

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John  
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,  
February 28, 2021**

**VISION OF HEAVEN**



The transfiguration is a vision of heaven. It is an extraordinary grace for the three apostles, Peter, James and John. We should not cling to the extraordinary graces that are sometimes the fruit of contemplation. Peter clung to that. He was foolish. He wanted to stay there: "Let's make three tents," he says. He did not know what he was saying. The vision disappears in a cloud. There is a lesson here for us. Let us indulge ourselves in habitual prayer, in contemplation. Yet, let us not desire extraordinary graces. If they do come, do not cling to

them. The fruits of this feast are, in the first place, the growth in faith.

The Apostles testify that they have seen the glory of the Savior. But this mystery is above all to increase our love for Jesus. Our Lord showed us all his beauty on that day. "His face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." The apostles, witnesses of the transfiguration, were totally inebriated with love and joy. "It is good to be here," said St. Peter. "Let us make our tent here."

Our Lord then spoke of his Passion with Moses and Elijah: a new lesson of love for us. The Heart of Jesus, even in his glory, thinks only of us and the sacrifices he wants to make for us. Lessons also of penance, of reparation, of compassion for the Savior. Why did He have to suffer so much to rescue us? We do well to weep for our sins, to love our Redeemer, to console Him.

In your humble service.

**Father John Carlos**