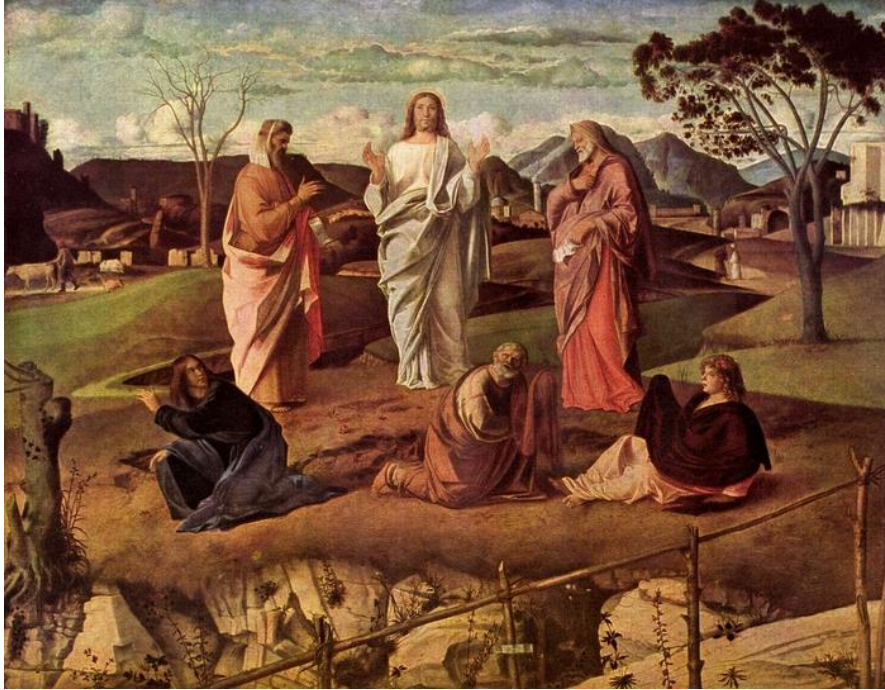




SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



Transfiguration of Christ 1480-1485

Artist: Bellini, Giovanni, 1426?-1516, Naples.

Transfiguration Sunday – Sunday before Lent

Welcome to Saint John's especially all who are visiting today.

An audio loop system is in operation for those with hearing aids. The order of service is available to download from the website and the 10.30am is livestreamed on St John's Malone YouTube channel. Those baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and are communicant members of their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion, according to conscience.

Today: Sunday 11th February 2024
9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

The Eucharist ~See service booklet for 10:30am if available or below for page references in the BCP 2004

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The Lord's Prayer	
Communion	
Motet	Christ whose glory fills the skies -Shepherd
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Blessing	
Dismissal	
Organ Voluntary	Nun danket alle Gott – Bach (arr. Fox)
Office Setting	Shepherd



Collects

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
Give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading **2 Kings 2: 1-12**

2 Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

4 Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

6 Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' ¹⁰He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading **2 Corinthians 4: 3-6**

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and

ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Gospel Reading *Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Mark chapter nine beginning at verse two. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

Mark 9: 2-9

2 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one* on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings,* one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved;* listen to him!' ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Holy God

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

May we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,

that all the world may know

his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Services this week

Wednesday 14th Ash Wednesday Choral Eucharist with ashing **7:30pm.**

Thursday 18th 10.30am Eucharist with prayer for those in need will take place in the Side Chapel. The prayer list is in the Side chapel.

A cup of tea/coffee is now available after this service.

Next Sunday: Lent 1 18.02.24

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel

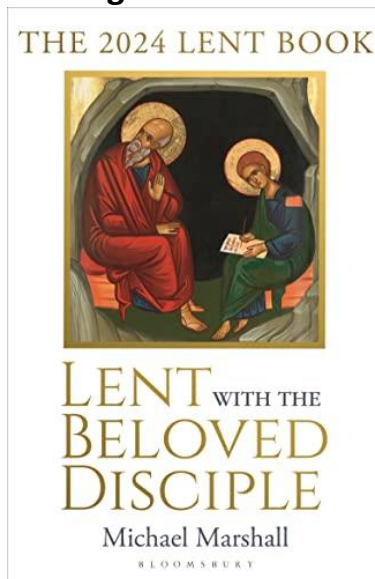
- **10.30 a.m. Family Eucharist Coffee/tea** will follow this service and all are welcome.



Notices: | Sign up for the regular email Update at secstjohns@btconnect.com

Lent Book

This year the following book by Bishop Michael Marshall is suggested for devotional reading. It is also the book on which the short addresses at Lenten Compline will be based.



'The 2024 Bloomsbury Lent Book invites you on a six-week journey in the company of the 'beloved disciple' as found in the narrative of the Gospel of St John. As the only disciple to have stayed close to Jesus at every stage from the Last Supper to the Crucifixion at Calvary, this eagle-eyed eyewitness intentionally records certain subtle details and signs which, when perceived with the eyes of faith, indicate a deeper and far lasting significance. Michael Marshall explores what these signs are and how, with prayerful reflection, they draw us ever more deeply into the personal, eternal and cosmic significance and awareness of all that Christ accomplished by his death and resurrection - the Paschal Mystery. Ideal for both individual use and for small group study, *Lent with the Beloved Disciple* takes us into the heart of that Paschal Mystery, by which all things in heaven and earth are ultimately fulfilled in the risen and ascended Christ, who is 'all in all.'

The book will be available in the vestibule for a discounted price before and during Lent and is also available from The Bookwell.

Lenten Quiet Day

This day of reflection takes place on Thursday 22nd January 2024

10am - 3pm with Tom Layden SJ in the church and parish halls.

Theme: 'Growing in our knowledge of God'. All are welcome to attend and it would be good to have your support.

If you wish to attend please email secstjohns@btconnect.com or phone the office 028 90667861 and leave a message for catering and admin purposes by Thursday 16th February 10:30am. Coffee, scones and a light lunch will be provided.

Lenten Compline Wednesdays 7:30pm with short addresses based on 'Lent with the Beloved Disciple'

'Lent with the Beloved Disciple': meditations on John's Gospel at Lenten Compline

1. 21st February - 'The Pilgrimage of Faith', John 1:35-42

Based on the Marshall's Prologue, with the title taken from one of the sub-sections of this, reflecting on Jesus' question to the disciples of the Baptist - 'What are you looking for?' - and his subsequent invitation to them, 'Come and see'.

2. 28th February - 'A Different Perspective', John 13:3-15

Based on Chapter 1, which addresses the foot-washing, the disciples' dispute, and Judas.

3. 6th March - 'A Night to Remember', John 18:1-27

Based on Chapter 2, addressing Christ before Annas and Caiaphas, and Peter's denials.

4. 13th March - 'The Power Game', John 18:28-19:16 (or part thereof)

Based on Chapter 3, addressing Christ before Pilate, and the roles of the crowd and the religious leadership.

5. 20th March - 'Transforming Power', John 19:17-30

Based on Chapter 4, addressing the Crucifixion and the Atonement.

Giving and Stewardship in St Johns' much of our income received is through the Free Will Offering Scheme using either envelopes or increasingly, by Standing Order. Standing order forms are available by asking the Churchwardens or contacting the Office or

secstjohns@btconnect.com. Alternatively if you wish to make a donation then the account details for St John's are also available from the Wardens. Your donations help us maintain our buildings and support ministry and outreach here in St John's and more widely.

READINGS:

2 Kings 2:1-12: Elijah prepares for his time to leave the earth (since he never dies in the Scriptural account) and Elisha refuses to be separated from him. Then, when Elijah asks Elisha what he wants before he leaves, Elisha asks for twice Elijah's spirit. Elijah tells him that he will receive it if he sees Elijah being taken away. Then, Elijah is caught up in a wind and carried away, but Elisha sees and grieves the departure of his master.

Psalm 50:1-6: God radiates and God's voice speaks across all the earth calling God's people to God's self.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6: Jesus is the glorious image of God, and God has shone into our hearts the light of the knowledge of God's glory in Christ. It is this glorious Jesus that the Apostle preaches.

Mark 9:2-9: Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain where they see Jesus transfigured into a radiant white, and Moses and Elijah appearing and talking to Jesus. Then they hear God's voice of affirmation and then all is back to normal. Then Jesus instructs them not to tell anyone until after he is raised.

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

The Transfiguration is the obvious focus of this week, which is both exciting and challenging. The excitement comes from the wonderful celebratory possibilities that this amazing event offers. The challenge comes from having to choose how to approach this week with all the options, but also in how to ensure that our worship avoids the familiarity which so easily dulls the transforming potential of the theme. When all of the readings are placed together one strong message emerges – God allows God's glory to be seen in order that God may communicate with human beings. In the Kings passage, Elisha seeks to see the glorious departure of Elijah in order to receive Elijah's spirit. It also offers an opportunity (if we keep reading past the end of the set pericope) for others to recognise God's anointing on Elisha once Elijah has gone. In the Psalm, God's radiant glory is accompanied by God's voice calling God's people to God. In the letter to the Corinthians, Christ is praised as the glorious image of God – communicating the knowledge of God to whomever will receive Christ. Finally, in the Gospel reading, the glory and affirmation of God is communicated both to Jesus but also to the disciples who witness this event. It is clear that the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets (represented by Moses and Elijah) which Jesus brings is to be recognised by the disciples, and with the coming death and rising to which Jesus alludes at the end of this passage, they will need to memory of God's glory and God's communication to and through Christ to sustain them on the road to and through the cross.

Organising your wedding in St John's

Weddings are special occasions in the life of any family and of the Church. We'd be delighted to talk to anyone contemplating their wedding in St John's. When considering getting married please check possible dates with the Rector before confirming any other arrangements. It is expected that couples will make a regular commitment to the life of the Church in preparation for marriage.



If you are considering donating any items to the foodbank then we would really appreciate any of the following...

Tinned meat Tinned potatoes/ Smash Long life juice Tinned soup Toiletries Toilet roll Washing up liquid Washing powder You can either pop the items directly into the basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the foodbank.

We are open for donations every Wednesday 1-3pm and every Thursday 10am-12pm.

Our warehouse is Unit 4, 23 Sunwich Street, Belfast, BT6 8HR

Any questions regarding donating please call us on 07743332489 or email us on info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk

ITEMS REQUIRED AT PRESENT: *Please place in the baskets in the entrance vestibule/porch.*
Long life juice; Tinned fish; Tinned spaghetti; Tinned fruit; Jars of jam; Tinned rice pudding; Tinned potatoes or Smash; Toiletries – soap, shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste etc.

www.malone.connor.anglican.org



@malonestjohns

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The Parish Office for administrative matters, or for information about organisations connected with St John's (90667861) e-mail: secstjohns@btconnect.com

The Rector, Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding can be contacted on pastoral matters (90666644) e-mail : malone@connor.anglican.org

Please take this booklet home with you for the readings, notices and reference during the week and recycle.