

August 6, 2008  
Wednesday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time  
Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Readings of the day may be found on the following link:

<http://www.nccbuscc.org/nab>

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 9

2 Peter 1:16-19

Matthew 17:1-9

*And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.*

This gospel took on a whole new meaning for me when I read a commentary that said that at this moment Jesus saw himself through the eyes of God. We are made in the image of God. I believe we all forget that far too often. I believe that because, if we really saw ourselves, and one another through the eyes of God, we would not be capable of the things we do to our self or to another. The Good News we are called to share is that God loves us. We are God's Beloved—every single one of us, even the most unlovable among us. I need to remind myself of this. To see myself as God's Beloved and not see everyone as God's Beloved is a mark of narcissism, I think. It is all or nothing. We believe in a God who loves us all or we don't really believe in God at all. Instead, we believe in a God we create in our image. Sometimes, it is difficult for me to respond with the heart of Jesus to the call to love those who have hurt me, especially if they are blind to their culpability and the possibility of change is beyond sight. Only through God's grace can my heart be changed. Sometimes I need, not only to pray for the grace to see through the eyes of Jesus, but also for the grace to want to see through the eyes of Jesus. The world is too busy and too noisy for us to hear the voice of God. Only time with God alone makes any of this possible.

*Why is it so important that you are with God and God alone on the mountaintop? It's important because it's the place in which you can listen to the voice of the One who calls you the beloved. To pray is to listen to the One who calls you "my beloved daughter," "my beloved son," "my beloved child." To pray is to let that voice speak to the center of your being, to your guts, and let that voice resound in your whole being.*

Henri Nouwen

