

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
✧ YEAR C ✧

LONGING FOR GLORY



READINGS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

- Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18 -

The Lord God took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.

He then said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord God," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him.

When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

- Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14 -

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom should I fear?
The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

R:

Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me.
Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.

R:

Your presence, O LORD, I seek.
Hide not your face from me; do not in anger repel your servant.
You are my helper: cast me not off.

R:

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

R:

SECOND READING

- Philippians 3:17-4:1 -

[Shorter Form is indented in brackets]

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us. For many, as I have often told you, and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their "shame." Their minds are occupied with earthly things.

[But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord.]

GOSPEL

- Luke 9:28b-36 -

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.



OPENING PRAYER

“O God, thou art my God,
I seek thee,
my soul thirsts for thee;
my flesh faints for thee,
as in a dry and weary land
where no water is.

So I have looked upon thee in the sanctuary,
beholding thy power and glory.

Because thy steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise thee.”—Psalm 63:1-3 (RSV)

Father, you revealed your chosen Son to his disciples,
giving them a glimpse of that glory which he had with you
from the beginning,

a foretaste of the glory he was to bring about
by the exodus he would accomplish in Jerusalem.

As we reflect on your Word,
open our hearts to an ardent longing for that same glory
promised to us who seek your face day after day.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



LECTIO DIVINA ✧ SACRED READING OF SCRIPTURE



Feel free to take notes on the video reflection in the space below.

LECTIO DIVINA ✧ MEDITATION

In the Gospel reading for this week, we are told that Jesus took Peter, John, and James with him up Mount Tabor to pray.

Why do you think Jesus took these three with him this time when he often went out alone to pray?

The Gospel passage makes it clear that the Transfiguration took place within the context of prayer: “While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.” Jesus’ appearance was changed while he was praying.

What kind of changes have you experienced in your life as a result of prayer—either while you have been praying or after you started to cultivate a habit of prayer?

LECTIO DIVINA ✨ PRAYER & RESOLUTION

PRAYER: Prayerfully place yourself in today's Gospel reading. Imagine being one of the three apostles who had been chosen to ascend Mount Tabor with Jesus. If you had been one of the apostles, you would have seen Jesus practically every day for about three years following him in his public ministry. But now, you see Jesus like never before—transfigured and radiant in glory. Suddenly, in the midst of this extraordinary revelation of Jesus, a voice from heaven speaks. It is God the Father, saying “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him” (RSV). The one command the heavenly Father gives you in this most amazing moment of divine revelation is to listen to Jesus, his Son. Take time now in prayer to consider what ways Jesus may want you to listen to him more in your life.

RESOLUTION: Responding to the Father's command to “listen” to Jesus, come up with one specific resolution you can make this week to help you listen more closely to Jesus.

“And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.”
—John 1:14

Monday

In yesterday's Gospel reading we heard God commanding us, "This is my chosen Son, listen to him" (Luke 9:35). How can you listen more attentively to Jesus this week?

*"Listen carefully my son, to the master's instructions
and attend to them with the ear of your heart."*

—St. Benedict

Tuesday

In Sunday's first reading from Genesis, God tells Abram that it was he who "brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession" (Genesis 15:7). God is stating here both his promise and his purpose for Abram. Ultimately, God's promise and his purpose for you are the same — life with himself. As you pray, ask God to clarify how he wants you to attain both ends, and to reflect that in your conduct this week.

*"You yourself encourage [man] to delight in your
praise, for you have made us for yourself, and our
heart is restless until it rests in you."*

—St. Augustine, Confessions

Wednesday

In Sunday's first reading from Genesis, God invites Abram to "look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so, shall your descendants be." Even though it would be more than twenty years before Abram realized the beginning of that promise in the birth of Isaac, Abram "put his faith in the Lord" (Genesis 15:5-6). In your journal, identify an area of your life where your trust in God is weak, and ask him to help you trust him for that area.

"Let nothing trouble you, let nothing frighten you. Everything passes. God never changes. Patience obtains all. Whoever has God wants for nothing. God alone is enough." —St. Teresa of Avila

Thursday

The responsorial psalm for Sunday's readings contains this exhortation: "Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks. Your presence, O LORD, I seek! Hide not your face from me" (Psalm 27:8-9). During your prayer time, ask God to show you how to "seek his face" in your immediate circumstances, even those that are difficult.

"By prayer we can discern 'what is the will of God' and obtain the endurance to do it. Jesus teaches us that one enters the kingdom of heaven not by speaking words, but by doing 'the will of my Father in heaven.'"

—CCC 2826

Friday

In the second reading from last Sunday, St. Paul contrasts people whose “God is their stomach,” whose “glory is in their ‘shame,’” and whose “minds are occupied with earthly things” with people whose “citizenship is in heaven” (Philippians 3:19-20). Ask God to show you which side of this contrast occupies most of your thoughts, and pray for a greater desire for heaven.

“The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself. Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for.”

—CCC 27

Saturday

In last Sunday’s second reading from Philippians, St. Paul urges us to “join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us” (Philippians 3:17). Who in your life has been a particular model of what it means to conduct ourselves as St. Paul urges, remembering that “our citizenship is in heaven” (Philippians 3:20)? Take some time in prayer to reflect on their example and thank God for them.

“Remember your leaders who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.”

—Hebrews 13:7