Thought for the week 17th March 2019 2nd Sunday of Lent

LIGHT. This is the main theme of today's gospel the Transfiguration. We all understand that light helps us see more clearly in the darkness.

Jesus is bathed in celestial light during the Transfiguration, showing the disciples, and us, that it is Christ we must follow always, so we do not stumble in the darkness of this world. He is our reliable guide through all perils and if we stay true to Him then we will have eternal life and light forever.

The Light in the Gospel is more than ordinary light - it is the Light of Christ.

This world can be a dark, frightening and lonely place. The light of Christ should enhance it and lead us in our blindness, be it real or spiritual blindness. Martin Luther King once said:

"It is still one of the tragedies of human history that the 'children of darkness' are frequently more determined and zealous than the 'children of light'"

This Sunday, during the transfiguration gospel, we are remembering the innocent children who die too early. We give their names into the heavenly roll call and ask that they help to light us to Christ. We pray that God will be merciful to them and take them to His magnificent light. We will remember and comfort the parents of these innocents and give them hope. Let us hope that our love and comfort will strengthen their love of Christ, especially when it has been tested so severely. These precious children are always in God's presence. They are children of light no less than the rest of us because God made us all with love.

Hopefully the children can be talked of with love and not grief. Let us pray that we can help the parents in their grief, even if it was long ago, and offer love and consolation to them through Christ Our Lord, Amen