

Saturday 6th in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mk 9,2-13): Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain. There his appearance was changed before their eyes. Even his clothes shone (...). A cloud formed, covering them in a shadow, and from the cloud came this word, «This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him». And suddenly, as they looked around, they no longer saw anyone except Jesus with them. As they came down the mountain, He ordered them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man be risen from the dead (...).

The Transfiguration: the mystery of Jesus as "Light of Light"

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, after Peter's confession, the evangelist Mark (as well as Mathew and Luke) narrates the Transfiguration episode. This is not a coincidence! In the whole of this event, while the Father "accredits" the Son, the connection between cross and glory—previously rejected by Peter—stands out: the cross is the exaltation of Jesus and his exaltation finds its place nowhere but in the cross.

The Transfiguration also appears as a prayer occasion: in the conversation of Jesus with the Father we understand the intimate empathy of his "being with the Father", which turns into pure light. In his "being one with the Father", Jesus himself is "Light of Light". At this moment we understand, also through our senses, who Jesus is in his deepest recesses, what Peter discovered in his confession: his own "being light" as the Son.

—O Mary, grant us the gift of opening our heart's eyes to the mystery of God's light and of feeling the joy of the sons of the light.