

Reflection: Luke 9: 28-36
Feast of the Transfiguration

Lord Darlington, a character in Oscar Wilde's play *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892) utters lines which have become almost immortalised: 'We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars'. While in the context of the play he seems to be talking about different men's attitude to women, this quotation has been applied much more widely and generally to the whole human race.

In the frame of the Transfiguration, it's a reminder for all of us, wherever we are, to develop, hold to and enjoy a vision of God and of Jesus – of how things can be better or different.

Luke's reading is all about the transfiguration of Jesus – how his face dazzled and so on – but we should not restrict our imaginations just to the Messiah. It is we too who can be, even ought to be, changed, transformed, transfigured. We too, not just Jesus, who hear God the Father calling us beloved and chosen sons and daughters.

To plagiarize the terrible L'Oreal advert on the TV: 'Because you're worth it'. Phrased slightly differently and better from another French source (Leon Bloy in *La Femme Pauvre*) 'The only real sadness, the only real failure, the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint'.

Fr David



NEXT SUNDAY 11.08.2024 Trinity 11
10.30am in the Church

READINGS: OT 1 Kings 19: 4-8
NT Ephesians 4: 25-5: 2
GOSPEL John 6: 35. 41-51



CONTACT US

Fr David Nixon 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays
rev.dave@virgin.net

Revd Carys Puleston Curate 07977090932
rev.carys@gmail.com

Revd Sarah Cumming Assistant Priest 07543604115
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

Revd Alison Whiting Associate Priest
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

Revd Mike Clark Associate Priest
mike.clark@exeter.anglican.org

Phil Baker, Reader 07970 216740
lionelbaker@outlook.com

Revd Terry Litherland 07594633195
tlitherland36@gmail.com

Ian Totterdell Church Warden 01392 848674
07536459096 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Liz Pioneer Community Worker
pioneerstthomas@gmail.com

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

X (formerly Twitter): @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

4th August 2024

Feast of the Transfiguration

10.30am in Church

Today

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers. See Hymn Board

Tuesday 6th August

11am Funeral service for Tony Nethercott

Wednesday 7th August

10am Walsingham Mass

Thursday 8th August

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots

Friday 9th August

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Staff Meeting

Saturday 10th August

9am Men's Breakfast in the Sawyers



Collect

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain, and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross that in the world to come we may see him as he is; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Daniel 7: 9, 10, 13, 14

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Psalms 97

The Lord is king: let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.
Clouds and darkness are round about him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
Fire goes before him and burns up his enemies on every side.
His lightnings lit up the world; the earth saw it and trembled.
The mountains melted like wax at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
The heavens declared his righteousness, and all the peoples have seen his glory
Confounded be all who worship carved images

and delight in mere idols.
Bow down before him, all you gods. Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of your judgements, O Lord.
For you, Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
The Lord loves those who hate evil; he preserves the lives of his faithful and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
Light has sprung up for the righteous and joy for the true of heart.
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name.

2 Peter 1: 16-19

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

Luke 9: 28-36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwell-

ings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Post Communion

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**

NOTICES

Knit & Natter will be having a break for 2 weeks as follows: *Thursdays 1st and 8th August*. Back to normal weekly meetings on *Thursday 15th August*.

Walsingham Pilgrimage Monday-Friday 13th September 2024

There are still places available for this year's pilgrimage. Please contact the organizer, Fr David Way, if you would like to come. The cost is £390, for transport, full board and accommodation.

Payment can be by cheque to St Peter's Pilgrimage Fund and posted to Fr David Way, St Peter's Vicarage, 23 Wyndham Square, Plymouth, PL1 5EG; or by bank transfer to Natwest Bank, St Peter's Pilgrimage Fund, Ac no 46650342 Sort Code 56-00-63, Reference 24/your name.

It is most peaceful and restorative experience, which I most sincerely recommend. Jenny Tuckett

Plans are in place for our next set of prayer walks based on our experiences from the first two walks and your feedback. Meet outside the church hall. Wet weather plan in place!

Thursday 15th August: 2pm - 3pm

Thursday 29th August: 2pm - 3pm