



DARE TO DREAM

Lent Week 2 – A Vision to Behold

Week beginning 28th February

Week Two: A Vision to Behold

Our Gospel for the Second Week of Lent is always the account of the transfiguration of Jesus. During this episode in the life of Jesus, he takes Peter, James and John to see something that they could never have dreamed of or imagined. The experience comes after Jesus has taken them up a mountain, a journey which most of us can appreciate may not have been easy. Walking up a mountain can be a struggle even for those of us who consider ourselves to be fit. The journey requires stamina, the willingness to persevere, even when we don't know what the outcome might be. Jesus has a reason for taking the disciples on the journey – they go with him because they trust him, they might even have been intrigued. Jesus invites us on that journey too – both personally and communally. The outcome is a vision which gives us a way forward. The disciples are given a different perspective. If we have the courage to trust the Lord and make the journey, we will encounter something new, something which offers us life, and we will be able to say with Peter, 'It is good for us to be here'.

Video: 'This is my Son, whom I love, listen to him' – the call to discernment

Listen and watch the video – Fr. Christopher Whitehead

Prayerfully read this passage from the Gospel of Mark 9:2-10

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell

anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant.

- Take some to ponder on the words you have just read.
- Notice if there is anything, a word or phrase that stands out for you.
- Read the passage again and then reflect upon all or some of these questions: if you are doing this as a family or a group, make sure everyone is given the opportunity to speak.

Personal Reflection

- In what ways do I hear God speaking to me? What is he saying to me this Lent?
- What is my vision for the Church? What do I need to let go of, to make this come about? How might my perspective need to change?

Now – thinking about your parish

- Does the parish/deanery have a sense of a common purpose, a vision moving forward and is everyone committed to why it is important for us to have one?
- What signs would there be to show that we are ready to embrace the future?
- What stumbling blocks could we find ourselves tripping over in our efforts to be ready?
- What steps could be taken to ensure more people are involved in future discussions and activities?

- What formation might be required to enable people to grow in their ministry and outreach? Are there enough resources within the parishes to provide this?

Action

- Identify three goals for moving forward that are practical, measurable and achievable....be prepared to share these with your parish.
- Consider which of these you would be prepared to support or take a lead on.

Finish with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit for the grace for an open heart and mind, willing to respond to whatever is being asked of you.

