

THE SUNDAY PAPER

Year B
LAST SUNDAY
after
EPIPHANY

This Sunday is the end of the EPIPHANY season. Epiphany began soon after Christmas, with the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus, Jesus's baptism, and the words of the prophets about the Messiah. "EPIPHANY" means "showing." So in this season we have seen how Jesus showed he was the Messiah, and how the Messiah and the Messiah's work show what God and his Kingdom are like. We end Epiphany with a very special kind of showing. We call it the TRANSFIGURATION.

JESUS IS TRANSFIGURED!

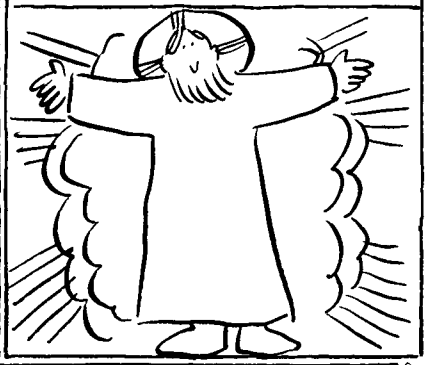
Mark 9:2-9

JESUS HAD JUST ASKED HIS FRIENDS, "WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?" AND THEY SAID, "YOU ARE THE MESSIAH, THE SAVIOR!"

A FEW DAYS LATER, HE WENT UP A MOUNTAIN WITH THREE OF HIS FRIENDS: PETER, JAMES AND JOHN!



AND HE WAS TRANSFIGURED!! HE WAS CHANGED, SO HIS WHOLE BODY BECAME FULL OF DAZZLING LIGHT!



AND TWO PEOPLE APPEARED WITH HIM! ONE WAS MOSES, AND ONE WAS ELIJAH! THEY WERE SPEAKING WITH HIM!



SUDDENLY, THE BRIGHTNESS VANISHED!



MASTER! THIS IS WONDERFUL!! (MARK 9:5)!

THIS IS MY BELOVED SON! LISTEN TO HIM!!

COME! LET'S GO DOWN! AND DON'T TALK ABOUT THIS...

...UNTIL AFTER I RISE FROM THE DEAD!

Jesus's friends believed he was the Messiah. Now Jesus was showing them that he was God's own Son! He was God himself, come to earth to be with us! When Jesus was transfigured, they saw the beauty and holiness of God!

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2 KINGS 2:11
(Elisha watches as Elijah is carried up to heaven in a chariot of fire)

PSALM 50:2
"Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals himself in glory"

2 CORINTHIANS 4:6
"God has made his light shine in our hearts, and shown us the glory of his Son"