

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD



March 16, 2014

Second Sunday of Lent

Lectionary: 25

Gospel [mt 17:1-9](#)

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Spiritual Reflections

Last week we saw how the temptations of Christ all dealt with his identity with being "Beloved Son" and throughout the Gospel people will challenge this identity. Now before the ultimate challenge to His identity – the crucifixion – the Father reaffirms this identity. Whenever we are suffering we should turn to the Father for relief and once again embrace our identities as beloved Sons and Daughters

Spiritual Questions

1. Describe a time in which you felt loved by God?
2. Why should we listen to Jesus?
3. Has there been something that the Church taught that you at first disagreed with only to later see the Church's wisdom?
4. How do you reconcile the Lord's authority with your life?
5. Why do they have to keep the transfiguration a secret until after the Resurrection?