

## Second Sunday of Lent – Homily – 03-01-2026

In the gospel today Jesus led Peter, James and John up a high mountain and he was transfigured before their very eyes. His face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. Then a bright cloud cast a shadow over them and from the cloud a voice was heard that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

“Listen to him!”

We might be thinking, well, that was easy enough for Peter, James and John and the other apostles because they were right there with Jesus – they could hear him – but what about us?

It’s true that Jesus isn’t right here at least not in the same manner that he was two thousand years ago.

However, He is really present – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity – in the Eucharist. Yet most of us do not typically hear him speak in the manner that we hear other people speak – in the manner that he spoke to his apostles.

So are we at a disadvantage? How do we hear him speaking to us today?

Certainly we have Sacred Scripture but Scripture alone has proven that it is not enough. Without the Church to guide us

what we hear and read can often be quite confusing and easily misunderstood at times.

Just look at the many Protestant ecclesial communities that exist today. They claim their sole source of guidance is Sacred Scripture and yet there are somewhere in the neighborhood of 30,000 different denominations because they can't agree on what Scripture says – and still there remains only one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

As Catholics, we are so fortunate to have Sacred Scripture, which was given to us by the Church. However, we also have Sacred Tradition and consistent Magisterial teaching – that is authoritative Church teaching.

So that if we trust in the Lord and consequently in the Church he established we will never find ourselves unable to hear the authentic voice of Jesus.

The example that is often used is a table with three legs. If a table has only one or two legs it is pretty much useless but add a third leg and it will stand secure – Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition and the Magisterium are the three legs that give stability to our faith and guarantee that we will hear the authentic voice of Jesus until he comes again.

Neither one by itself is sufficient.

Jesus speaks to us today through his Church and just as he led his chosen apostles Peter, James and John up a high mountain and was transfigured before their very eyes, the Church wants to lead us to a similar place, which like the apostles might even frighten us at times but she does this so that we can see, hear and experience the transforming power of Jesus ourselves.

But in order to be led there we must be willing to let go of all the things that prevent us from truly hearing and listening to the voice of Jesus today.

The perfect place to start, especially during this Lenten season, is by accepting the role of the Catholic Church in making Jesus' words fully known to us so that we can truly hear Jesus and ultimately be led and transformed ourselves by him.

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No matter how scary we think it might be, let's let Jesus lead us through his Catholic Church so we can really listen to him.