

Fr. Rudy's Reflections  
The Second Sunday in Lent  
March 16, 2025

### **The Transfiguration: A Radiant Revelation of Hope and Identity**

My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us to ascend the mountain with Jesus, Peter, James, and John in Luke's Gospel and witness the awe-inspiring event of the Transfiguration. This moment of divine revelation offers us not only a glimpse into Jesus's true identity but also a powerful message for our lives today.

In the dazzling white of Jesus's transfigured appearance, we see a striking distinction. His brilliance surpasses that of Moses, who descended Mount Sinai with a face aglow from the reflection of God's presence. Jesus's radiance, however, emanates from within: he is the source of divine light, not merely a recipient. This transformation affirms his identity as the Son of God, the promised Messiah who fulfills both the Law and the Prophets.

The presence of Moses and Elijah underscores this fulfillment. Moses represents the Law, the covenant of guidance and instruction given to Israel, while Elijah embodies the Prophets, heralds of God's promises and justice. Together, they converse with Jesus about his impending passion, a stark reminder that his path to glory must pass through the suffering of the cross.

God's voice from the cloud confirms Jesus's divine sonship: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" These words echo the baptism of Jesus and remind us of his unique role as the bridge between heaven and earth. For the disciples, this moment offered a foretaste of the resurrection—a glimpse of Christ's future glory that would sustain them through the coming trials in Jerusalem.

The Transfiguration also resonates with our modern experience. Life is often marked by "mountaintop moments" of clarity, joy, and spiritual renewal. These moments are not meant to be permanent but serve to strengthen us for the valleys below. Just as Peter wished to remain on the mountain, we too may desire to cling to fleeting experiences of divine closeness. Yet, the Transfiguration teaches us that these moments prepare us for the journey ahead, including the crosses we must bear.

In our contemporary world, the Transfiguration challenges us to live as witnesses to the light of Christ. In a society often marked by darkness, division, and despair, we are called to reflect his brilliance, proclaim the Gospel, and lovingly invite others into the hope and joy of his kingdom. Like the disciples, we are equipped with the vision of Jesus's glory to carry us through our trials and share his radiant love with the world.

As we continue through Lent, may we draw strength from this glimpse of Christ's majesty, trusting that the way to Easter's joy passes through the cross. Let us listen to the voice of God, follow his Son, and proclaim his light to a world in need.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Rudy