



VOICE OF THE EMMANUEL

AUGUST
5

(HAVING THE MIND OF JESUS)

2023

VOL : 5

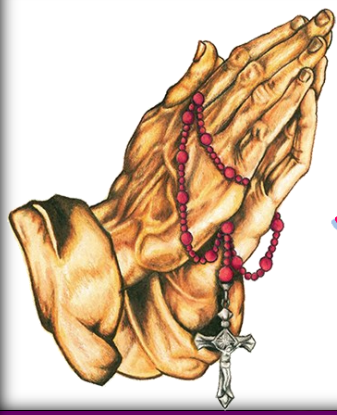
FROM GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

VOICE : 08



HEAR MY VOICE...

COME CLOSER...



***Then a cloud appeared and covered them,
and a voice came from the cloud:
"This is my son, whom I love. Listen to him!"***

- St. Mark 9:7

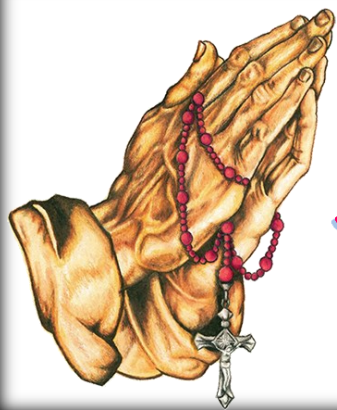
"Feel the need for God in life and God will look after your needs." - Our father

Pope Francis says When the Lord is **transfigured** before Peter, James and John, they hear the voice of God the Father say: "This is my beloved Son! listen to him!". The grace to listen to Jesus. Why? To nourish our faith with the Word of God. And this is the duty of the Christian. The event of the Lord's Transfiguration offers us a message of hope — thus shall we be, with Him —: it invites us to *encounter Jesus*, to be *at the service of our brothers and sisters*.

Dear sisters in Christ, on this Sunday, we celebrate the occasion of the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, celebrating and rejoicing at the occasion when Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the whole entire world, Son of God, was transfigured, that is transformed in His being and appearance, to reveal to the three of His closest disciples at Mount Tabor, His true nature and His intentions to all of us. When the Lord revealed Himself in all of His glory that day, accompanied by Moses and Elijah, two very well renowned figures from the Old Testament, He laid bare everything that He had planned from the very beginning, the plan to save all of us mankind, His beloved ones, from the certain destruction and hardships, the sufferings due for us due to our wickedness, disobedience and sins.

The Lord revealed Himself before the three disciples to show them and to make them witnesses of the truth about Himself, which He had very carefully kept hidden most of the time. Many did not know who the Lord truly was, and many thought that He was just a Prophet or Holy Man of God. Some others like many of the members of the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law even doubted Him and questioned His authority and authenticity, and even accused Him of colluding with demons.

Moses and Elijah were unique in that they were truly close to God, and both ended their earthly existence in manners unknown to us, as Moses was brought up to the Mount Nebo when he was about to die, and he died with the view of the land that the Israelites was to receive, at the end of their Exodus. Meanwhile the prophet Elijah was carried up into heaven on a flaming chariot in the full view of the prophet Elisha, his successor. Both Moses and Elijah therefore, were with God and as they came to meet up with the Lord, they symbolized the fulfilment of the Law, which Moses represented, having brought the Law of God to His people, and also the prophecies of the prophets, represented by Elijah, the greatest among the prophets of God.



***Then a cloud appeared and covered them,
and a voice came from the cloud:
"This is my son, whom I love. Listen to him!"***

- St. Mark 9:7

"Feel the need for God in life and God will look after your needs." - Our father

All of us are called to holiness, to be like the saints of God, all of whom were once sinners, but who abandoned and rejected their sinful ways and the path of evil for a new life in God. But at the same time, it does not mean that we are going to have instantaneous glory and joy, as we have to expect challenges and difficulties, and even sufferings and sorrows in our journey, just as the Lord endured through His Passion, His suffering and death, before His final triumph and glory in His Resurrection. We who share in our humanity with Christ, have therefore shared in His Cross, and His suffering and in dying to our sins, and we shall also share in His glorious Resurrection, entering a new life with God in the end, for eternity.

What we all need to do now is to commit ourselves anew to a life that is in accordance with God and follow Him wholeheartedly from now on, if we have not yet done so. Are we willing to embrace this path? Are we willing to seek Him with all of our might and strength, and strive to be exemplary in our lives, in giving our very best for the greater glory of God in all things? These are the things that we have been reminded and called to do as we enter into this celebration of the Lord's most glorious Transfiguration, His exaltation and revelation to all of us.



One day, with the Lord, we shall no longer suffer anymore, and everything will be all good and right again just as the Lord has always intended for us. In the meantime, let us all be exemplary, inspirational and great role models of our Christian faith and living in all of our words, actions and deeds, in our every interaction and effort, good works and endeavours for the greater glory of God. May the Lord Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Saviour, who has been Transfigured in glory at Mount Tabor, continue to shine His light upon us and help us in our journey and dedication towards Him, now and always, that we too may be the shining beacons of His light and truth, in every occasion and opportunity. Amen.



POINTS TO PONDER OVER

1. What does the Transfiguration mean?
2. What lessons do we learn from the Transfiguration?
3. What things have power over you in your life? Would you like to see them lose some of their hold?
4. Are there areas in your life where you struggle to trust God's word? How have you fought those doubts?



**MY SHEEP LISTEN TO MY VOICE; I KNOW THEM,
AND THEY FOLLOW ME. - JOHN 10:27**