

Second week of Lent. Gospel TRANSFIGURATION

THE READINGS TONIGHT GIVES US A TASTE OF WHAT WE AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AWAIT. We are CITIZENS of HEAVEN. Eagerly waiting for our Savior to come from Heaven to change our weak bodies and make them like Gods own glorious body. What an image!

A Citizen is someone who belongs to a community of some area of land. The citizen is a member of the community who has rights and is to be protected. Another image!

In the first reading we see that the people of God will be given a vast land from Egypt to the River Eupharates, including the land of the Kenities, the Kenizzites the Kadmonites, the Hittites the Perizzites the Refaim the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites. I have not studied geography of the ites but seem like a vast array of land to me. This vast array of land was given to the descendants a community of (citizens).

Place yourself in Abraham shoes as he stands outside with God looking at the sky with the vast numbers of stars trying to count them. (This makes me remember a time when I was living in a rural village in Kenya and sitting outside near my home all alone late at night gazing at the stars an experience indescribable.) Consider as you are standing gazing at the stars as you hear from God that you will have as many descendants as the number of these

stars. Another Image! Can only imagine what Abraham was thinking.

Abraham trusted in GOD's words and this pleased God. I'm not sure that I would have trusted in these words. Have you viewed a sky full of stars and tried to count them?!

Do we have this kind of trust in God. Trust in God's words, and presence in our lives? How often do I not have the trust that is needed to keep calm or to be assured that things will work out! If we just realize that we can trust in our God who is with us— then imagine how much life can be seen as a joyous blessing. TRUST.

In the second reading we are told that we are CITIZENS OF HEAVEN eagerly waiting for our savior to come from heaven and change our weak bodies and to make them like his glorious body. What an image!

What does it mean to be a Citizen? One definition 1. An inhabitant of a city or town. Especially: one entitled to the rights and privileges of a free person. 2. A native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection.

So many today do not have the privilege to be a citizen that provides the privilege to be free and protected. May we be instruments for others so they can feel free and protected. To partake to others the knowledge that we are

CITIZENS OF HEAVEN. What a world this would be if we all felt truly as citizens who are free and protected. My prayer is that we realize that we are CITIZENS OF HEAVEN and we help others to feel as true citizens.

In Gospel the Transfiguration: God gives us a vision of Jesus in dazzling white this Glorious Body in which the voice points out that this is the Beloved one that we should listen to.

To me the readings challenge us to listen to the Transfigured Glorious Savior who we should TRUST and realize that we are CITIZENS who belong to a community (body of faith) protected and free. LETS SHARE THIS REALITY WITH OUR COMMUNITY, SOCIETY THAT NEEDS TO FEEL LIKE TRUE CITIZENS.