



**St. Ignatius of Loyola Church**  
**Pre-K-5 Family-Based Program**

**February 28th - Second Sunday of Lent**

**Reflection Point:** In the Transfiguration, Jesus is affirmed as God's Son before the disciples, and our faith in God is also affirmed.

**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.

**Reflecting Together:**

1. What do the disciples see happening in today's Gospel?
2. Who are Elijah and Moses? What does Peter want to do?

**Going Deeper:**

1. What are some of the things this event affirms about Jesus?
2. During Lent we seek to change our lives for the better, looking for ways in which we can be more faithful to Jesus, like prayer and service. But we might also identify those aspects of our lives that we want to affirm and to continue. What is one thing we could affirm in our life during Lent?

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.

## *Finding God in Our Week*

Every family has special moments that they remember and share again and again. In sharing these stories, the meaning and importance of these events develop and deepen over time. This is how it was with the disciples' remembrance of Jesus' Transfiguration. The full significance of what they had seen and experienced could only be understood after Jesus' death and Resurrection. As they told other believers about this event and recorded the story for us in the Bible, our understanding of what it means to call Jesus God's own Son has also deepened.

## *At Home*

As you gather as a family, think about some special family memories that your family tells over and over again. Talk about why these memories are important to you. Recall that in the Bible we find many important memories about Jesus that have been recorded for us so that we can believe that Jesus is God's Son. What do we learn about Jesus from this Gospel? (He fulfills the promises God made to Israel through the Law and the prophets. God glorified Jesus in his Resurrection. Jesus is God's Son.) Conclude in prayer together that as we continue to read the Bible, we will deepen our understanding of and our love for Jesus.

## *An Example of Lived Faith: Sister Thea Bowman, FSPA*



Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA was a self-proclaimed, “old folks’ child.” Bowman was the only child born to middle-aged parents, Dr. Theon Bowman, a physician, and Mary Esther Bowman, a teacher. At birth, she was given the name Bertha Elizabeth Bowman. She was born in 1937 and reared in Canton, Mississippi. As a child, she converted to Catholicism through the inspiration of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration and the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity who were her teachers and pastors at Holy Child Jesus Church and School in Canton, being inspired by the call to love and care for one another, especially the poor and needy. Sister Thea faced great challenges from racism and division in Mississippi, but she worked to bring her

African American religious and cultural heritage to her community. Later in her life, she continued to work despite losing both her parents and being diagnosed with breast cancer.

During her short lifetime, many people considered her a religious sister undeniably close to God and who invited others to encounter the presence of God in their lives. She lovingly taught young people about the joy of being Christian, and she is acclaimed as a “holy woman” in the hearts of those who knew and loved her and continue to seek her intercession for guidance and healing. Sister Thea Bowman’s life was always one of Gospel joy, enduring faith, and persevering prayer even in the midst of racial prejudice, cultural insensitivity, and debilitating illness.