical passage recorded consecutively** in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 17:1-20; Mark 9:2-29; & Luke 9:28-42). The top half illustrates the story of the **Transfiguration of Christ** on a mountain (Mt Tabor, according to St Jerome) where disciples Peter, James and John look on as Jesus speaks with Moses and Elijah. The story in the bottom half, **Jesus heals a demon possessed boy**, is picked up at the point where the crowds petition Jesus after the Apostles failed to cure a boy from his demonic possession.

The **top half** of the image is in **2 zones of 3 figures**. The figures of Christ and the prophets, in the upper zone are stately, static and calm – a heavenly state, while in the lower zone the disciples sprawl and writhe in awe & fright.

There were 8 on the mountain but only 6 were visible. The event of the Transfiguration of Christ was a theophany (visible manifestation of God). Jesus is shown 'floating' above the ground, surrounded by illuminated clouds and shrouded in white (the *light of Resurrection*). His appearance has changed. He emanates uncreated, divine light, revealing true His identity: **God the Son**. Scripture describes the cloud's descent as *overshadowing* (Greek: *episkiazein*), which is the same word used to describe the Holy Spirit overshadowing the Virgin Mary at the Annunciation. The luminous cloud is therefore a manifestation of **God the Holy Spirit**. Scripture also tells us that a voice speaks from the cloud: *"This is my Son, the Beloved love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"* (Matthew 17:5). This is **God the Father**. All **3 Persons of the Holy Trinity** are present and manifest in the event of the Transfiguration.



Note the **faces of the 3 disciples**. **Peter** faces the vision - he was the only one to speak, first to confess faith in Christ, first witness after the Christ's Resurrection, and whose mission it was to sustain Christ's Church; **James** faces the ground - his witness was short, as he was the first Apostle die for Christ; **John** faces away as he has no need to see the vision as he is a theologian, and contemplates the mystery of Christ.

The **mountain** plays an important part in divine revelation, linking Moses and Elijah who are miraculously present by Christ's side. Moses holds the Tablet of the Law he received from God on Mt Sinai. Elijah, who represents all prophets, was told to ascend Mt Horeb where he heard the voice of God. Old Testament laws and prophecies all point toward Jesus Christ, who is sovereign over and is the fulfilment of

The **two halves** of the image are both **united** (by the gestures of the figures below), and **contrasted** (figures above are 'illuminated' by faith, while chaotic figures below are in the 'shadow' of lack of faith). The remaining 9 disciples to the left are in shadow, indicating the lack of faith that prevented them from casting out the demons. The pleading father on the right is brighter, showing his faith, as is the possessed boy, as even demons believe in God. The brightest figure is the central kneeling woman pointing at the boy - she is an allegorical figure of Faith itself. The image as a whole, expresses Christ's Revelation of Himself as deliverer of mankind from the power of the devil.

The figures in the top half of the image are arranged in a **circle**, emphasised by the **luminous cloud**. The figures in the lower half are in relative **darkness**, and are arranged roughly in a **square**. The **circle** is used in Christian art to symbolise God, representing totality, wholeness, perfection, eternity. This circle of light is further testimony of the divine nature of this event. The **square** in Christian art represents all things earthly, as it is related to the number 4 (eg. four corners of the earth).

NOTE CAREFULLY TIMES & VENUES THIS WEEK AS WE OPEN UP ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDWARD'S

SATURDAY VIGIL	1	5.30pm	St Peter's	
SUNDAY	2	9.30am 11.30am	St Peter's **POLISH** St Peter's	For Mass Intentions see printed copy
Monday	3	10am **	St Peter's	<i>St Oswald</i>
Tuesday	4	7pm	St Edward's **	<i>St John Vianney</i>
Wednesday	5	10am	St Peter's	<i>Dedication of Basilica of St Mary Major</i>
Thursday	6	10am	St Joseph's **	<i>TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD</i>
Friday	7	10am	St Peter's	<i>Bl Nicholas Postgate</i>
Saturday	8	10am	St Peter's	<i>St Dominic</i>

STREAMED MASSES IN OUR DIOCESE: <https://middlesbrough-diocese.org.uk/streamed-masses-in-our-diocese-2/>
MASS BY TELEPHONE Fr Cunnah: **Sundays & Holy Days at noon.** Phone 01642 130120 (*Remains available after*)
SIGNED MASS for the Deaf: 10.30am Sundays from Cardiff www.sphilpevans.co.uk/f.k/signed-mass and **6pm Saturday Vigil** - from Potters Bar: churchservices.tv/pottersbar
READINGS AT MASS & DAILY PRAYER OF THE CHURCH Links for these are available on our website & in porch.
POPE'S AUGUST PRAYER INT: *that families may become "schools" of true human development*

† **RECENTLY DEAD** Matthew Gilson † **ANNIVS** Brenda Lightfoot, Margot Smith, Walter O Leary, Brian Muldoon
 † **SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATION** Clifford Aveyard **MASSES RECEIVED FROM** see printed copy
MASS COUNT last weekend: Sat 5.30pm **29**; Sun 9.30am (Polish) **62**; Sun 11.30am **74**; **Total 165**; weekday average **18**
OFFERINGS: Loose plate **£719**; Gift Aid envelopes **£313**; average weekly Standing Orders **£614**; total **£1,646**
PLANNED GIVING to sign up for *Offertory Envelope or Standing Order giving*, contact Jennie Eyre on 07983 402203

CONFESSIONS AT ST PETERS available at **side altar** on **Saturday mornings after Mass until 11am** or by request
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/PRIVATE PRAYER 30 minutes *before* each weekday Mass, except Monday

WELCOME ALL OUR HOLIDAY MAKERS AND VISITORS to weekend Mass.

WEEKDAY MASS at St Edwards *7pm Tuesday* and St Joseph's *10am Thursday*.

ST JOSEPHS CHURCH WILL REOPEN for **one weekday** Mass on Thursdays from this **6 August.** **Entrance:** ENTER in the normal way; **EXIT** through the **Sacristy** – follow the signs. **Sanitise hands** on way in & out. Wear a face mask or visor. Sit in **designated benches** only (for adequate social distancing). Benches and key touch points (eg. doors etc) will be sanitised after Mass. **Two stewards** are needed at every Mass that takes place. If you are not already on our list of attendees – you will need to fill in a Test & Trace form. This is because we must comply with government **Test & Trace regulations** (see box to right for more info).

FEAST OF BLESSED NICHOLAS POSTGATE Friday 7 August (each church in the diocese now has an image painting of him). Blessed Nicholas Postgate (1599-1679) was born at Kirkdale House, Egton, Yorkshire. He settled in Ugthorpe, not far from his birthplace, in the 1660s. His parish (known by the extinct name of Blackamoor) extended between Guisborough, Pickering and Scarborough. Nicholas Postgate was arrested on 8 December 1678 by excise man John Reeves, while carrying out a baptism at the house of Matthew Lyth, Little Beck, near Whitby. He was condemned for being a Catholic priest and was executed on the Knavesmire in York on **6 August 1679**. He is one of the 85 Catholic Martyrs of England and Wales beatified by Pope John Paul II in **November 1987**.

OUR LADY'S GROTTTO at St Peter's church is **open every day** to light a *free* candle. Please practice safe distancing and other relevant Coronavirus safety advice.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE If you would like to add the name of a loved one, provide clear details: *full name, date of birth and death* & your contact number. Suggested donation £10.

LIVE STREAM MASS AT ST PETER'S We still have problems with the broadband connection speed which we hope will be resolved by our service provider soon.

FUNERALS, WEDDINGS AND BAPTISMS Contact Father Gubbins for guidance.

SINGLE LADY looking to rent **1/2 bedroom flat** from mid-October, employed by Council as Art teacher, non-smoker, £400/£450 pm, can give references. Contact the Parish Office

FACE MASKS IN CHURCH - LATEST GUIDELINES you are strongly encouraged to wear one, if you have difficulty, we have some **FACE VISORS** you could try. Sanitise after

CANON JOE TAYLOR celebrates **10am** Mass on Monday at St Peters. Welcome Fr Joe

LIGHTING OF VOTIVE CANDLES IN CHURCH is *not allowed* at present.

RAINBOW CENTRE needs donations of non-perishable food for needy families.

SUNDAY SMILE: *Why didn't they play cards on the Ark? Because Noah was standing on the deck!*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

- No need to "book" in advance *if we already have your details.*
- If you are **not** on the list, you **must** fill in a Test & Trace form
- On arrival, give your **full** name to the steward
- We cannot admit those unwilling to provide their full name and contact details (this is a legal matter)
- *Try to arrive early to avoid crowding*
- Observe 2-meter & sanitising rules
- Government *strongly advises* wearing a face covering in enclosed public spaces where you come in contact with people you do not normally meet
- Worshippers should limit contact with others not in their group

TEST & TRACE We are obliged to comply with Government Test & Trace, which states we must keep a record of **full names and contact details** of everyone attending church. Your details will be used only by the NHS in the event of an outbreak. Forms are kept for 21 days from the date of the last Mass attended, after which time they will be destroyed.

TOILETS, HALL & CENTRES According to the Covid-19 guidelines, toilets and meeting rooms **cannot** be used until further notice