

**LAST EPIPHANY – COME & WORSHIP – YEAR C**  
**FEBRUARY 14 2010**

**The First Reading: Exodus 34:29-35**

Reader: A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses came down from Mount Sinai carrying in his hands the two stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written. He did not know that the skin on his face was shining because he had been speaking with the Lord. When Aaron and all the people of Israel saw that the skin of Moses' face was shining, they were afraid to go near him. But Moses called to them. So Aaron and all the leaders of the people came to him, and Moses spoke with them. After that, the rest of the people came near him, and Moses gave them all the commandments the Lord had given to him on Mount Sinai. Once Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. But whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off. When Moses would come out, he would tell the people of Israel everything the Lord had commanded, and the people would see that his face was shining. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until the next time he went in to speak with the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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**The Holy Gospel: Luke 9:28-36**

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

One day Jesus took Peter, John, and James with him and went up a mountain to pray. While Jesus was praying, the appearance of his face was changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Then suddenly two men, Moses and Elijah, were there talking with him. They were also shining in glory, and they were talking with Jesus about the things which would soon happen to him in Jerusalem. Now Peter and the others had fallen asleep, but they woke up and saw the glory of Jesus, and they saw the two men standing with him. As Moses and Elijah were leaving, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here! Let us make three shelters — one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” (Peter did not really know what he was saying.) While Peter was saying this, the shadow of a cloud passed over and covered them, and the three disciples were afraid. A voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was there, alone. Peter, James, and John kept quiet and told no one at that time about anything they had seen.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.  
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Comments for the leader:

Begin by telling the children that this Gospel story has a special name — the Transfiguration. Explain that this is a long word meaning a great change in the way something looks. To recall the story, ask the children questions such as:

- Which disciples did Jesus take up the mountain with him? (These were the ones who were most often with him.)
- Why did they go there? • Later, who else was there?

Ask the children if they remember who Moses and Elijah were. If they do not, then tell them that Elijah was a great prophet who spoke words to the people from God, and that Moses was the one God had chosen to lead the people of Israel up out of the land of Egypt.

- What were Jesus, Elijah, and Moses talking about? • What did Peter say next? Remind the children that Peter is wonderfully human. He always has something to say, even if it is not just the right thing. Maybe he wanted a way to remember what he was seeing. • What happened while Peter was speaking?

Ask the children who they think said these words. (These were some of the same words spoken at Jesus' baptism.) Give the children the pleasure of that pronouncement.

The disciples reacted just as we would have: they were afraid. Conclude by telling the children that this story gives us encouragement and helps to make our faith stronger. What happened on God's holy mountain gave Jesus encouragement, too. It showed that God was right there, and so were people who had trusted God before. We all need to listen well to the words, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him."

### **Opening prayer**

O God, you showed forth the glory of your only Son Jesus on the holy mountain. Give us faith so that we may see the light of his face, and change us to be like him. We ask you this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*