



*Light and
Love in the
darkness*

CELEBRATING AT HOME SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

From temptation to transfiguration 2 (Mark 9:2-10)

This resource is presented by the Carmelites of Australia & Timor-Leste at a time when we cannot gather together as we usually do to celebrate the Eucharist. We are conscious that Christ is present not only in the Blessed Sacrament but also in our hearts. Even when we are on our own we remain part of the Body of Christ.

In the room you decide to use for this prayer you could have a lighted candle, a crucifix and the Bible. These symbols help keep us mindful of the sacredness of our time of prayer and can help us feel connected with our local worshipping communities.

This text is arranged with parts for a leader and for all to pray, but the leader's parts can be shared among those present.

As you use this prayer know that the Carmelites will be remembering in our prayer all the members of our family at this time.

CELEBRATING AT HOME

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

We stand in your presence, O God;
and we praise your holy name.

May your mercy be upon us, O Lord;
as we place our trust in you.

Show us your mercy and love;
and grant us your salvation.

Preparing to hear the Word

You, Lord, come to us with your loving and gentle touch, to reveal the hidden ways we destroy wholeness of spirit and to encourage us toward repentance and peace.

Led by your Word throughout this Lenten journey, we are transfigured by the fire of your love.

We have been marked with ash in the sign of the Cross, the sign of your healing and hope for us.
Refashion us in your image.

Come, Holy Spirit:
Transfigure us with the fire of your love.

Opening Prayer

God of love,
you establish everything in Christ
and draw us into his all-embracing love.
Guide those preparing for the Easter Sacraments,
strengthen us all in our Christian vocation,
build us into the kingdom of your Son,
and seal us with the Spirit of your promise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Gospel Reading – Mark 9:2-10

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Reflection - *from temptation to transfiguration*

This Sunday’s Gospel of the Transfiguration completes the ‘little parable’ formed by the Gospels of the first two Sundays of Lent.

These Gospels tell us what Lent is about and what Christian life is about: a constant journey from temptation and doubt to transfiguration and faith.

Transfiguration means to be ‘shot-through’ with the presence of God. Being transfigured is about

allowing the presence of God to completely transform us. It is a revolution of mind and heart driven by God's Spirit and enabled by our open heartedness. Our life as Christians is about being transfigured by the Spirit of God so that God is seen in, and experienced through, us. That is what Peter, James and John saw in the transfigured Jesus.

The journey to transfiguration requires faith and perseverance. The story of Abraham in the first reading is a story of great faith and trust. Abraham faced the loss of his dearly loved son, the source of all his hope for the future. He trusted and his son was spared. That was a clear sign to Abraham that God is about bringing life, not death, to his people.

It takes faith and perseverance to dare to allow ourselves to be driven by the passion, hope and vision of God rather than our own desires and wants. Listening to the living word of the 'Beloved Son' forms in us the heart of God.

Prayers of Intercession

Loving God,
you have given us your Son
who shares our suffering and our death.
Make us sharers in his new life and glory.
Lord, hear us as we pray:

May we be life-giving in all we do.
May all our energies build rather than destroy life.
Lord, hear our prayer.

May we transfigure the suffering and pain of the world with the healing spirit of your Son.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Through us, may all who are in need, especially the poor, the lonely and the oppressed experience the care and compassion of your Beloved Son.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have died recently especially those who have died from Coronavirus. Give them peaceful rest and comfort their families and friends. Give your healing to those who are sick and keep those caring for them strong in your love.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Other prayers may be added

God of wisdom and understanding,
hear our prayers as we work to shape a just and peaceful world.
May our work and our prayer bring lasting hope and freedom to our brothers and sisters.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Jesus himself taught us how to pray,
so with confidence we say:

**Our father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Closing Prayer

Lord, God,
we thank you for this time together in prayer.
In your loving kindness remember your people.
Deliver us from the evil that threatens us.
May we be your light and love especially in this moment of need.
This we ask through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessing

May the Lord bless us,
keep us from all evil
and lead us to life everlasting.
Amen.