

Trinity News

Last Sunday after Epiphany Transforming our Humanity

The passage from Mark 9:2-8 is the “central panel” of that Gospel. It is a significant moment in time in the life of Jesus of Nazareth.

The endless expanding clockwork of the universe marks out only an incredibly tiny sliver of time for us to live our life. Our first realistic glimpse of our extremely vulnerable slot of humanity in earth-time and its microscopic finite speck sent shock waves up our spine. We put off thinking about it when we were young when we apparently had lots of time to spare. Later we would realise that we have all too little time to live and shape our eternal identity on earth. The random nature of much that happens to us had not yet occurred to us. We may look after ourselves with exercise and minimise any damage to our body by avoiding pollutants and toxic foods and drink. But the biological roulette wheel spins all the time and it may stop at our life moment with a deadly slot that can immediately threaten our life. So much is random and unpredictable, though our science is getting better in its capacity to predict bodily onslaughts from the ravages of diseases.

The mountain top experience of Jesus in Galilee that we call the Transfiguration has several key points.

1. It was a moment when the light of God within him became visible to himself and others. This may be reflected in his words at Matthew 5:16, “Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

2. It confirms his role in doing the work of God in the world. He is spoken to by God as he was at his baptism. In Mark God always speaks in the words of the Hebrew Scriptures. The Scriptures are the voice-carrying words of God, and they never stop being repeated as messages of guidance and support for the nurture of our life.

3. Moses and Elijah appear in the vision on the mountain. They represent a vast range of Jewish Scripture and teaching such as the Ten Commandments and the rules of instruction and the Prophets of Israel. They add to the scope and affirmation of Jesus' experience in Galilee.

4. The Prodigal Son "comes to himself" and so does Jesus on the mountain, though from a very different perspective. We all carry the light of God within us because it is freely given to everyone who recognises their need for the light of God in their lives.

5. The Transfiguration is a model of transformation. It too is available to all who would come and see and learn from the transformational person called Jesus of Nazareth.

Bishop Arthur Jones

THIS WEEK:

Monday, February 16.

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30pm, Rectory.

Tuesday, February 17.

- **Pancake Supper, 5:30pm.** Tickets are available @ the Parish Office: P250-adults; P150-children (6-12 yrs. old); FREE-children (0-5 yrs.)
Cash donations are also sought to help defray the expenses.

Wednesday, February 18.

- Ash Wednesday Eucharist, 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
- Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.
- Lenten Study, 7:30pm, Parish Office

Thursday, February 19.

NON-WORKING HOLIDAY

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-13
