

Week of January 22-28

PEEK-A-BOO

Scripture Reading: Read Matthew chapter 17

One of the first games often played with babies is “peek-a-boo.” In the game, the older player hides his/her face, usually with their hands and, then, removes their hands and says “Peekaboo” to the baby.

According to John’s gospel, when Jesus came to earth, it was nothing less than the Word made flesh dwelling among us. Yet, He came incognito. The Word came with clothes in. According to the apostle Paul in Philippians 2, Jesus *“made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.”*

In our chapter reading today, Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James and John. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. That is, Jesus plays “peekaboo” with his disciples and removes the covering so that his glorious nature under wraps is now seen in full glory.

This event made such an impression that this account is included not only in Matthew’s gospel but in Mark and Luke’s as well. In Luke’s account, we read that Jesus conversed with both Elijah and Moses about his departure (literally, his exodus). The disciples listened as they discussed the upcoming events of the cross. They experienced the glory cloud envelope them as the glory cloud of old did with Moses. They heard the voice of the Father speaking to them saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” It was an overwhelming sight to behold.

For the disciples and for us, it is a reminder of who Jesus is. He was fully human and fully God and his mission was the cross. Fully loved and fully pleasing to the Father, Jesus makes his way to fulfill the Father’s will and the destiny he had from birth. We are called to listen to him, to follow him and to worship him for, as the apostle Paul reminds us and as the Transfiguration reveals to us, *“in him dwells all the fullness of the Deity in bodily form.”*

Action Step: Take some time to reflect on who Jesus is...fully human AND fully God.

Prayer Focus: Worship and adoration of Jesus Christ, God’s Son.

Take-a-way: *Peek-a-boo, it’s Jesus, the Word of God made flesh!*