



Be transformed, Be transfigured

What is the difference between transform and transfigure?

transform (verb): make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of.

transfigure (verb): transform into something more beautiful or elevated.

So while a transformation signifies a drastic change, a transfiguration gives it direction - towards greatness, grandeur, majesty.

In this Second Sunday of Lent, we read the account of the Transfiguration of Jesus. Jesus' change in appearance gives us a glimpse of who He truly is. Jesus is the Son of God and the Promised Messiah. But the Transfiguration also gives us a glimpse what we have a share in - as children of God. By becoming man, Christ reconciled humanity to God, and opened to us the opportunity to be also transfigured. We can also become beautiful and glorious. As St Paul said:

"But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body." (Phil 3:20-21)

Every year, the Period of Lent gives us a wonderful opportunity to kick-start the change in our lives. These changes will then transform us slowly. Today, we are a better person than we were yesterday; and tomorrow, we will become a better person than we are today. And finally, Jesus will complete the transformation so that we will become like Jesus himself: *"His face*

300 Thomson Road, Singapore 307653
 T 6255 2133
 F 6356 9910
 E secretariatcssr@novenachurch.com
 W novenachurch.com
 PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS
 novenaletterscssr@novenachurch.com

shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as light".

But Lent 2020 is going to be different. It is already different. What we Catholics have taken for granted are no more available. No Mass. No Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Sacrament of Reconciliation - limited availability. Ash Wednesday - No imposition of Ash. As we hunger for the graces through the celebration of the Sacraments, we are already 'fasting'.

But God has not forsaken us! We can still be satiated. The Word of God is still available. Every day, I now listen to the masses online and to an online daily gospel reflection. I also read the written homilies and reflections shared via Whatsapp. The Word is moving so powerfully through our lives in these difficult times. The Word inspires, reveals, consoles and strengthens. I think that effect of the 'Word Broken' is so more powerful in our lives when we do not have the 'Bread Broken'. And I now pray using the 'Word Broken' for the day.

Finally, Almsgiving. So what am I doing this Lent? Rather than giving up something for 40 days and nights, I have resolved to act and act with charity. Since I am quick to speak - sometimes clever and witty; at times, impatient and hurtful - I am going to THINK before I speak:

- T **Is it True?**
- H **Is it Helpful?**
- I **Is it Inspiring?**
- N **Is it Necessary?**
- K **Is it Kind?**

May this Lent be different, and may I be transformed, I pray.

Reflection by Ros

Novena notes



2nd Sunday of Lent
 Year A
 8th March 2020

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 8 March	Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9 May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.
Mon, 9 March	Dan 9:4-10; Lk 6:36-38 Do not treat us according to our sins, O Lord.
Tue, 10 March	Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12 I will show God's salvation to the upright.
Wed, 11 March	Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28 Save me in your love, O Lord.
Thu, 12 March	Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31 Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.
Fri, 13 March	Gen 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46 Remember the wonders the Lord has done.
Sat, 14 March	Mic 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 The Lord Is compassion and love.

WEEKDAY MASS (MON - FRI)
 Time: 6.30am, 12.15pm, 6.30pm
 Confession: Half an hour before all Masses except the morning Mass

SUNSET MASS (SAT)
 Time: 6.30pm

SUNDAY MASS
 Time: 8am, 10am, 12noon*, 5.30pm
 *2nd & 4th Sunday - Mass in Tagalog, subject to the availability of priests.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY : 8am, 6.30pm

SATURDAY MORNING MASS
 Time: 7am

SATURDAY NOVENA DEVOTION
 English: 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 1pm, 4pm, 5.30pm
 Mandarin: 2.30pm
 Confession: After every Novena Service except after the 11am service.

DAYS OF OBLIGATION
 Time: 7pm (Eve of Day of Obligation)
 6.30am, 12.15pm, 7pm