

# FAITH @Home

25 FEBRUARY 2024 | VOL.IV ISSUE 9

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

*Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love in the heart of the family!*



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Year B 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

"TO THE HEIGHTS" YOUTH EDITION AVAILABLE ALSO

## Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 115(116): 10,15-19

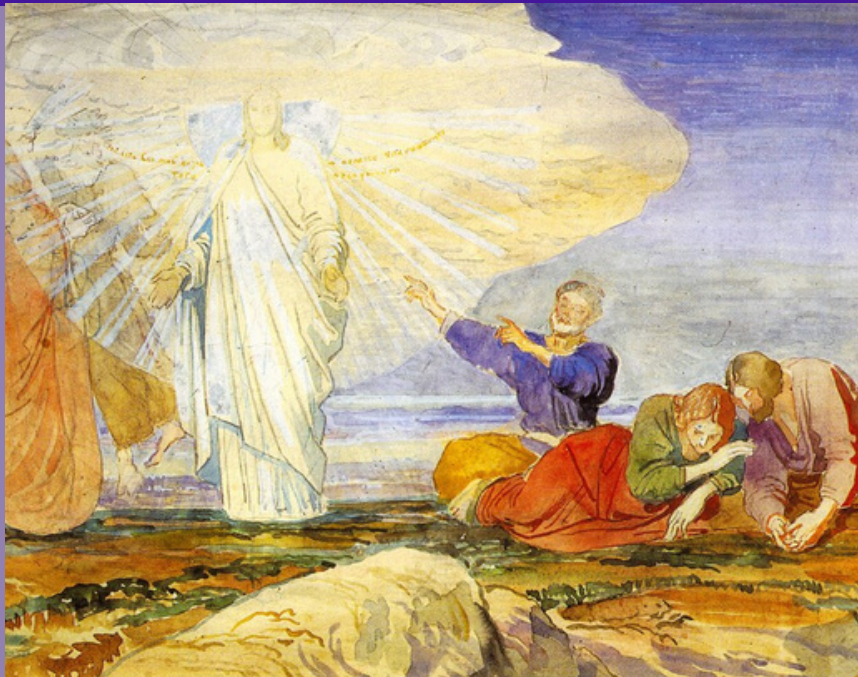
Second Reading:

Romans 8:31-34

Gospel:

Mark 9:2-10

*"This is my son,  
the Beloved.  
Listen to him"*



Alexander Andreyevich Ivanov, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

## Hear

Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries, you can find this week's readings online [here](#).

Check out [this video](#) on the readings for children.

## Pray

In the Gospel today we find ourselves on Mount Tabor at the scene of the Transfiguration.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Jesus took Peter, James, and John to a mountain. Close your eyes and imagine yourself on the mountain with them. While you are there, you see Jesus' transfiguration and the appearance of Moses and Elijah.
- What does it feel like to be there? What thoughts come to your mind? What do you want to do?
- You hear God saying, *"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him."* Take a few minutes to listen for what Jesus is saying to you now. Talk with Jesus about something in your life that might need to be transformed during this season of Lent.

## Talk

In this week's Gospel, we hear about how Jesus being transfigured.

- Have you ever had an experience that caused you to look at someone differently? Maybe you learned something cool about them that you never knew, or heard a story from their past.
- On the Mount of Transfiguration, Peter, James, and John had an experience with Jesus that led to them seeing Jesus differently. Think about a time when you experienced something that caused you to see Jesus differently. What did the experience show you about Jesus?
- How does it invite you to live differently now so you can become more like Jesus?

## Family Challenge!

Why not make this great [Light Catcher Transfiguration Craft](#) from [Catholic Inspired](#) to hang up in your home to remind you of how Jesus invites us all to be transformed in and through Him!

## AN ANTICIPATION OF THE GLORY

The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his passion. After this there is also a discussion of the cost of discipleship.

Jesus takes three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus.

Elijah and Moses are significant figures in the history of Israel. Moses led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and received from Yahweh the Ten Commandments. In appearing with Jesus at his Transfiguration, Moses represents the Law that guides the lives of the Jewish people. Elijah is remembered as one of the most important prophets of Israel who helped the Israelites stay faithful to Yahweh. Some Jews believed that Elijah's return would signal the coming of the Messiah for the Jewish people. This belief is evidenced in the question posed by Jesus' disciples after they have witnessed the Transfiguration. The appearance of these two important figures from Israel's history with Jesus signifies Jesus' continuity with the Law and with the prophets and that Jesus is the fulfillment of all that was promised to the people of Israel.

On seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses and having witnessed his Transfiguration, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Mark reports that the disciples are terrified by what they have witnessed and that Peter's offer is made out of confusion. We also notice that Peter has reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus rabbi instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding the disciples to obey him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, Jesus instructs the disciples to keep secret what they have seen until after the Son of Man has risen from the dead. The disciples' confusion continues as they wonder what Jesus means by rising from the dead. The disciples cannot possibly understand Jesus' Transfiguration until they also witness his passion and death. We hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection, even as we prepare to remember Jesus' passion and death.

Adapted from Loyola Press - Sunday Connection

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this  
out



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## WHAT IS JESUS TRYING TO SAY TO YOU?

It's hard to imagine ourselves at the scene of today's Gospel: Jesus' splendour and glory being revealed, the three apostles being utterly dazzled and amazed, trying to comprehend the events unfolding in front of them; Peter desperately wanting to stay there in that glorious moment! Sometimes prayer comes easily to us and we can feel the presence of God surrounding us. Sometimes it's a lot more difficult and we have to decide to pray because it doesn't come naturally, like a "surge of the heart" as St Therese once called it. Let's not overcomplicate things: What did God the Father tell the three apostles in that scene? "This is my Beloved Son, listen to Him." Be in a relationship with Jesus, dialogue with Him. Speak to Him from your heart and allow Him to speak to you. Actively listen to Him and what He wants to say to you, how He wants to guide you. Because we're busy people it's important to be strategic about this too: we need to be intentional in developing our relationship with Jesus. It's going to be pretty hard to listen to Him if our days are full of noise and busy-ness, rushing here and there, binging on Netflix or Xbox or Spotify.



How to never miss God's will for your life



Transfiguration - Hillsong

To the Heights Youth Resource also available



## Family Prayer

help our family to really listen for and to Your voice this week. Show us how to find our own mountain experience where we can be with You and encounter Your love in the midst of our busy lives. Amen

## EVENTS

**40 Hours of Adoration for Vocations:** at locations around the Diocese in February and March. Check [www.waterfordlismore.ie](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie) for more details

**One day Marriage Retreat:** Holy Family Mission, Glencomeragh House, Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary. One-Day Healing & Renewal Retreat for Married Couples of all Ages. Sun 25th February, 10am - 5pm. Dealing with your past, taking stock of your present, building your future. Only €80 per couple. Includes 3 Course Dinner & tea/coffee. Pre-booking essential. Tel (052) 6133181 or email [info@holymission.ie](mailto:info@holymission.ie)

**Family Day:** Sunday 10th March in Holy Family Mission, Glencomeragh House, Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary. 10am - 3pm. Bring a packed lunch. Donation only. Pre-booking is essential - email [info@holymission.ie](mailto:info@holymission.ie)

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