

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (C)
**CHRIST WILL CHANGE OUR LOWLY BODY INTO HIS GLORIFIED
BODY**

The Transfiguration of Jesus was to reveal what was going to happen to Him after His passion and death. Moses and Elijah were discussing with Him His exodus, that is, His departure from this world; (passion and death). At the same time it was to indicate that He had come to fulfil the Law and the Prophets, and that, whatever was written in the Law and foretold by the prophets was about Him.

It was a time that He revealed His glory to the apostles for them to know that after the suffering, there would be everlasting joy. It was so appealing that Peter wanted them to stay there. They saw the cloud, and then the voice of the Father was heard. It is believed that at that moment, the presence of the Trinity was revealed.

This glory is what St. Paul is reminding the Philippians that they would have a share in it. He told them that their citizenship is in heaven. He was sad that some of the believers were living lives contrary to the teachings of Christ, and they were not ready to suffer. He told them that some of them worshiped their stomach, that is, they were only thinking about what to eat and drink; “their glory is their ‘shame’. Their minds were occupied with earthly things”.

This season of Lent is our spiritual journey to the Father through Christ. If we want our lowly body to be transformed into the glorified body of Christ, then we have to listen to Him. We should learn from Abraham who was obedient and faithful to God. We have to have the desire to stay close to Jesus all the time. We are to imitate the apostles who persevered in their faith despite their weaknesses and struggles.

The way many of us live today is not far from what St. Paul was complaining about. We find it difficult to discipline the stomach, and our minds are always on what we can get in the world. We are eager to be associated with very important or influential personalities in the society, because we hope to obtain some privileges. But sometimes, things turn out to be the opposite. We end up in shame, or disgraced due to some corrupt or deceitful practices. Unfortunately, today things which used be shameful are not considered shameful to many people.

Whoever follows the Lord and listens to His word will never be put

shame. The problems and difficulties encountered for being a disciple will be short-lived. The glory to be revealed and experienced will be great and endless. Before the covenant was ratified, Abraham had to keep watch over the animals and birds used to seal it. At the end, due to his faith in God the promise of having many descendants was fulfilled. When a seed is sown, it dies and gets rotten, but what comes out of it is a beautiful plant with a new form; (1Cor.15:35-38). This is what will happen to us when we die with Christ; we shall rise with Him in a new and glorified body.

The Father commands us to listen to His Son, but we have no time to listen to Him. When does He speak to us? What does He say? What message is He giving to us?

The readings are to assure us that we have a place to go; our toils and suffering for Christ will not be in vain. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also," (Jn. 14:1-3). This is the assurance that our body will be glorified in Him if we persevere to the end, unless with don't believe His word.