

Saturday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mk 9:2-13): Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white (...). Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, the disciples no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had 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.