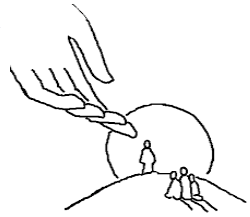


**AMDG**  
**THE TRANSFIGURATION**  
**OF THE LORD**  
**YEAR A**  
**6TH AUGUST 2017**



**“Listen to him!”**

**OPENING PRAYER**

O God, who in the glorious Transfiguration  
of your Only Begotten Son  
confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness of the Fathers  
and wonderfully prefigured our full adoption to sonship,  
grant, we pray, to your servants,  
that listening to the voice of your beloved Son,  
we may merit to become coheirs with him.

On this feast of the Transfiguration, we are invited to step aside from the busyness of our daily life so that God can make himself known to us. As we listen to God, through Scripture and by being fully present to our daily experiences, our lives will be transformed.

In the Gospel, Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain and reveals himself as the Universal Christ. He is transfigured as they look on. Although he counsels his disciples not to tell anyone what they saw, it is through following Christ that his followers are transformed with the same power and light.

The prophet Daniel in the First Reading describes a vision of the same eternal Universal Christ being shown to the nations by God in all his glory.

A similar vision of Christ's kingship and sovereignty of all the earth is proclaimed throughout today's Psalm.

Peter tells us to listen to the teachings of prophets like Daniel who foretold the coming of Christ. He would be like a light for our lives, guiding us through darkness (Second Reading).

We are called to listen to Christ and to deepen our relationship with him. Are there people who need you to reveal God's transforming love to them? Let us pray for them and for ourselves, that we may all be drawn deeper into the wonder of that love.

## SECOND READING: 2 PETER 1: 16-19

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father, when the Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.” We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds.

I come to my place of prayer and take time to become still before my loving God.

I ask God to help me understand the truth that the writer of this letter wants me to hear.

I read the letter as if it were written to me and the Christian community to which I belong. I read the text slowly and with purposeful attention, pausing to allow the words to take root in my mind.

Who are the prophetic people who have revealed God’s power and loving presence to me in my life?

Perhaps there are places where I have felt especially close to the wonder and majesty of God?

What are the passages of scripture that are like a lamp for my life, bringing me light and showing me the way?

In silence I ponder all these things.

When I am ready, I talk to God as I would to a close friend about all that comes to me in my prayer.

I finish my prayer with my own words of gratitude and make a slow, prayerful sign of the cross.

## GOSPEL: MATTHEW 17: 1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. "Lord," he said, "it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him." When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. "Stand up," he said "do not be afraid." And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. "Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead."

If it helps and if I am able, I go to a quiet place somewhere outside, where I can be alone before God.

I imagine Jesus inviting me to come with him to my place of prayer. I read the Gospel slowly, and then I allow myself to be drawn more deeply into the story.

When I read about the Transfiguration, perhaps I imagine that I am one of the disciples ... or I watch from a distance as the scene unfolds before me.

What do I see? What do I hear? What do I feel?

How do I respond when I see Jesus transformed with light like the sun? God is inviting me to listen to his Beloved Son.

What does Jesus want to say to me in my prayer today? I listen ...

If I feel fear, as did the disciples, how do I want to respond when I hear Jesus tell me to stand up and let go of my fear?

As I finish my prayer, I let Jesus come with me into the rest of my day, and with him I say "Our Father ..."

## Here's a text if you've only got a minute...

On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship  
His Sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never  
pass away. *First Reading*

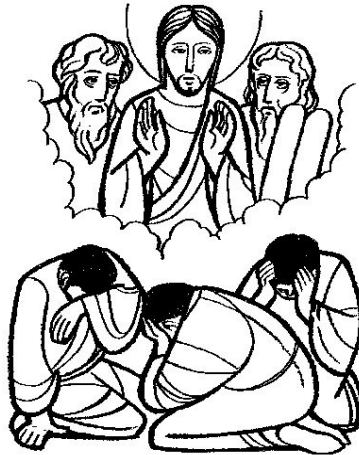
The Lord is King, let earth rejoice, let all the coastlands be  
glad. *Responsorial Psalm*

“This is my Son the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to  
him” *Gospel*

This week's texts if you want to reflect further:

*Daniel 7: 9–10, 13–14; Psalm 96 (97); 2 Peter 1:16–19; Matthew  
17: 1–9*

BUT JESUS CAME UP  
AND TOUCHED THEM.  
“STAND UP,” HE SAID,  
“DO NOT BE AFRAID.”



How does this image help me meditate on these readings?



ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH  
IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM

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JESUIT  
Ministries

