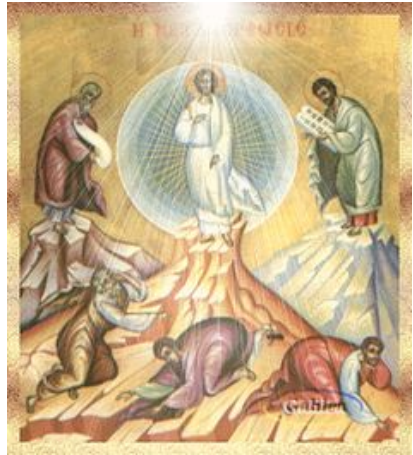


	<b>The Transfiguration</b>	
<b>Presence of God</b>	Considering how God looks at me.	
<b>History Mark 9, 2 – 10</b>	<p>2_ After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. 3 His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. 4_ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5_ Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters-one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." 6_ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) 7_ Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" 8_ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. 9_ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. 10_ They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant.</p>	
<b>Petition</b>	<i>Lord, may I know you more clearly, love you more deeply and follow you more nearly!</i>	
<b>Contemplation</b>	<p><b>Jesus' exulting beauty when He meets with His Father</b>  <i>Jesus always talked to His Father, and on many occasions, he looked for a lonely place where to be with Him alone. This time He invited three friends, Peter, James and John. They went up a high mountain... have you ever climbed a mountain?</i>  <i>They were climbing the mountain and as they got higher they felt closer and closer to God.</i>  <i>And when they got to the top, Jesus started to talk to His Father and he was transfigured before them: His face became radiant, his clothes dazzling white, he emanated sweetness, beauty and kindness.</i>  <i>Let's close our eyes and imagine Jesus in his glory, emanating light, sweetness, joy, love, beauty, peace and kindness. Imagine that this light invades and surrounds you.</i></p> <p><b>He should suffer to enter into His glory</b>  <i>Next to Jesus there appeared two characters from the Old Testament and they were talking with Jesus... they were Moses and Elijah. These two men suffered a lot when they fulfilled the mission God had given them and they were telling Jesus that He would also have to suffer a lot in the cross to go to Heaven, to His Father's arms.</i>  <i>Let's close our eyes and imagine Jesus talking with these two prophets of the Old Testament. Imagine them speaking about the painful way in which Jesus was going to give his life to save us. How would Jesus feel when He learnt He had to suffer so much, He who was docile and obedient to His Father's will, He who loved making His father happy?</i></p>	<p><b>This transfiguring light represents the love the Son and the Father feel for one another: it is the Holy Spirit so bright, so full of love, beauty and kindness.</b></p> <p><b>With his life Jesus teaches us that Heaven is for those who love and love sometimes entails sacrifice. These are the crosses we have to carry to fulfil the command of love. Jesus accepted His cross obediently and humbly and in this way He saved us.</b></p>

**The beauty of love**

*Jesus' beauty is in his love.*

*Love makes things beautiful. When two people are in love, they seem to be more handsome because they love each other; the loving look of a mother staring at her baby fills the air with love. When someone helps a person, they look more beautiful... it is a beauty that we all find extremely moving! As moving as the strong bond of friendship between two people ...*

*What beautifies Jesus is the passionate love He feels for His Father, He loves his Father so much that He is willing to carry His cross and suffer to the extreme. Jesus' docility amid His pains in the cross is the most beautiful image of our Savior.*

*Let's close our eyes and imagine how strong and deep is Jesus's love to endure the pain in the cross... (He could get down because He is almighty but He doesn't want to). Let's contemplate the beauty of his sacrifice.*

**The beauty of solidarity saves the world (Cardinal Martini, *Qué belleza salvará al mundo*). The beauty of the people living in communion, offering what they have without limits; the beauty of the people who risk their lives to help others; the beauty of God who is willing to die just to stay with us.**

**Colloquy**

*Let's sit on the carpet, on the promised land, near Jesus, to hear Him in the silence of our hearts.*

*At the climax of the transfiguration, a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"*

*Jesus looking bright and beautiful is just before you. Tell Him that you want to listen to Him and that you want to experience the beauty and joy that arise from loving and giving your life for others.*

...

*If you want, you can make a request or thanksgiving prayer to God. Pray an Our Father.*

