



August 7, 2022

Transfiguration of the Lord
(transferred from August 6)

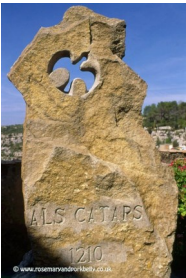
Apostolic Johannite Church

St. Teresa Parish News

Feasts this Week:

August 13

Holy Esclarmonde de Foix



Inside this issue:

Readings	2
Esclarmonde de Foix	3
Prayer List	4
Meeting Schedule	4
Contact Details	4

Rector's Ramblings

In contrast to recent editions this weeks Newsletter is out earlier than usual! This is because I am making the eight hour round trip drive to Toowoomba this weekend for Mass.

(LATE EDIT—my intention was to get this out Friday night but I ran out of time and didn't take my laptop with me on my weekend trip)

I am often asked about my commitment to driving these long distances to services and the toll it must take. Initially I find myself confused by these questions, though I do understand why people ask them :)

All those who come to the Priesthood feel or receive that call in a different way. For me, the call to be a Priest came through the sacramental life of the Church. From the first time I participated in a Eucharistic service I felt an undeniable draw to serve by sharing the Divine conduits of the Sacraments; especially the Eucharist.

For me, being able to visit with folks (regardless of it being 1 or 100) who are seeking connection with the Divine and to assist them to come into that presence through the Sacraments is a great blessing. In fact, I consider this my first and greatest call.

So, dear family, never worry about the distance or time that I travel; for me it's merely a short ramble compared to the spiritual joy I feel in sharing the grace of the Divine with you all.

*

This weekend we celebrate the Transfiguration. I have to admit that in the past I haven't given much attention to this day and it has been relegated to one of the "proofs" of the Divinity of Jesus in the canonical text. However, while mulling over the text in preparation for this weekend I've developed some further thoughts.

The word transfigure is defined as "to transform into something

more beautiful or elevated"; or in more simple terms to transform something in a positive way.

When it comes down to it, is this not the whole purpose of the search for Gnosis?

As walkers on the way I think that the whole point of our journey through this mortal world is to improve upon ourselves and step by step transfigure our inner being into something "more" than it was at the beginning.

For each of us this will look different, the journey will take different roads and paths; but in the end I know that each one us will hear the words "This is my beloved in whom I am well pleased"

In the coming week I would invite you to join me in contemplating your spiritual journey thus far and what may lay ahead. How have you begun the process of transfiguration and what actions can you take to keep the process alive in your life?

Blessings, Fr. Brenden+

2023 Schedule

As we are firmly in the second half of the year I am sure that our minds are set to what the next year may bring us. I would like to start formulating the schedule for our meetings in 2023 soon so that bookings can be made to secure our worship spaces.

If anyone has any thoughts or ideas about this please get in touch, I am always more than willing to try new ways of being community.





Transfiguration by Alexandr Ivanov, 1824

Prayer of the Day

O Holy Christ, our indwelling power of transformation, who according to sacred lore upon Mount Tabor showed yourself in your true glory to your disciples, grant that we may also in due time be transformed and transfigured into your likeness, O great liberator of the light from darkness. Amen.

Lesson - Book of the Prophet Isaiah

There shall come forth a Rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots; and the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and reverence to the Lord. He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of His ears; but with righteousness shall He judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth; and righteousness shall be the girdle of His loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reins. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.



Gospel - Gospel According to St. Matthew

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

August 13 - Holy Esclarmonde de Foix

It has been acknowledged by historians that there is some difficulty in establishing a precise biography for Esclarmonde of Foix as there were a number of noblewomen living in her time and location with the same name.

However, it is generally accepted that she the daughter of Raymond Roger I Count of Foix, married Jourdain III, lord of L'Isle-Jourdain in 1175, and had 5 children.

However, it is not for her noble associations that she is commemorated on the AJC. After the death of her husband in 1200 Esclarmonde converted to Catharism and in 1204 received the consolamentum.

It is said that she took part in some of the series of conferences between the Cathars and the Catholic Hierarchy. In fact Esclarmonde is said to have organised the final conference in which Dominic de Guzman (Saint Dominic of the Order of Preachers) took part.

It is said that at the final conference Esclarmonde was vocal in her defense of the Cathars and her deeply held beliefs to the point that Dominic told her to "You had better go back to your spinning-wheel, Madame. It's not suitable for a woman to interfere in this sort of debate."

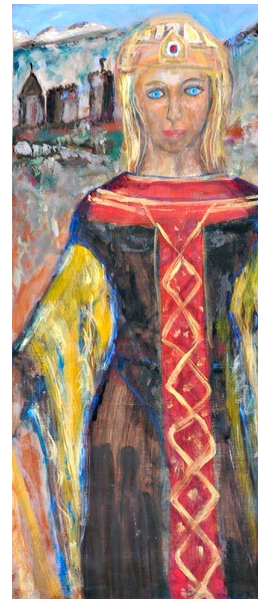
For the Cathars these conferences were an opportunity to argue for their continued existence and the light of gnosis which they held. Sadly the establishment was not swayed and a year after this the Cathar Crusades began in earnest.

It is suggested the Esclarmonde was active in the defense of the Cathar people and may have even aided in the construction of the ill fated fortress of Montsegur.

In the South of France today Esclarmonde is remembered for her great works of charity including the building

of schools and hospitals which earned her the epithet "The Great".

Let us take Esclarmonde as an example of courage to stand up for what we believe to be true and right and to not be afraid to seek for wisdom, even in places some may think of as unconventional.



Esclarmonde de Foix La Grande, by Karin Peschau

Prayer of the Day

Divine Beloved, giver of Light and Truth, we give thanks to you for the life and works of your servant Esclarmonde, Lady of Foix, soother of the persecuted and guardian of your Holy Gnosis. As the troubadour wrote upon her death, "Great Esclarmonde! A dove has flown away, but in the Cathar country your name remains forever engraved – Light of the World!"¹ For that Light, indeed the Sacred Flame, we give you thanks and praise in the name of the +Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(1. By the Provençal troubadour Guilhem de Montanhagol, a contemporary of Esclarmonde de Foix)

Lesson - The Cathar Questions of John also called The Secret Supper

The just will glow like a sun in the kingdom of the invisible father. And the son of God will take them before the throne of the invisible father and say to them, "Here I am with my children whom you have given me. Just father, the world has not known you, but I have truly known you, because it is you who sent me on my mission."

Gospel - Gospel of John

The light was the true light which illuminates every person who comes into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and they that were his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he the right to become children of God, even to them that believe on his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God

Prayer List

For Healing, Recovery from Illness and Wellbeing

*Jen Petsche
Megan,
Elke
Craig Snapp
Ann Holmes
Ken Chapman
Blair Blundon
Fr. John DiGilio
Bess DiGilio
Myint Myint Aye
Carrie Aitkins
Magdalena Dargue
Dorothy DiGilio
Melissa DiGilio-Busch
Bonnie
Marie Hoffman
Rev. Joe Revels
Nichelle Rogers
Rob Penman
Jake Stratton-Kent*

*Joyce Masters
Matthew Duncan Masters
James Mitchell
Jennifer Mitchell
Chandra Fundak
Chris Schuck
Emanuel Newell*

For Peace, Healing, Relief from Stress and Distress

*Megan
Kylie
Jason Mehmel
Ingrid
Shaun McCann
Brad Rees
Grace
Mar Thomas
Danu and Karel
Stephen and Valis Porter*

Other Matters

*For all those affected by COVID-19
Jon Vandergaag for relief from pain and distress
For the people of Burma
For the people of Ukraine
Kyle for financial relief*

For the Repose of the Soul

*Starr
Lucius
Ellen Garrick
Jeff Lynch*

Contact Details:

Rev. Fr. Brenden Humberdross

PH. (07) 414301 8015

brenden.humberdross@johannite.org

FaceBook:

@StTerasasGnosticCommunity

Website:

<https://brisbane.johannite.org/>

2022 Meeting Schedule

Brisbane

West End Uniting Church Hall
12:30 (service begins after set-up)
July 3rd
October 2nd
December 4th

Maryborough

Community Recreation Centre; Ariadne St
10:00am
Third Sunday of the Month

Online

Lectio Divina - via Zoom and Live Stream
6:30pm - 2nd Sunday of the Month

Toowoomba

Harlaxton Community Hall
Time 10:00 am
August 7th

For further details please contact Fr. Brenden

