

Fiat!

Dear Faithful,

The drama of Lent has started and the scene was set liturgically with the First Sunday of Lent – the temptation of Jesus in the desert. Our road is one of battle, the way of the cross, of self denial and purification by the fire of mercy. But the church today wants to encourage us by showing what glory awaits us by undergoing this struggle and that nothing is comparable to this. This glory awaits us not only in the life to come but already here on earth.

“The event of the transfiguration is essential for us to understand that life in Christ is about fulness of life now. Christianity is not a religion of the continual postponement of joy and delight, as some would like to caricature the Christian virtue of hope. The Transfiguration is the experience of the fulness of divine Presence, action, communication and glory now, in our very midst, in this world of passingness and disappointment.” (E.Leiva Merikakis vol 2 p.531)

Jesus is showing what the whole of scripture speaks about from beginning to end: the glory of those who serve God and the necessity of the way of the cross. He tells the disciples on the way to Emmaus this truth. We see it in the first reading and Abraham’s preparedness to sacrifice his son.

What we need to remember too is that this duality – glory and the cross – is also lived out historically in the life of the Church and that certainly applies to the times in which we live. We await the New Pentecost and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit which will herald the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the era of peace that she has promised. But this necessitates a period of trial for the Church and the world so that they are purified for this event. “But where sin abounds, grace abounds more.”(Rom 5:20)

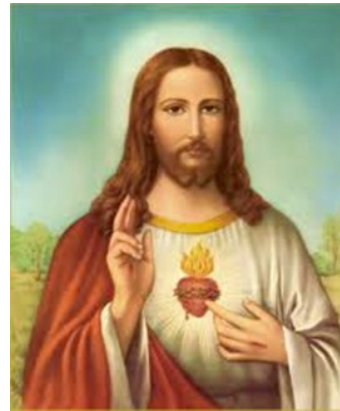
But the joy of what is to happen should be our strength during these times of trial. The prophet, Ezra said that the joy of the lord is our strength. (Neh 8:10) He was speaking to the faithful remnant who after the exile had come to rebuild the city and the temple. It was a time of restoring what had been destroyed but equally of new fidelity to the law of God. We are very close to a worldwide restoration of the faith.

We need to be prepared constantly by the sacrament of confession, by ongoing consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary; by the Eucharist and by prayer, especially the rosary. A soul that lives this preparedness will experience peace and joy even in the greatest of travails.

It is all summarised by the Father’s simple command: “This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him.” When we follow this command with constancy, firmness and stability then the text shall also be fulfilled that we shall see only Jesus.

Cf Mk 9:7-8

God bless, Fr. Dominic



Sacred Heart, Skegness

22, Grosvenor Road, Skegness. PE25 2DB and
Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Spilsby

Church St., Spilsby, PE23 5EF

Parish Priest: Fr. Dominic O’Connor 01754 762528

email: sacredheartandspilsby@gmail.com

Website: www.skegnessrcparish

Safeguarding officer. Mrs Judy Lumb

Charity No 11349 Company no 7151646

Registered office: Willson house, NG1 5AW

Day	Date	Prayer Time	Place	Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Sunday	28	9.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	SP SK Pol	2nd Sunday Lent	Janet Enderby GHO Pro populo
Monday	1			Saint David	NDL
Tuesday	2	12.00 noon	SP	Lenten Feria	Jane Wright’s Intn
Wednesday	3	10.00am	SK	Lenten Feria	Mary Quinn RIP
Thursday	4	10.00am	SK	Adoration / Feria	M.Richardson RIP
Friday	5	5.00pm 6.00pm	SK	Stations of the Cross 1 st Friday	E.Fitzgerald GHO
Saturday	6	10.00am (Rosary 9.30am)	SK	1 st Saturday (confessions after mass)	NDL
Sunday	7	9.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	SP SK Pol	3rd Sunday of Lent	Pro populo Angela Davis

SP = Spilsby SK = Skegness Pol = Polish Mass at Skegness

SUNDAYS YEAR B GOSPEL OF SAINT MARK WEEKDAYS: CYCLE 1

Prayers

Gwen who is ill at the moment

Rita Natale diagnosed with aggressive cancer

Ray Flaherty who is very ill

Janet Enderby end of life prayers.

Remember especially those in our care homes who cannot receive visitors at the moment.

Stations of the Cross

Spilsby: Zoom stations from St.James. (Please see Mary if you would like a link)

Skegness: 5.00pm Friday

Second Collections

2nd April Holy Places

There will be a Zoom Know Your Faith Meeting on Sat March 6th 10.30am. We will be exploring two themes :- The Creation Story at the beginning of Genesis, and The simple question Why Pray? Please contact Stephen Duffy if you are interested: sansduffy@btinternet.com

Divine Will Formation Group

March 2nd 8.00pm Zoom Let Father know if you would like an invitation.



NOTES ON LITURGY

For services at Spilsby: Please contact either: Mary Flynn 01790 754563 or Patrick Doyle 01507 481072

For Services at Skegness:

For Sunday and Wednesday Please contact Jacinta as follows: 01754 820644 email: jacintalewis21@aol.com Friday is not booked.

Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St Joseph”

With the Apostolic Letter “Patris corde” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from today, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.

CONFESSION and/or need to speak to Father

Please ring and book a time. Normally Father will be around in the church at the weekend times if you just simply want to catch him.

Prayer outside of normal times

Sometimes people will have an urgent need to visit the Church, light a candle and say a prayer. If this is the case again please give me a ring and it can be easily arranged. Even in lockdown, priests are available to help, absolve and fortify so please feel free to contact me.

A Couple of Reminders

If you have been to Church and subsequently contract the coronavirus could you please let myself or one of the stewards know so that we can notify the attendees.

The Sunday obligation by the authority of Bishop Patrick is still not in force which means you are not obliged to attend Sunday mass or an holiday of obligation.

If the priest is singing only the choir should make the responses and not the congregation.

Many thanks.