



CELEBRATING AT HOME  
**2ND SUNDAY IN LENT**

*Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9)*



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### 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.**

For we are not our own!  
**We are chosen by Christ!**

We live not for ourselves:  
**we live and die for the Lord!**

Now is the acceptable time!  
**Return to the Lord with all your heart!**

Now is the day of salvation!  
**Repent and believe the Good News.**

Holy Spirit come!  
**Transfigure us with the fire of God's love.**

### Scripture Reading (Matthew 17:1-9)

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed

them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

### Reflection - 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 journey from temptation and doubt to transfiguration and faith. A journey away from allowing ourselves to be tempted to evil, and towards allowing ourselves to be tempted to good by the action of God's Holy Spirit within us.

As the 'Chosen One' Jesus will let God's glory be fully seen in the resurrection. On the one hand, this Gospel looks forward to the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus. On the other, it invites us to reflect on our journey from temptation to transfiguration.

The journey Jesus undertakes does not end in death, but in life. Through prayer we remain in contact with the heart of God which allows God's love to transform and transfigure us and to 'burst forth' in goodness. That's how we allow the glory of God to be seen in us and through us.

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's 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.

It takes faith and perseverance to dare to allow ourselves to be tempted by the passion, hope and

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vision of God rather than our own desires and wants. It takes great faith to trust in God's word to us. But if we do, the living word of the Chosen One forms in us the heart of God.

*Quiet time for reflection*

### Prayers of Intercession

Transfigure our doubt with the fire of your hope.

**Transfigure our world with the fire of your loving presence.**

Transfigure our weakness with the fire of your healing.

**Transfigure our poverty with the fire of your abundance.**

### Lord's Prayer

Formed by the teaching and example of Jesus, we pray:

**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

Gracious God,  
shine the light of the transfigured Lord upon each of us. Transform us into the likeness of your Son and make us ready and eager to grow in love for you and one another.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Blessing

May your blessing be with us, O Lord,  
keeping us safe,  
and bringing us to life.  
**Amen.**



# Journey into the Light

This resource is presented by the Carmelites of Australia & Timor-Leste at a time when many 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 the Scriptures and 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.



**The Carmelites**  
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