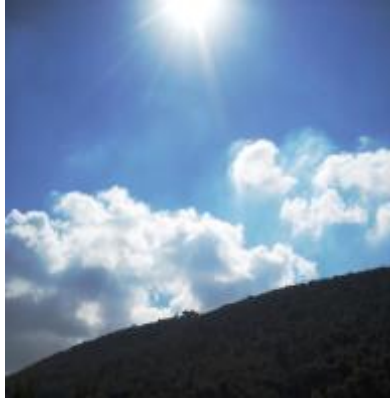


Weekly Theme



W/C 13th March 2017

“Transformation”

Matthew 17: 1-9

Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James, and John, the brother of James, up on a high mountain by themselves. While they watched, Jesus' appearance was changed; his face became bright like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. Then Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you want, I will put up three tents here—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

While Peter was talking, a bright cloud covered them. A voice came from the cloud and said, “This is my Son, whom I love, and I am very pleased with him. Listen to him!”

When his followers heard the voice, they were so frightened they fell to the ground. But Jesus went to them and touched them and said, “Stand up. Don't be afraid.” When they looked up, they saw Jesus was now alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone about what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Glory of God is hidden from us most of the time; we only get a glimpse of it from time to time, for example, in the beauty of a sunset or in the smile of a baby, or in the unexpected kindness of somebody that we don't know very well. A short time before Jesus' death, God allowed the glory of his Son to be seen by his friends, the Apostles, Peter, James and John. They were ecstatic. They were given a glimpse of their deepest hope, that Jesus was Lord. But then they were told to keep quiet about this until after his death. Jesus' glory has to be understood as a result of his sacrifice of his life.

As Christians our faith demands that we make that journey from sacrifice to glory. It demands that we separate ourselves from our own selfish desires in order to give to others.

We as Christians are happy because, like the disciples on the top of the mountain, we have experienced a touch of heaven, the joy of Jesus, and the happiness that is awaiting us in heaven.

**Father of Light, pour the light of love into our minds and hearts, so that we may live good lives and give you glory for the good things we achieve.
Amen**