The Second Sunday Of Lent Sunday, March 13, 2022

First Reading: Genesis 15.5-12,17-18

Psalm: #27 ... Refrain: The Lord is my light and my salvation

Second Reading: Philippians 3.17-4.1

Gospel Acclamation: From the bright cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my Son, the Beloved;

listen to him. (Luke 9.35) Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Luke 9.28b-36 - The Transfiguration.

Theme: Meeting Jesus on the mountaintop is not a stopping point. It is a starting point.

Commentary:

Today's gospel reading tells of a time when Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain to pray. As Jesus was praying his face changed and his clothes became dazzling white. Then Moses and Elijah, two men who had gone to heaven long, long ago, appeared to Jesus. They talked about how Jesus was going to die.

When Peter saw this he could not believe his eyes. The whole scene seemed incredible. Peter told Jesus that he thought they should stay up on the mountain and build three tents. A tent for Jesus, Moses and Elijah. He did not know what he was saying. Peter did not understand that this mountaintop experience was not meant to last. It was not a place to stay but a starting point.

Peter, James and John heard God's voice tell them that Jesus was God's Chosen One and that they were to listen to Him. If they had stayed on the mountaintop they would have missed out on everything that was still to come. Following this time on the mountain, Jesus died on a cross, was buried, and rose from the grave so that we could have eternal life in heaven.

In our lives we have many moments where we know God's presence, something like what Peter, James and John lived. Sometimes they are only moments, other times a whole day. We cannot remain in that moment or day forever. They are gifts or little blessings from God, to give us courage and hope as we live each day as followers of Jesus. They are "God moments".

Have you ever had a day that was so wonderful that you wanted it to last forever? Maybe it was a small moment that gave you much joy. Maybe someone noticed and smiled at you or told you something that meant a lot to you. These are 'God moments'.

Our parish has a special lenten project. There are two tree silhouettes on the church walls that need leafs. Paper leaves have been cutout so parishioners can write their 'God Moment' on them. These will be tacked to the wall, so all of us can see how God is working in all our lives, helping us to thrive. We know we cannot stay in those moments but they sure can give us strength to be the best version of ourselves as we learn to listen to Jesus, God's Chosen One.

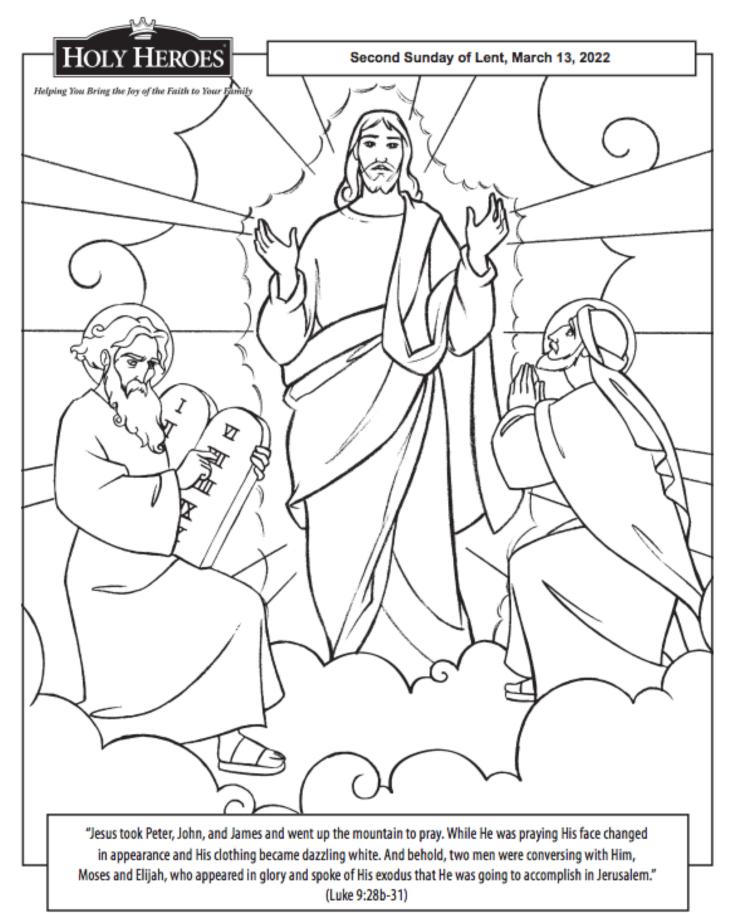
Discussion starters: (Choose one or ore of these after reading today's scripture readings)

- 1. Have you ever had a day that was so wonderful that you wanted it to last forever? Share that with your family.
- 2. Has there been a time over the last week or so that your felt God close to you? Share that and write down a few words to explain it. Bring it to Mass next week to add to the paper leaf.
- 3. Choose one of the Family Activities on the following page, to remember this scripture reading.

Prayer for Families: Heavenly Father, we thank You for all of the wonderful experiences You allow us to enjoy as we walk each day with Jesus. Help us to follow Him wherever He leads us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Family Activities, Colouring Page, Cross Word Puzzle and Word Search: Pages 2-5

Resources used/inspired by in this post: Holy Heroes, Living With Christ, Word On Fire, Sermons4Kids, Online Puzzle Maker



Visit us online at www.HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep where you will find fun, free and faithful children's activities and more!

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Family Activities

MOUNTAINTOP PAPER MÂCHÉ:

Use newspaper to create a paper mâché mountain. Paper mâché the mountain and then stick toothpicks into it with little triangle banners stuck onto the toothpicks with some mountaintop experience for the children such as birth, first tooth, first day at school, salvation. Discuss that these experiences are starting places, not stopping places! Be prepared for a messy fun time! Suggestion: Think about more mountaintop experiences (or God Moments) during the week and bring then to Mass for our parish God Moment trees.

MOUNTAIN ART:

Give each child a large Mountain picture (triangle construction paper), a big yellow sun and 4 toothpicks. The mountain and the sun can be glued or taped onto a piece of poster board. Tape the 4 toothpicks onto the Mountain and have the children draw a head on each toothpick to make them look like the men in today's lesson (Jesus with Peter, James and John). An ink thumbprint would make a cute face for each man. Glitter could be sprinkled around the stick figure that represents Jesus, as well as a small white cloth on the "Jesus" toothpick! Children will have fun making legs and feet and arms to their toothpick. Tape a typed or written out Bible verse on the bottom of their art. Choose one they have memorized or a new one to memorize.

MOUNTAIN TOP PAINTING:

The children will draw a mountain on a large piece of poster board and colour it using markers. Provide little slips of paper with "mountain top experiences" written on them for children to choose from and to tape or glue onto the Mountain. Discuss some of the experiences that God might have planned for us if we turn our life over to HIM! (God knows the plans He has for us, Jeremiah 29:11)

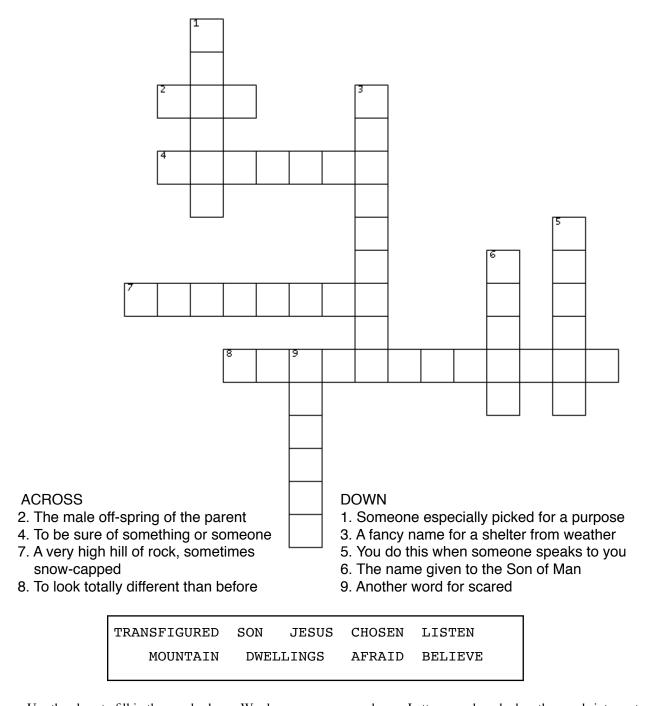
FRAMING A MOUNTAIN:

Find some beautiful pictures of mountains from old calendars or magazines and let the children pick out a picture that they would like to frame. Cut strips of construction paper for the children to paste around their picture to form a frame. Let the children decorate the border or write a caption at the bottom to say something similar to, "On the Mountain Top with Jesus."

CROSSWORD

Based on Luke 9.28b-36"

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While He was praying His face changed in appearance and His clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with Him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His exodus that He was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighted down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the tow mine who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said toJesus,"Master it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah", but ever did not know what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then for the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to Him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And the disciples kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.



Use the clues to fill in the words above. Words can go across or down. Letters are shared when the words intersect.

WORD SEARCH

Based on Luke 9.28b-36"

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While He was praying His face changed in appearance and His clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with Him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His exodus that He was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighted down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the tow mine who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said toJesus,"Master it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah", but ever did not know what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then for the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to Him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And the disciples kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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AFRAID	CHOSEN	ELIJAH	GLORY	TRANSFIGURED
LISTEN	MOSES	HEAVEN	PRAYER	MOUNTAIN
		JESUS	SON	

Use the clues to circle the words above.

Words can go across, down, backwards or diagonal.

Letter can be shared when the words intersect.