

**PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS  
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,  
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, KwaZulu-Natal)**

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## **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**6th August 2017**

### ***TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD***

***We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven.***

**First Reading**                    1 Dan 7:9-10.13-14

**Responsorial Psalm**        Ps 96:1-2.5-6.9

**Second Reading**            1 Pt 1:16-19

**Gospel**                             Mt 17:1-9



**TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD:** Although the Transfiguration is one of the most striking events in Our Lord's public ministry it is only in comparatively recent times that the Church has celebrated it liturgically. It was first celebrated in Armenia and then adopted by other Eastern Churches. The Latin Church was slow in adopting this feast, about the tenth century in many dioceses, and was celebrated generally on 6th August but in England on 27th July. In 1456 Pope Callixtus III extended the feast to the Universal Church in memory of the victory over the Turks gained by Hunyady at Belgrade on 6th August, 1456. For a moment Jesus allows his most intimate disciples, Peter, James and John, a glimpse of his hidden nature. He is not simply a law giver, prophet or teacher like Moses and Elijah, but "My Son, the Beloved." Matthew, Mark and Luke each recount the story in broadly similar words but each has some slight variation. Today we hear St Matthew's account. All say how frightened the disciples were but only Matthew adds the comforting words, "Stand up. Do not be afraid". This vision is to sustain them in the challenging days ahead when they must face the arrest and crucifixion of the Lord. We hear the same Gospel on 2nd Sunday of Lent as part of the preparation of those about to be baptised at Easter.

**PRAYER NEEDS:** Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially *Alec Ross, Michelle Bryant, Samantha Upton, Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Angelina Barber, Mrs Van Stolk Senior, Denis Wood, Hayley Hetzel, Julie Trueman, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Hopwood* and any unknown to us.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember *Maureen Dunn, Margaret Murray, Eric Barnes, Sr Edmund Lewis, Luzia Gross, Catherine Chaussead* and *Patrick Seave* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**RED MISSION BOXES:** Many of you will be familiar with the red 'Mission Boxes' used to support the work of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith and Mill Hill Missionaries even if you do not currently have one. Our current local secretary is Jean Mullane and is happy to continue looking after the boxes of parishioners who attend Tiptree but it would help greatly if someone could assist her by taking on those who live in or go to Coggeshall and Kelvedon. This would involve liaising with her over collecting and emptying the boxes periodically – most people bring them to the church when asked – and also encouraging others to take a box. We have a number of unallocated boxes that you can take and a little small change from time to time mounts up over a year.

**FR GORDON HOLIDAY PLANS:** It has not been possible to arrange weekend cover – it is becoming increasingly difficult for priests from outside the EU to obtain the necessary visa – and so the plan is to be away Monday to Thursday during August except for 14th - 17th since the Feast of the Assumption falls on the Tuesday. Most of the clergy will also be away 4th - 8th September on the Diocesan Centenary clergy retreat at Ars.