

**St Mary, Whitegate**  
Readings for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Sunday before Lent  
**Morning Prayer**

**COLLECT:**

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**PSALM: 2**

Why are the nations in tumult, ♦  
*and why do the peoples devise a vain plot?*

The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together, ♦  
*against the Lord and against his anointed:*

'Let us break their bonds asunder ♦  
*and cast away their cords from us.'*

He who dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; ♦  
*the Lord shall have them in derision.*

Then shall he speak to them in his wrath ♦  
*and terrify them in his fury:*  
'Yet have I set my king ♦  
*upon my holy hill of Zion.'*

I will proclaim the decree of the Lord; ♦  
*he said to me: 'You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.'*

'Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your inheritance ♦  
*and the ends of the earth for your possession.*

'You shall break them with a rod of iron ♦  
*and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'*

Now therefore be wise, O kings; ♦  
*be prudent, you judges of the earth.*

Serve the Lord with fear, and with trembling kiss his feet, ♦

*lest he be angry and you perish from the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.*

12 Happy are all they ♦  
*who take refuge in him.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

***As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. AMEN***

**FIRST READING:**

**Exodus 24: 12-end**

The LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.'

So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

## SECOND READING:

### Matthew 17: 1-9

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 dazzling white. 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 make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice 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 looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

### SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

22<sup>nd</sup> February – First Sunday in Lent

St Mary's	9.30 am	Holy Communion
St Peter's	11.00 am	Morning Prayer

### SPECIAL SERVICE TODAY

Please note the 11.00 service TODAY will be held at Oulton Park to dedicate a new memorial to those who died in the fire when Oulton Hall was burned to the ground on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1926

### AFTER THE SERVICE:

Please join us for refreshments. These are served in the Mews which is at the bottom of the steps leading to the village green. Toilets are available in the Mews.

### SAFEGUARDING:

St Mary's & St Peter's take our duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at [www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding)

If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at:

<https://www.chesterdiocese.org> and click on the "Safeguarding" tab