

The Second Sunday in Lent March 12th 2017

Theme: The Transfiguration

Introduction (Background)

Last week our Gospel spoke about the desert where Jesus spent forty days. It was a Sunday to speak about the call of the desert: fasting, prayer and almsgiving, the tools of our Lenten warfare.

In this week's Gospel Jesus invites us, with Peter, James and John to the MOUNTAIN. Our going up the mountain with Christ today, is an invitation by him to us to union with God. The mountaintop experience recounted in today's Gospel was a stunning place. We have a glimpse of the glory and truth about Jesus. There we hear the words of the Father, "Listen to Him."

CENTER

It was a rough trip to the mountain of the Transfiguration. The journey began when Peter confessed that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah. Jesus explained that the Messiah had to suffer and die and only to rise. The

disciples must have felt someone had kicked them in the stomach. It was as if they just found out that their best friend was dying of cancer with only few months to live.

The account of the Transfiguration begins with the phrase “six days later”. For six days the apostles carried this news of Jesus’ impending death around inside of them. On the seventh day the chosen Apostles see the transfigured Glory of Christ. Here, on the seventh day we celebrate the Christian Sabbath. Here we are given a true chance to see the bigger picture, the deeper view.

CONCLUSION (SUNDAY MEANING)

Every Sunday returns us to the true center of world history and of human life, the Lord’s Resurrection. Sunday gets absorbed into what we call the weekend and , becomes a catch-up day, but it can be so much more than that .To experience the grand and majestic work of God’s creation. It is a day to enjoy the fruits of our labor and to enjoy family and friends.

MORAL

It is our time on the mountain when we we get a larger vision, put things into perspective and breathe a cleaner air. But it takes effort to get here. AMEN.

(NOTE: Next weekend the Deacons will preach at all masses. There will be no homily from me. I will resume preaching at weekend march 25th./26th. FR.John Moloney)