

Let it Shine

Second Sunday of Lent year C

Luke 9:28-36

The *Transfiguration*—early in Lent no less.

We are given to consider, during our journey to the Cross and Resurrection, what Peter, John, and James experienced during their journey to the Cross and Resurrection.

Though unable to frame it as such, they were given a glimpse
of what indwells Christ,
of what the death and Resurrection of Christ communicate to us:
glory.

It is a moment of glory.

What is glory? How would you define glory?

It has nothing to do with the famed red carpet of the Academy Awards. Jesus appeared with two other persons; they were *not* Brad and Angelina (!)

Glory is quite “simply” the excess and overflow, the radiance of divine love.

God is love. And the love that He is
radiates.
cannot be contained.

Glory is that radiance.

Glory is divine love *as it overflows*.

The Transfiguration is a momentary glimpse of glory.

Jesus, for a moment, allows the glory that indwells his soul, to radiate in his body, glory that is otherwise withheld so that, amongst other things, he might know what it is to feel pain.

As the Book of Revelation (21:4) says regarding glory:

"no more death or mourning, wailing or pain."

To whom does Jesus show glory?

Jesus shows glory to the three apostles
with whom He has a special relationship.

It is very fitting if glory is divine love overflowing.

It is an *intimate* revelation, just for them, and, through them, for each one of us.

It is an intimate *revelation*.

Why does Jesus share this? Because

1. when you love, you share your truest self
2. he wished to enable them for what lie ahead, i.e. his death.

The Transfiguration occurs
between the 1st and 2nd of 3 predictions of the Cross.

St Bede (673-735) says,

“By his loving foresight, Jesus allowed them to taste for a short time the contemplation of eternal joy, so that they might bear persecution bravely.”

Jesus feeds their hope. And hope strengthens...

The incredible thing is how disconnected and confused they are.

They are overcome by sleep. They do not know what they are saying.

How incredible: these are the ones *closest to Jesus*.

This means that there is hope for us!

There *is* hope for us.

In the midst of it all, a voice comes from the cloud:

"This is my chosen son. Listen to him."

No explanation, only *designation* is offered to these disciples.

The Father points to the Son:
steady, faithful, real presence in the midst of fatigue and confusion.

The Transfiguration is indeed a promise.

God promises steady, faithful, real presence, and an abundance *of love*.

In the first reading (Gen. 5:5-18),
the abundance is spoken of in terms of descendants.

In the second reading (Phil. 3:17-4:1),
the abundance is spoken of in terms of the glorification of the body.

God promises, if we let Him do it, that His love will overflow
—*to the point where even our bodies are transfigured*.

We are in the process of being transfigured—deep within ourselves.

God's love is flowing.

Of course, the more we desire it,

the more deeply God's love can be at work.

Something glorious is happening deep in our lives, deep in our persons.

What happiness there is.

What beauty there is.

One day, all that we are will be transfigured.

As we proclaim in the Apostle's Creed:
"I believe in the resurrection of the body".

One day, each of us will be a "knockout", dead (or rather, *alive*) gorgeous!

Whatever physical beauty now exists only pales in comparison.

We cannot imagine the beauty of glory, of heaven,
the beauty *of our glorified bodies*.

We will not be Barbie and Ken. We will be more.

Do not try to imagine: simply hope and rejoice.

In the meantime, let us desire, and say "yes".

Let us cling to the promise, let us cling to the Inner Presence.

Every fiber of us is loved...