



Sunday Gospel Background

The three Apostles are overjoyed but also confused by Jesus' Transfiguration. They do not yet understand that this experience is a precursor to Heaven. Jesus shows us that after his suffering and Death on the Cross, there will be a Resurrection. The Transfiguration is a model for Christian living. Jesus shows us that we grow through the sufferings we encounter in this life and we are transformed by them. After this life, there is an infinitely better life awaiting us if we are faithful. Lent gives us the opportunity to grow ever closer to the person Jesus wants us to be.

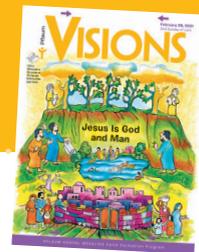
Share Experiences

Check off the boxes as you complete each part of the lesson.

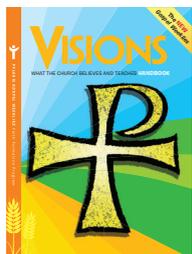
- Pray together** Talk about something your child wants to see transformed in the world and invite your child to say a prayer of petition, such as: "Creator God, help us find ways to feed hungry people." Respond together, *Loving God, hear our prayer.*
- Cover Activity • Jesus Is God and Man (page 1)** Ask your child to describe the cover illustration. *It is the artist's rendition of Jesus' ministry in Galilee. The city of Jerusalem, the site of his Death and Resurrection, is in the foreground. This illustration, when folded as the arrows and illustration indicate, becomes an image of Jesus transfigured, flanked by Elijah and Moses, and witnessed by Simon Peter, James, and John.*
- Article • Walking With the People (pages 2-3)** Read the story of Dorothy Stang aloud together.
- Discuss the Talk questions on page 3.** *Answers: 1. To serve God as a missionary, teaching, and to share the Good News of their dignity with people in Brazil who are poor and to build communities among the people. She helped the people work for land to farm sustainably and for education. 2. By sharing the Good News, Sister Dorothy taught the peasants about their dignity and their right to a livelihood. Land disputes were often settled with violence and laws were not enforced. 3. The bishop wanted pastoral workers to help the people. Dorothy identified with the people's needs and had the strength for a remote jungle life. 4. Dorothy committed her life to serving the peasants in Brazil. She identified with Jesus giving his life. 5. Open-ended.*

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus' Friends Witness His Transfiguration (page 4)** Proclaim the Gospel by taking turns reading the different parts.
- Discuss the Talk questions on page 3.** *Answers: 1. God. My beloved Son. 2. The prophet Elijah is known for his great faith and zealous loyalty to God. See 1 Kings 17-19, 21; 2 Kings 1:1-2:18. Your child will probably connect the leader and lawgiver Moses with the Ten Commandments. Jesus' mission builds on the work of Israel's great prophets of the past and they prefigure him. Elijah was always being persecuted for what he stood for; Moses had to call the Israelites back to God. 3. That they saw Jesus transfigured and talking with Elijah and Moses. Revealing and sharing in the life of God.*
- Connecting Scripture and Doctrine • Jesus' Divinity Shines in His Humanity (page 4)** Read this feature aloud as a summary of Sunday's Gospel concept. Emphasize the last paragraph: We reveal ourselves by how we act—how we speak to others, how we treat our friends, how we behave on social media.



- **Discuss the *Talk* questions on page 4.** These open-ended questions are good to discuss as a family. If anyone is having trouble keeping Lenten commitments, remind them that Lent is not over. Change is not quick, nor is it linear. Sometimes we fail, and we have to pick ourselves up and get back on track. Encourage your child to pray regularly and ask for God's help.



- **Open the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 30.** Go to section 3. **What is Virtue?** Read aloud the first paragraph. **Ask:** What habits of doing good do you see in Sister Dorothy? **Read** aloud the second paragraph. **Ask:** How did Sister Dorothy live the Cardinal Virtues? Finally, **read** the third paragraph aloud. **Note** how Sister Dorothy lived her faith in Jesus, her trust in God, and her love for the people of her grassroots communities.

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Visions page 4.

- **Catholic Faith Word • Transfiguration (page 4)** Read the definition aloud to reinforce the Sunday Gospel and doctrine.
- **Our Catholic Faith • God's Promise Transfigures Abraham's Future (page 5)** Read the article, find the cities on the map, and give your child time to list qualities of believers that the story shows. **Possible answers:** *faith in God; recognizing God did not want the gift of human life returned through human sacrifice but through spiritual acts such as obedience and faith.*

Live the Gospel

- **Living the Gospel • Bullies: Changing the Climate (pages 6-7)** Look over this graphic activity with your child. Start with *The Usual Suspects*. Instead of acting out a scenario, your child might wish to write a story or play, create a comic, or simply imagine and dictate a scenario to you. Have your child follow the coloring directions.

Look together at *Strength in Numbers*. Discuss the examples. Rate the bullying factor for each from 1 to 10. Use the *Bullies in Action* map and follow the directions to mark where bullies operate. Discuss the *Bullyometer* and ways to change the climate one by one. Encourage your child to complete and read aloud the *Anti-Bully Pledge*.

- **Puzzle • Mark's Gospel in Review (page 8)** Read aloud the text in the left column. Have your child work independently to complete the pyramid puzzle. **Answers:** 1. *M*, 2. *We*, 3. *God*; 4. *nets*, 5. *teach*, 6. *second*, 7. *unclean*, 8. *disciple*, 9. *Capernaum*, 10. *compassion*. Then answer the question: What does Mark believe about Jesus? *He is the Messiah.*
- **Closing Prayer** Talking about bullying may bring up painful emotions. Statistics report that 160,000 teenagers skip school every day in the United States because of bullying, and it affects every young person in some way. Ask your child to think of someone they know who has been bullied and to offer a silent prayer. After a few moments, **pray together:** *Loving God, we look to you for comfort when we are excluded, frightened, or hurt. Give us strength to stand up for those who need our kindness and friendship. Amen.*



Parent Resources

For weekly videos, assessments, and more, scan this code or go to pflaumweeklies.com/family
Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings to read this Sunday's Scripture