

For some decades now we have been experiencing a decline in religious practice and we have been seeing substantial numbers of the baptized drifting away from the life of the Church. This prompts the question: *should the Church not change?* What is the Church doing wrong? Must she not adapt her structures to the present day, in order to reach the searching and doubting people of today?

St. Teresa of Calcutta, (Mother Teresa) was once asked what in her opinion was the first thing that would have to change in the Church. Her answer was simple, direct and profound: you and I.

What must change? The church? No you and me. We need to change.

While Christ was transfigured, for our eyes, he was not changed. We were allowed to see the Glory that is his as God. While Glorious in his Body, he remains Jesus, fully God and fully Man!

Now what was transformed, what was changed, was Peter, James and John...They were taken up the Mountain, and like Moses they encountered God. Their eyes were able to see!—The Glory of God. Their ears were able to hear—“This is my Chosen Son, listen to him.”

It was Peter, James and John that was Changed...They came down from the mountain and by faith was led by Christ to Jerusalem where he would endure the cross and grave and after the Resurrection they like Christ was called to courageously proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.

What needs to Change is you and me! And hence the deepening of our Lenten Journey!

How is this effected in our Lives? We like the apostles are called to encounter Christ—Transfigured, We meet the Risen One, He who is alive, He who is with us, He who invites us into a communion with Him

We are invited to share in this communion, with our living Lord to be transformed into another Christ each and every time we come to this Eucharist.

Here we are called by faith, to see Christ, in whose body and blood we share, in whose living word we encounter the Living God.

We are called to see the transformative power of God not only in the Changing of the elements of Bread and Wine, but his call and power to change us.

This week's call in our Lenten Series "The Wild Goose is Loose" The question is posed by **St. Thomas Aquinas, how is it possible that a person has received baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist...grace upon grace...and not live a life of a dynamic disciple...How is this possible.**

St. Thomas would go on to say there are a number of reasons. A person could lack faith, they could lack knowledge of the faith, they could be in sin, they could be trapped in fear. There are lots of ways a person could not be dynamic in their discipleship. And while these people experienced the sacraments validly, what is lacking is that the grace of these sacraments lie dormant! What needs to happen is that there must be a "second sending" that awakens or releases the grace that was given to us in these sacrament and in the Eucharist especially. **That what needs to happen is a Baptism of the Holy Spirit so that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can be changed, transformed anew! To be Renewed!**

This Baptism, this transformation gives us a better understanding of who Jesus is...we understand that Jesus has power and gives us power by His Grace and the Gift of the Holy Spirit, over fear, power over sin, power over our past, power over our struggles.

It is by the power of the Holy Spirit, that sets us on fire, fills us with light and grace, to walk resolutely with him, into the Pascal Mystery of Dying and Rising! And like the Disciples courageously live the Life of Christ.

So we need to change! We need to open ourselves to this personal relationship with Jesus, that enliven us, strengthens us, empowers us to live fully in Him.

And Ultimately, to change these mortal bodies into images of his Glorious Body. In the Transfiguration we catch a glimpse of Christ's Glory and see our destiny! AMEN