



Transfiguration of Jesus St Matthew's Holland Park 15 February 2026

Glory Revealed, Faith Refocused: The Last Sunday after Epiphany draws the season to a close with a moment of holy clarity. Across the readings, God reveals divine glory-not to impress, but to re-orient faith before the journey toward Lent and the cross begins.

God's Glory Is Revealed but Not Contained:

Readings: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; Matthew 17:1-9

Theme: *God shows Godself, but remains beyond control*

What's going on: In Exodus, Moses enters the cloud on Mount Sinai. God's glory appears as fire and cloud-visible, overwhelming, and dangerous. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus is transfigured on another mountain. His face shines, his clothes dazzle, and the disciples glimpse divine glory.

What stands out: In both scenes, the mountain is a place of revelation, but also mystery. God is near, yet not manageable. Peter's instinct to build tents reveals a human desire to hold onto holy moments-but glory refuses to be fixed in place.

What to wonder about: Why do we so often want to *capture* God rather than follow where God leads next?

Jesus Is the Fulfilment of God's Story

Readings: Matthew 17:1-9; 2 Peter 1:16-21 **Theme:** *Jesus stands at the centre*

What's going on: Moses (the Law) and Elijah (the Prophets) appear with Jesus. This is not a meeting of equals. When the cloud lifts, only Jesus remains. The voice from heaven confirms it: "*This is my Son, the Beloved... listen to him.*"

What stands out: The shift is subtle but decisive. The disciples are not told to admire Jesus, but to listen to him. 2 Peter reinforces this by insisting the Transfiguration is not myth or invention-it is testimony rooted in experience.

What to wonder about: If Jesus truly fulfils the Law and the Prophets, what voices do we still place alongside-or above-his?

Glory Prepares Us for the Valley

Readings: Matthew 17:1-9; Psalm 99 **Theme:** *Revelation leads to obedience*

What's going on: The Transfiguration does not end with awe, but with descent. Jesus touches the frightened disciples and leads them back down the mountain. Psalm 99 reminds us that the holy God is both exalted and engaged-calling people to justice, prayer, and faithfulness.

What stands out: Jesus says, "**Do not be afraid.**" Glory is not given to remove fear forever, but to steady disciples as they walk into uncertainty.

What to wonder about: How might moments of clarity and worship be shaping us for faithful living when life is harder and less luminous?

Conclusion: From Epiphany to Lent: Together, these readings declare that **God's glory is revealed in Jesus-not to stop the journey, but to sustain it.** As Epiphany ends, we are reminded that the light we have seen is meant to guide us into the shadowed road ahead. We follow not a distant brilliance, but the beloved Son who walks with us-down the mountain, into the world, and toward the cross.

[Transfiguration of Jesus - Wikipedia](#); [15 February - Transfiguration Sunday – Year A | The Church of Scotland](#); [What was the meaning and importance of the transfiguration? | GotQuestions.org](#); [The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ: Bible Story and Meaning | Christianity.com](#)

Wanted for Op Shop: Books; Sunglasses; Jewellery; Pins/Badges; Games; Glassware: DVD's; Baby Clothes-Volunteers needed see Patricia

Meditation Wednesday night 5pm; **Men's Breakfast** Thursday 7am

AGM#2 15/2/26 - after our service today

LENT AND EASTER: Ash Wednesday 18/2/26; 3 Lenten Bible Studies offered: Wednesday nights, Zoom on Thursday nights and Friday Mornings @ 10 am in the Lady Chapel; **Mothering Sunday and 150th anniversary of Mother's Union 15/3/26;** Palm Sunday 29/3/26; Maundy Thursday Christian Seder Meal and Foot Washing 6 p.m. 2/4/26; Good Friday 9am and 2 pm 3/4/26 and Easter 5/4/26 8 am

Next Sunday Lent 1 22/2: Genesis 2.15-17, 3.1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5.12-21; Gospel Matthew 4.1-11 Violet

Parish Directory: Revd. Morris Rangiwai: 0449 557 351;

Morris.Rangiwai@anglicanchurchsq.org.au. Wardens: Heather Walker: 0411556 279; hezzie16@gmail.com Randal Dennings: 0408 878711; randaldennings@gmail.com Bank Details: Holland Park Anglican Church Anfin BSB 704 901; Acct: 00000760.

Parish website : <https://www.stmatthewshollandpark.com/> Parish Private Facebook site : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292308270851142> ;

Public Site: <https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsHollandPark> ; Tipper's Treasure's Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559040358754>

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY:

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Turrbal and Jagera Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today. We acknowledge their continued spiritual connection to country and surrounding land, sky and water. We pay our respect to their Elders, past present and emerging and pray that we may continue to learn from and nurture one another in the spirit of Reconciliation.