
HOMILY II SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A
THEY WENT DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN

From the desert of temptation to the mountain of transfiguration... Dear friends, we continue our Lenten journey...

And today we climb the mountain with the Lord... there He is transfigured... **He is revealed**... In the Transfiguration, we see who Christ is... and also who is called to be His disciple...

The light of His face isn't an ornament or a spectacle... it's a foretaste of the glory that will flow from the Cross...

The Gospel doesn't tell us what Jesus spoke about with Moses and Elijah... But it reminds us that true greatness isn't found in escaping pain... nor in seeking comfort... but in walking with Him, **even when it costs us**...

Peter wants to stay there... to build shelters, to stop time... **Master, how good it's for us to be here**... he says with enthusiasm!

We too, sometimes, desire a Christianity without surprises... a comfortable following, **without renunciations or challenges**...

But God doesn't invite us to remain in the emotion... **But to listen and follow**... fully aware that such following will bring great demands...

My dear friends... Today's Gospel brings many signs, and I think it's good to pay attention to one of them...

Saint Matthew, tells us that a cloud descends and envelops them... In the Bible, the cloud is a sign of God's presence... It's not confusion, **but revealing mystery**...

God doesn't disappear; He teaches us to trust in the invisible... to recognize **that His light can shine even in the shadows of our lives**...

And here comes the first question for us today...

What are the clouds that cover your path today?

What fears or doubts prevent you from recognizing God's light?

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My friends... This Lenten season is precisely that... **An invitation to look...** and to let God guide us...

And then the Father's voice is heard... **Listen to Him...** It's not information... not just another fact... **It's guidance, it's a call... it's an invitation to follow Him...** And following Him means coming down from the mountain...

Listening to Jesus means following Him in everyday life... in our families, at work, with friends, in the small gestures of each day...

Following Him means descending the mountain and walking toward total surrender... Walking toward the Cross... **the Cross that transforms, purifies, and makes us free...**

Another beautiful detail in the Gospel of the Transfiguration is... that the Transfiguration reveals not only who Christ is... **But also, who we're Beloved children...** called to let ourselves be illuminated and transformed by His presence...

Each of us is called to see His glory... to receive the light that gently shakes us... **And then to return to our life, with decision and hope...**

Lent... Is that time when God touches us, as He touched the disciples... to lift us from fear and help us discover, what shadows prevent His light from shining in our life...

We climb the mountain to behold His glory... we descend to accompany Him on the path toward the glory that is the Cross...

Because true experience doesn't settle us... it transforms us... And in the end, the question is simple...

Do we want to stay on the mountain, admiring the light... seeking comfort that requires no effort... or are we willing to come down and let His light truly change us?

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My dear friends...The mountain isn't an escape... the light isn't a show... staying isn't comfort... the cloud is neither confusion nor fear; it's revelation... And the Father's voice is guidance... to where we should look... follow... and imitate...

This Second Sunday of Lent... we climb the mountain with Jesus to contemplate... **we descend to love**... we climb to receive light and **descend to embrace the Cross**...

The light doesn't remove the Cross... The light of Jesus' face reveals the meaning of the Cross we will kiss in a few weeks...

Without light, the Cross seems like failure... with light, the Cross is the path...

With hearts willing and surrendered, let us continue walking this Lenten journey toward the Paschal glory of Christ.

Fr. Moices Rafael C.