

**The Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Walthamstow**

**Newsletter for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity**

6 August 2025
Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write this on the feast of the Transfiguration: a very strange event which took place just before Jesus went up to Jerusalem to face his arrest, trial, suffering and death. As so often with significant incidents in the gospels, Jesus and the disciples go up a mountain (mountains throughout human history have had a great mystical significance) and it is there where Our Lord is completely changed. Not only are his garments dazzling white, but he is seen talking with Moses and Elijah, Old Testament prophets who had died hundreds of years before. Our time and space clearly cannot confine him. He will tell the disciples just before his betrayal and the Sanhedrin at his trial that they ‘will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven’ (a direct quote from the prophet Daniel 7 v 13 ‘.. and behold, one like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven’). Poor Peter doesn’t know what to say and burbles about making shelters/tents or whatever to house Jesus, Moses and Elijah, as if they could be contained in such a way. As so often with Peter, he says a rather daft thing – I suspect it would have been just the same for us too when confronted with such a weird happening!

It is deeply significant that the Transfiguration happens just before the Passion. Jesus’ body will be battered, tortured, bruised and abused and once the Roman soldiers have finished with him, he will not look remotely like he did on that mountain of transfiguration. The fact that Jesus is true God and true Man is made clear in the juxtaposition of these two episodes as his earthly life comes to an end.

**Travel news**

Be aware of serious travel disruption owing to Thames Water works on Selborne Road; they started on 4 August and continue for 10 weeks. The W12 bus seems to be going down Palmerston Road (from Forest Road end) and then turns into Mission Grove. The W15 goes in the same direction then turns up Selborne Road past Walthamstow Central Station and into Hoe Street. This means that neither the W12 nor the W15 are going into the bus station which appears to be shut other than for SL1 and 34 buses as far as I can tell. The bus stops on Palmerston Road are still functioning.

The message is: leave extra time to get to church if you’re travelling by bus or car!

**Coffee morning/afternoon: reminder**

As I wrote last week, and as mentioned at the notices last Sunday, we are hoping to put on a coffee morning or afternoon as a way of welcoming members of the community into our church, and we need volunteers to assist. A sheet is at the back of church for you to sign if you are interested in helping (it’s not a sign-up sheet), so that we can get an idea of whether we can run the event. I should emphasise that it is not a fund-raiser, nor are we going to preach at people, but simply show hospitality and welcome neighbours in for a cuppa and a chat. It may not necessarily happen on a Saturday or Sunday, but could be mid-week, depending on who volunteers.

**Saturday 9 August 10.00 a.m. Walsingham Mass with Fr James**

Come and join us to pray for the future of St Michael’s at our monthly Walsingham Mass! Fr James will be celebrating on 9 August. The confirmation class will start after the Mass, around 10.45/11.00 a.m.

**Arts and Crafts Workshops for 8 – 16 year-olds at Harmony Hall Truro Road: still time to take children to them**

The free activities at Harmony Hall continue until this coming Friday 8 August, so please let your friends and neighbours with children know they can still take them along. The activities are from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

**Prayer for the feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord**

*O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty.* ***Amen***

Best wishes,

Glynne