

Sunday, February 28, 2010

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9: 28-36

“How am I to know?” Abraham asks, seeking reassurance that God will give him the land. God makes a covenant with Abraham, sending fire into the deepest “terrifying” darkness. How are the friends of Jesus to know that he who predicted his death in Jerusalem and promised similar persecution for his disciples (Lk 21-27) will come himself in glory? To satisfy their hunger to know, and yet to open up new depths of mystery, Jesus is transfigured in glory before them. Paul promises us the same share in glory: “He will transform our lowly bodies...[to] be conformed to the body of his glory.”

Gaze on the glory suffusing Jesus in this gospel scene, and look at him looking at you, humbly and tenderly. Rest in his look of love. Then pray the words of Cardinal Newman: “Be so in me and shine through me that looking up, [all] may see no longer me, but only Jesus.”

You, Lord Jesus, are our light and our salvation. Whom should we fear? Free us from fear of death, failure, economic loss, and all your people from hunger and thirst.