

Trinity News

Last Sunday after Epiphany Transformation Through Transfiguration

The traditional date of the Transfiguration is August 6th.

The “light of a thousand suns” from another tradition describes this confluence of the glory of God on a mountain in Galilee, possibly Mount Tabor.

In Spiritual traditions the upward journey is always into light.

Hermits live alone, not as escapists, but to engage the realities and difficulties of life and to see their solutions more clearly. Most of us need friends to celebrate special moments and so did Jesus. Peter, James and John were his friends. He needed them in lonely places. This time he would share with them one of his special moments on earth. The glory within him suddenly blazed outside his body and around him. Those who loved him would always come there as pilgrims to see and learn. The effects of that glory moment will always be treasured by the Church.

The past intrudes into such moments. Moses and Elijah were always reappearing in the annals of Judaism. Now they come to Jesus. His glory gives them the chance to become ‘visible’ again for a moment. Whenever the glory of God appears, the past and the present merge and the future comes into view. This is what happened on the mountain of Transfiguration. It can also happen in our own transformational moments.

They cannot be bidden, they just happen. But when they do happen, we will carry them with us forever. Perhaps only a few times in a lifetime will the past, the present and the future merges for us. It is there in our birth when we leave on cosy home of nine months or less to enter into light and all the potential that beckons us to look around, and greet the world. Eternity is the endless echo of the heart and its yearnings.

We fear what we do not understand – and then we fall back on our assumptions. This blocks our potential, our aspirations and our growth.

The Transfiguration was not just for Jesus and Moses and Elijah and Peter, James and John.

It was for all of us. May you find yourself on a mountain one day surrounded by the glory of God. May you savour it all and come down to share your new vision.

May you always remember that you were there.

Bishop Arthur Jones

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: (First Sunday in Lent)
Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25; I Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-13

February 2012

20-Mon

Vestry
Meeting, 6:30pm,
Rectory.

21-Tue

Bible Study, 10am.
Pancake Supper,
5:00pm.

22-Wed

Ash Wednesday.
Service Time:
10:00am & 7:00pm