Lectio Divina and Taizé Prayer Service

Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church

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We welcome all of you tonight to our Lectio Divina and Taizé prayer service. We invite you to allow the living Word to speak to you through the three guided scripture readings that make up the Lectio Divina. Through Taizé Prayer, we work to open our hearts and minds wider to the Word of the Lord through music, scripturally inspired chants, and bold, receptive silence.

After the opening prayer, as the music begins, we will be lighting a candle for your prayer intentions that you have shared with us. You are also welcome to light a candle at home for your personal prayer intentions and for the prayer intentions of our entire community.

Thank you for your presence here tonight. Let us prepare our hearts in prayer together.



Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.



As we listen to the Gospel, we ask that the Holy Spirit fill us with the faith and trust that Abraham had when he was asked to sacrifice his son. (*Genesis Chapter 22*)

1st Reading - Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

Lord, we ask that you fill us with confidence, with faith and with awe. Help us to know that You are God. Help us to see ourselves as one of the many stars in the heavens that You promised to Abraham. Lord, you are wonderful. Fill us with wonder.

Journal Prompt: Lord, you are wonderful! You have created beauty in small things all around us in this world so that we may recognize your greatness. Recall a time when you have felt deep awe and reverence, joy or wonder? A beautiful event in nature? A great life event- a birth or a death? Recall a time when you were truly aware of God's presence and beauty.



As we listen again to the gospel, we look to the words of St. Paul. (*Romans Chapter 8*) God "handed [his own Son] over for us all" as a bridge to bring heaven to us, so that we may return to heaven through Him. Lord, fill me with deep belief in all of your promises and blessings.

2nd Reading - Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

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Lord, help me to believe in your Son, as my King and Savior. Help me to know that He is here, reigning as King of Heaven and Earth because of your love for me. Do not let me turn away from Him, let me revel in His outstretched hand that I may come into His kingdom, and all the blessings that await.

Journal Prompt: When God transformed Himself into one of us, he was showing us His great love for us, and His desire for our healing and closeness. Jesus is a bridge from heaven to earth, brought here so that we may enter heaven with Him. Each time we are in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, we are brought again into the presence of this bridge to heaven. Have you ever felt the power of God in the presence of the Sacrament? If not, how would your faith change, and your life change, if you were to see and believe God's presence and power here on earth, on the altar, reigning over us, and waiting for us?



As we listen to the gospel for the last time, we ask, Lord, to be emptied of our desire to live under the law and justice of men. We ask to be emptied of our desire to make sense of prophecy. We ask only to be filled with the knowledge that You alone are our King. And we pray for a deep desire to be filled with wonder and faith in you.

3rd Reading - Mark 9:2-10

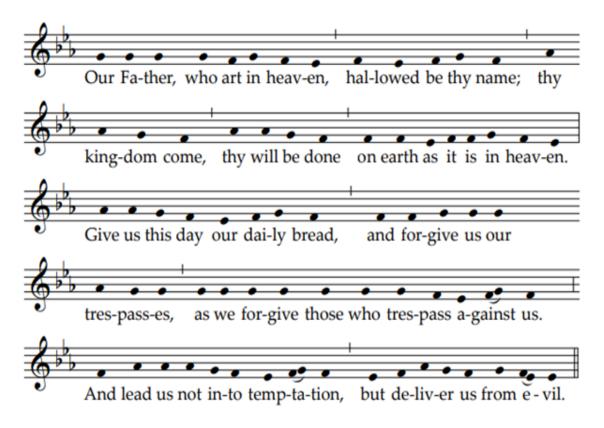
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Lord, help us to serve You. Help us to adore You. Help us to be filled with awe at Your presence here in the Blessed Sacrament, and in your presence in all of Your creation. You are our paradise here on earth. Bring us into the knowledge of Your presence.

Journal Prompt: God has the power to bring us into the presence of His miracles and mysteries, as He has done with the apostles during the transfiguration. Jesus Christ died and rose again so that we may continue to be brought into His presence in the form of the Blessed Sacrament. Through this miracle of mercy and love, He has the power to transfigure us as well, to make us holy and heaven bound. And moreover, He has the power to make us bridges to heaven for others. Reflect on how receiving and revering the Blessed Sacrament has changed you. What would be different if you asked Jesus Christ to reign and rule as king in you always?





CONCLUDING SONG

TRANSFIGURE US, O LORD

Bob Hurd

Refrain Trans - fig - ure us, 0 Lord, trans - fig-ure us, O Lord. Break the chains that bind us; speak your heal-ing word, and where you lead we'll fol-low. Trans - fig-ure us, O Lord. Verses 1. Down from heights of glo - ry the depths be - low, in - to the the hun - gry have their fill, 2. Light for those in dark-ness, glad 3. Par - don for the sin - ner, a shep-herd for the sheep, а 4. То the ho - ly cit - y, Je - ru - sa - lem, you go; your self-emp-tied, the love of God God show. You 1. love of to 2. tid-ings for the hum-ble, the heal-ing of all ills; in wa - ter for all who thirst and 3. drink of liv - ing seek, and 4. face set toward the end-ing, the cross to be your throne. 4 to Refrain 1. light the path be-fore us, the way that we must go. 2. these we glimpse your glo - ry, God's prom - is - es ful - filled. 3. feast-ing at your ta - ble, the low - ly and the least. jour - ney with you and share your pasch - al road? 4. Shall we

Text: Based on Matthew 17:1–9; Mark 9:2–10; Luke 9:28b–36. Text and music © 2002, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

