

HOMILY HIGHLIGHT:

A LIGHT FOR OUR PATH - We heard last week that the first step on that path is to honestly confront where the darkness is in our lives – as Jesus confronted directly the challenges of the Temptor. Now, in today's Gospel reading from Luke, we hear about taking a 2nd step on the path of living the spiritual life --- moving from confrontation to contemplation!

Reflecting on this dramatic scene, it's pretty easy for us to focus on what happened --- changed face, dazzlingly white clothes, Moses & Elijah (all pretty amazing stuff, for sure) --- but overlook how it happened! And just 4 words say it all: "While he was praying ..."! Note – this was not while he was teaching, preaching, healing --- he was not "doing" anything, except cultivating his relationship with the Father --- and that is what "contemplation" is and that is what changes everything; for him and those with him!! And the same thing can/should be true for us!

It seems so basic – but it can be really hard because it requires 3 things of us":

1. Making time
2. Being still/quiet (not busy/occupied/doing productive)
3. Actively listening (not speaking)!!

The transfiguration, the change, the "glow" that the apostles experienced and observed in Jesus was the direct result of his time in contemplation with the Father and doing those 3 things --- and, if we make time and get used to it, that change can happen to us, too! We just need to be intentional about it, build it into our daily routine/schedule, and give it some time to grow in us (not a "quick fix")!