

WE THIRST FOR YOU, O LORD

Lenten Prayer

Unto to you, I cry, my God!

“Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

— 1 Corinthians 15:51–52

Dear God, I don't know what lies ahead for me, but I trust that your love will be with me now and until the end of time.



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He Was Transformed Before Them

Mark 9:2–10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him up the mountain where he was transfigured before them. When the experience was over, Jesus told them not to say anything about what they saw until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept silent, but the three of them couldn't help but talk among themselves about what rising from the dead could mean.

The Transfiguration is a powerful reminder that death is not the end of life. If death meant complete annihilation, as some believe, then Elijah and Moses would not have appeared on either side of Jesus. In this way, the Transfiguration foreshadows the Resurrection. Although the apostles didn't understand what was happening at the time, later, when the

FOR REFLECTION

- › What would I like transformed in my life by Easter?
- › As I look over my life, what are some areas where God has already transformed me?
- › What is one sacrificial action I can perform this week?

Son of Man had risen from the dead, they were able to understand what the Transfiguration meant.

During this second week of Lent, we are asked to think about how we can be transformed through the power of the risen Lord, and we are reminded that one day we, too, will be resurrected.

Catechism CONNECTION

“For a moment Jesus discloses his divine glory, confirming Peter's confession. He also reveals that he will have to go by the way of the cross at Jerusalem in order to 'enter into his glory.'” — *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 555

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Stations of the Cross



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If you cannot attend Stations of the Cross at your parish, create your own. While many Stations in churches are elaborate and ornate, all that is required is to have fourteen crosses, preferably wooden, located so that you can take a step or two between each one. As a family activity, create fourteen crosses from small twigs or branches and place them in a line in your backyard or living room. Walk together as a family, remembering the events of the Passion. At each cross, bow or kneel and say, "Because of your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world."

Traditional Stations of the Cross



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- 1 Jesus Is Condemned to Death
- 2 Jesus Accepts His Cross
- 3 Jesus Falls the First Time
- 4 Jesus Meets His Mother
- 5 Simon Helps Jesus Carry His Cross
- 6 Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus
- 7 Jesus Falls the Second Time
- 8 Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem
- 9 Jesus Falls the Third Time
- 10 Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments
- 11 Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross
- 12 Jesus Dies on the Cross
- 13 Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross
- 14 Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb

OUR FAITH

The Last Four Things

Saint Alphonsus Liguori recommended that we contemplate the "last four things" especially during Lent. These are: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. While talking about these with children can be difficult, parents can use the season of Lent as a way to gently introduce the topics. One aspect to emphasize is that heaven, as Pope Saint John Paul II said, is not "an abstraction nor a physical place in the clouds, but a living, personal relationship with the Holy Trinity." Heaven, then, is living an eternity in the presence of and in relationship with our loving God. Likewise, the Church teaches that hell is not so much a physical place, but the choice to turn away from God and the deep pain of separation from Our Lord (see CCC 1033).



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SIGNS OF THE SEASON

Mount of Transfiguration

The traditional location for the Mount of Transfiguration is Mount Tabor, about eleven miles west of the Sea of Galilee. Mount Tabor rises about 1,800 feet above the level plain below. It was identified as the site of the Transfiguration as early as the third century by the theologian Origen. The Church of the Transfiguration, a Franciscan church built on the ruins of a centuries-old Byzantine church, now stands at the summit of Mount Tabor.