

## Gospel Reflection

In today's Gospel, we are asked to reflect on the Transfiguration. The story is very familiar, perhaps too familiar. We must listen as if we have never heard about this event.

As we walk on our road to Emmaus, we are given a glimpse of the beauty of the kingdom of God. We are invited to be transformed by God's grace. Transformation is a quiet experience, rather like a flower blooming. We can't see the petals move but we know we have been touched by God's love.

Imagine for a moment that you and a few who are close to you are led to a mountaintop with Christ and you are allowed to experience the Transfiguration. Can you imagine the awe and wonder of hearing Moses and Elijah speaking with Jesus? Like the apostles, you want to do something. It's too amazing to just be present. Just allowing this experience to be absorbed into your being is a struggle. And then you hear the voice of the Father – "This is my beloved son with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." Just sit quietly and allow this moment to touch your inner heart space. Are we open for the grace to experience God in our lives as we are today?

Our experience in the Stephen Ministry is somewhat parallel to this Gospel. We are invited to walk with another who has asked for help. We have no idea how this experience may affect us. We are called and led, not to the mountain, but into the world of another's pain. We listen. We are not called to act. Our mission is to be wholly present to the other's reality. In the mystery of the moment we invite God to be present with us. When we leave, we may not speak of our experience. We walk away sharing the burden carried by the other in our hearts.

*OLA's Stephen Ministers*

## KEEPING FAITH FIRST FAMILY FUN

*Matthew 17:1-19*

J O H N C D D E O S Y T H  
Y G Q L I T H E T B R V A  
S L O A P C R N V A S A J  
R U R S E T E G N O K U I  
D F V E T T H S K C L O L  
A O J M E W F G I C O E E  
K W N A R I P M I F U U B  
D Y V J G N S W J L B T G  
F O V U N L M O S E S G A  
F O R O M G R S N O S J L  
J E U D W E P K F S L U V  
D N I A T N U O M L U F S  
E C I O V R P V A V O O W

***Find these words from the Gospel passage.***

AFRAID	BELOVED	CLOUD
ELIJAH	JAMES	JESUS
JOHN	LIGHT	MOSES
MOUNTAIN	PETER	SON
TENTS	TRANSFIGURED	VOICE

## Disciple's Reflection & Questions of the Week

*Second Sunday of Lent  
2/17/08*

*Matthew 17:1-19  
Faith-Sharing  
Questions of the Week*



***Our Lady of the Assumption***

435 Berkeley Ave.  
Claremont, CA  
[www.olaclaremont.org](http://www.olaclaremont.org)

## Call to Prayer

*We begin by calling upon God:*

**In the Name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the  
Holy Spirit, Amen.**

*We then pause for a moment to listen with  
our hearts to this week's Gospel passage...*

**The Word of God:** *Matthew 17:1-19*

### ***The Gospel according to Matthew***

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.

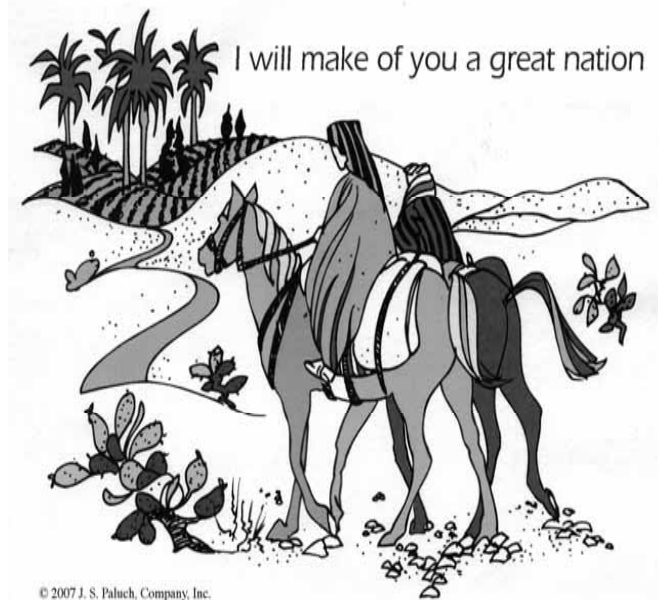
Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved 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."

### ***The Gospel of the Lord***

An image from this Sunday's First Reading...



### **Gospel Glossary**

**transfigured:** changed in appearance, revealing great spirituality or magnificence.

**conversing:** talking, having a conversation

**Moses and Elijah:** the giver of the law and the greatest of the prophets respectively

## Faith Sharing

### **Questions of the Week**

- How does the Transfiguration of Christ invite us to be open to our own transformation? Can we sit in the moment absorbing this mystery?
- "Rise and do not be afraid." Can we in this moment accept our call, letting go of our fear and walking the path to which we are called?
- How is Jesus speaking to you? Are you listening to Him?

## Closing Prayer

*God our Father,*

*Help us to hear your Son.  
Enlighten us with your word,  
that we may find the way to  
your glory.*

*We ask this through our Lord  
Jesus Christ,*

*Amen.*

**Second Sunday in Lent**