

Second Sunday of Lent Year B. 25th February 2023. The Transfiguration of Jesus.

On the first Sunday of Lent, we read about the temptation of Jesus, which he did not give in to it but was victorious over the devil. The Temptation in the Desert was a sign of suffering that would eventually lead to glory. Today the gospel informs us, that He took Peter, James, and John and let of them up to a high Mountain where he committed himself to prayers in preparation for the coming suffering. While he was praying the disciples were asleep. It was at that time he transfigured. The word means changes in appearance. It was at that time that the disciples awoke from sleep and saw changes in their master, His clothes became dazzling white, which has never been seen on earth. Peter was carried away by the joy of the radiation he saw. He said how wonderful we are here, let us build three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. The two prophets represented the law while Jesus was the fulfillment of that law.

The voice from heaven is the confirmation of who Jesus is, the three disciples heard that voice which they would later share with the world but as they looked around, they saw no one but Jesus. He told them not to tell anyone until the son of man had risen from the dead. The Transfiguration symbolizes His resurrection in glory. Like Moses who died but appeared on the mountain and like Elijah who was not seen dead but was taken to Heaven, shows that death is not the end of our journey, those who die will rise again through Jesus Christ and the Living Saints shall be taken to Heaven like Elijah.

Transfiguration is to help strengthen and increase our faith in Christ Jesus. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Abraham our Father in Faith, who in obedience listened to the voice of God and was ready to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice to God until the Lamb was provided, this Lamb prefigured Jesus the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

As we journey through this Lenten season, let us open our hearts and minds and listen to the voice of God who is speaking to us daily in the Eucharist, in the poor and the needy, the sick, and all those encountering different challenges in life. Like Abraham let us remain focused on doing the will of God in whatever circumstances we find ourselves. If today you listen to his voice, harden not your hearts!

Peace,

Fr. Jingbe Simon