



Established
July 5, 1840

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

We are disciples who act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God.

Churches: † Immaculate Conception-Holualoa † Holy Rosary-Kalaoa † St. Paul's-Kawanui † St. Peter's by-the-Sea-Kahaluu
St. Michael's Church 75-5769 Alii Drive | Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 | Phone: (808) 326-7771

Email Address: stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org / Office Hours: Monday through Friday | 9am - 4:30pm

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES: 7am Monday through Saturday at St. Michael the Archangel

WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES: 5pm Mon Tues Thurs Fri (English) & 6pm Wed (Spanish) at Immaculate Conception

Adoration: Wednesday 7:30am - 4:45pm / Confessions: Saturday 9am at St. Michael's Church

WEEKEND MASSES: Sat 4pm, Sun 7am, 9am, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 12noon

Gift Shop Hours: Sun 7:30am - 11:00am

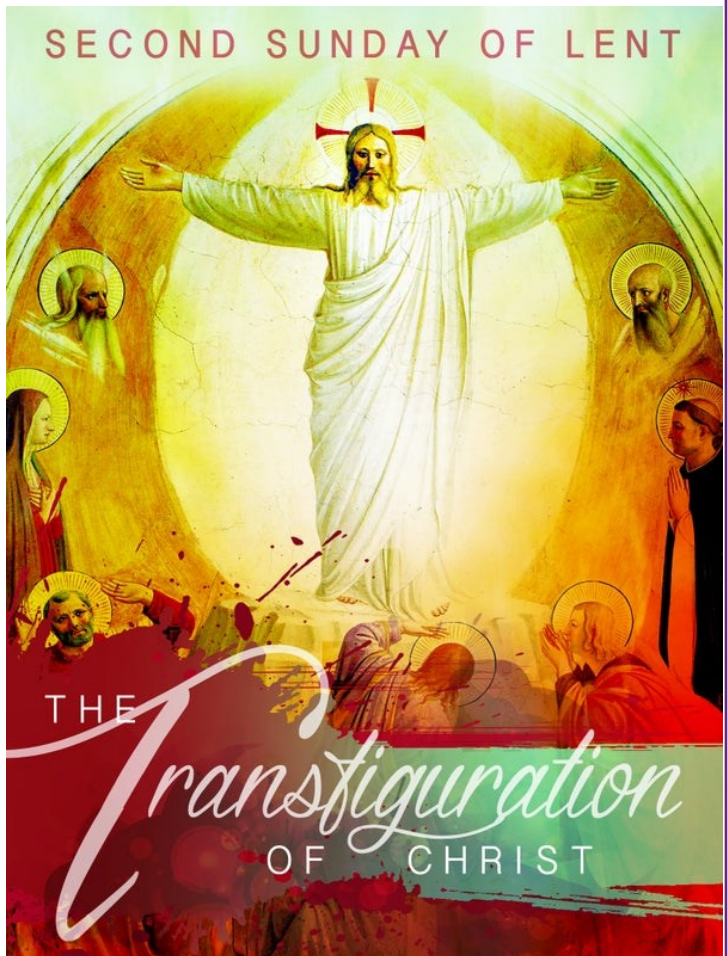
Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org **March 1, 2026 | 1 de marzo de 2026**

Second Sunday of Lent

Reading I - **Genesis 12:1-4a** | Psalm - **33:4-5,18-19,20,22** | Reading II - **2 Timothy 1:8b-10** | Gospel - **Matthew 17:1-9**
Primera Lectura - **Génesis 12:1-4** | Salmo - **32:4-5,18-19,20,22** | Segunda Lectura - **2 Timoteo 1:8b-10** | Evangelio - **Mateo 17:1-9**

THE JOURNEY OF TRANSFIGURATION

“We used to be such good friends. How is it that you’ve moved so far away?” one man asked another. “Perhaps,” the other replied, “you have moved away. By standing still.” This exchange very well could have happened between Peter and Jesus, had Peter been allowed to erect tents to stay on the mount of the Transfiguration. He nearly succumbed to the temptation to stay in a place of wonder and light. But Jesus knew the hard truth: we are on a continual journey when we are walking the paths of God’s will. It is not good for us to stay in one place on our faith journey. Equally unhealthy is staying put in times of joy and wonder to avoid life’s difficulties, or to wallow in our trials and temptations and fail to be companions for our sisters and brothers who are also suffering - or celebrating! The pilgrim Church is required to do one thing on its Lenten journey: to walk continually with Christ as his Body born of water and the Spirit, seeking God’s will, helping the reign of God to be known on earth, being led to the end of our journey, transfigured for all time into the company of heaven. - Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do you, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Prepare for Next Week’s Scripture Readings

1st Reading/Primera Lectura: Exodus (Éxodo) 17:3-7

Psalm/Salmo: 95(94):1-2,6-7,8-9

2nd Reading: Romans (Romanos) 5:1-2,5-8

Segunda Lectura: Romans (Romanos) 5:1-2,5-8

Gospel/Evangelio: John (Juan) 4:5-42

Aloha! Welcome to Our Parish - We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. We encourage you to register with the parish. Registration forms are available in the kiosk, or can be completed online at saintmichaelparishkona.org. To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.

March 1, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Second Sunday of Lent

Gen 12:1-4a | 2 Tim 1:8b-10 | Mt 17:1-9

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

What struck me when I first read this passage from the Book of Genesis, in which the Lord speaks to Abraham, is God's proclamation that it is through *his will* and *his work* that the blessings and goodness of Abraham's future will come about. It is not a vague statement, in which the subject is omitted. God clearly says, "I will make your name great." Abraham was a faithful servant of God and sought to obey God's will, but that is not what made his name memorable. It is due to God's will and generosity that Abraham's blessings came about. I sometimes struggle with giving up credit for the good things in my life. I want to believe that *my work*, *my talents*, and *my dedication* have brought about these good things. But the reality is that all of who I am and the skills that I have is a gift. I was created by God and formed by others to hone certain dispositions and talents that have led to my accomplishments. When we come to realize that all we have is a gift, we are able to offer our lives back to be transfigured and glorified by God, who creates and gives all things.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Many scholars identify this moment of the Transfiguration as the climax of the narrative arc of the Gospels, after which Christ's actions lead to his suffering and death. In his passion, Christ demonstrates the ultimate submission to the will of God, taking on the weight of human sin in order to redeem us. In this moment of Transfiguration on the mountain, we glimpse the beauty of the glorification that will result from this perfect obedience to God's will. We, too, are called to surrender ourselves fully to God. Following Jesus' model of humble submission to the Father's will does not involve false humility, in which we are self-deprecating or overly critical of ourselves. Instead, we are called to acknowledge and celebrate our gifts and accomplishments, while also recognizing that who we are and the gifts that we have come from our generous and loving God.

REFLECT

Reflect on the gifts and talents you have been given, as well as the accomplishments that have come about because of these gifts. Take a moment to thank God for all that he has given to you, and ask him to reveal how you can be a witness to his goodness through the prudent use and celebration of these gifts.



Life of Stewardship

Our readings for this second Sunday of Lent offer us, as Christian stewards, the motivation to continue our 40-day journey toward deeper holiness.

The first reading from the book of Genesis describes God's call to Abram (who would later be called Abraham). God instructs Abram to leave his home and set out to a land that God had chosen for him. Abram's response is an ancient example of good stewardship. Instead of clinging to his comfortable home and way of life, he recognizes that all he has is a gift from God, puts his trust in God, and obeys. And God rewards him, saying, "I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

To "be a blessing" is the true aim of a stewardship way of life. It is also an excellent way to live out the season of Lent. The sacrifices we take on, the spiritual disciplines we practice, and the extra acts of service we perform during this season - all give glory to God and transform our lives into a blessing for others.

Lest we grow weary on this path, our Gospel passage today, from Matthew, offers us a powerful image of the great God we serve. It is the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus, when our Lord reveals Himself in His true glory and the Father says, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." The apostles who witnessed this were awestruck. But our loving Savior reassured them saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid."

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us take these two verses, "Listen to him," "Rise, and do not be afraid" to heart. Let us rely on God's strength to aid us in our spiritual disciplines as we move through Lent. We will arrive at Easter with deeper holiness, as a blessing to God and others - and as better stewards of all God's gifts to us.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Parish News

Hawaii Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Our **Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal** is an exciting opportunity for our parish community to come together and *Share God's Gifts* in support of the vital ministries that strengthen our Church across the islands. Make your gift online using the QR code. Envelopes will be provided as soon as we receive them. Your generosity supports Catholic schools and faith formation programs, outreach to individuals and families in need, evangelization efforts, and the formation of seminarians preparing for the priesthood. Together, we can make a lasting difference!



40 Cans for Lent

The Knights of Columbus started their "40 Cans for Lent" campaign on Ash Wednesday. **Please consider donating one can for each day of our Lenten season.** Donations can be left in the carts inside the front entrance of the Church.

Lenten Soup Supper-Wednesdays after Benediction

Every Wednesday during Lent, our various ministries will provide a simple soup and bread supper after Benediction.

Come and spend an hour of adoration between 7:30 and 5pm in the Church. Join us for Benediction at 5pm and then our Soup Supper in the Grace Parish center. We look forward to seeing you as we come together to embrace the Lenten season.

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent, the **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed **at 5pm at St. Michael's in English** and at **6pm at Immaculate Conception in Spanish.**

Lenten Fish Fry Fridays

Please join us each Friday after Stations of the Cross from 5:45pm to 7:15pm, for Lenten Fish Fry Fridays in the Grace Parish Center. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Eat-In or Take-Out dinner is only \$15 per person. See posters on the church kiosks for more information.

St. Michael's 16th Annual Golf Tournament

Please stop by our tent after Mass to bid on our silent auction items or to sign up as a volunteer. The Annual Golf Tournament will take place on Saturday, March 7th at Kona Country Club.

40DaysForLife

The Respect Life Committee continues the international 40DaysForLife Campaign, until Sunday, March 29. You're invited to join us in 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. If you'd like to volunteer as a prayer disciple, or stand up for life and participate in our community outreach, please sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/en/kona.

Kona Hospital Volunteer Chaplain Program

St. Michael's, St. Benedict's, and St. John the Baptist have all participated in taking communion to Catholic patients at Kona Community Hospital for many years. We are currently in need of several volunteers to visit our Catholic patients and offer them communion and/or prayer once or twice a month. The nice part of this ministry is that you pick the date(s) you are available and go anytime during visiting hours. To volunteer, you must be a Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion at your parish. To volunteer, call Frances Vasquez at 505-328-1727.

St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship Program

Our St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship aims to empower young adults to become active witnesses of the Catholic faith, supporting students in developing and participating in a faith-based environment at their campus or local church. The scholarship is available to incoming or current students at an accredited university, college, community college, or technical school.

Visit St. Michael's website saintmichaelparishkona.org for eligibility criteria and application. Scholarship amounts can vary and will be determined based on availability of funds. Deadline to apply is March 15. Top candidates will be notified by May 1. If you wish to donate to the scholarship fund, envelopes are available in the kiosks.

St. Michael Statue Brick Garden

We are accepting orders for Phase 2, scheduled for installation in the Spring 2026. Order forms and

Stewardship of Treasure

February 16th - 22nd, 2026

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 2,480.00
ASH WEDNESDAY	\$ 9,594.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 12,222.00
BUILDING REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$ 29,917.00

We are grateful that our construction debt for the Grace Parish Center has been paid off. Our weekly second collection will be for our Building Repairs & Maintenance. *Mahalo* for your continued generosity!

Offerings can be mailed directly to the parish office; or use our website's "Online Giving" to share your blessings.

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE FOR THE MONTH FEBRUARY 2026 MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: \$14,082.75

The Diocesan Assessment covers shared staff and administrative resources from the Diocese supporting every parish. The new "Annual Appeal" assessment starting in January provides funds for collaborative Catholic ministries and services that extend beyond the capacity of any single parish.

Online Giving

St. Michael's Church provides **Online Giving** - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy - visit saintmichaelparishkona.org and click our **ONLINE GIVING** tab. Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

information are available after Mass at the coffee station, at the kiosk, or at the Parish Office during the week. Three brick sizes are offered, each with your choice of engraving. Let your legacy become part of our parish grounds. Together, let's build something beautiful for generations to come. Everyone is welcome to participate.

AARP Offering Free Tax Help

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those ages 50 and older. West Hawaii has two sites offering service from **February 4 until April 10**. Hale Halawai, located at 75-5600 Ali'i Drive is open on a walk-in basis on **Thursdays from 8am until 12 noon**.

Yano Hall located at 82-6156 Mamalahoa Highway in Captain Cook is open for walk-in and appointments (808-765-9141) on **Wednesdays from 10am until 4pm**.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Is a Lifelong Journey

REMINDER to all parents:

Even after receiving First Communion and Confirmation, children continue to grow in their understanding of God's love and their role in the Church. Faith Formation classes help to nurture that growth through prayer, learning, and community. Bring your children to Faith Formation and Youth Ministry classes so they may continue their spiritual journey!

Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

Classes continue every Sunday from 10:15 to 11:50am in the Grace Parish Center.

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

Youth ministry will meet on Sunday, March 1st from 5:15-7:15 pm in the Grace Parish Center.

Second Sunday of Lent

When I sit down to answer emails or write a Gospel reflection or return a phone call, I sometimes wonder: Does any of this humdrum work matter? Maybe you ask the same thing about your daily labor. Today's Gospel, the Transfiguration, offers a surprising answer.

Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a mountain. There, "his face shone like the sun face and his clothes become white as light" (Matthew 17:2). That detail regarding his clothes is worth considering.

We know Jesus' body is inseparably united to the divine nature. But his clothing? That's something made by human hands. It's an artifact. And yet it shines with the same uncreated light. What does this detail mean? The early Church noted that Adam and Eve's first act after the Fall was to make clothing. This clothing symbolizes all human labor that supports our dignity. In Jesus' glorified garments, we see not just the redemption of our body, but of human effort to protect and uplift human dignity.

Parents, your family is your work. Baristas, plumbers, nurses, accountants - your labor, your emails, your phone calls, your spreadsheets - can all become radiant when offered to God in love. The question isn't just do I believe in Jesus' glory, but do I believe he can share it with the work of my hands?

Lenten Challenge: Identify the "artifact" you are making to uplift the dignity of others: your job, your home, your relationships. Consciously bring it to the Lord this Sunday at Mass. Offer it to share in His glory. It will begin to shine. *- Father John Muir, ©LPI*

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent - Prayerful

When my children were younger, they could make me laugh and sometimes cry. I would have conversations about animals, nature, outer space, and so many amazing things in life. I would play with them one day and then work to bandage a boo-boo the next. There were so many dynamics to our relationship. However, one aspect was my favorite. It was when one of them would snuggle up next to me on the couch silently, often leading to sleep. There was no better feeling, and I didn't want to move for anything. It is crazy to think of all the things we would do together, and my favorite was when we essentially were doing nothing.

Do you think God desires a portion of you? Without a doubt, He wants all of you: the good, the bad, and the ugly. Walking with Him daily is so important, and we can never become the disciples and stewards we need to be without a deepening relationship. Yet, prayer is not just talking and listening. It is also being. We sometimes seek to communicate so much and do so many things that we forget the value of stewardship of presence. The giving of ourselves completely to another often requires

YOU ARE INVITED

(schedule may change without advance notice)

MONDAY

- Friendly Place Lunches 10:30am-12pm
- Knights of Columbus 5:45pm
(2nd Monday of the month)
- Church Cleaning 6:00pm

TUESDAY

- Coffee with the Priests 7:30-9:00am
- Charismatic Prayer Group 6:00-7:30pm

WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-10:30am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Hula Ministry Practice 5:30-6:30pm
- Men of Faith 5:30-6:30pm
- Neocatechumenal Way 6:00-7:00pm
(Last Wed. of each month) 7:00-8:00pm

THURSDAY

- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm
(3rd Thursday of each month)
- Young Adults Group 6:00-7:00pm
(First Thursday - Grace Parish Center)
(Third Thursday - Ola Brew)

FRIDAY

- Women of the Word 12:00-1:00pm

SATURDAY

- Church Cleaning 7:30am
- Grounds Maintenance 7:30am
- Confession 9-10am

SUNDAY

- Gift Shop Open 7:30am-11am
- Children's Rosary Group After 9am Mass
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Immigration Seminar 1:00-2:00pm
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Consecration to God the Father 3:00pm
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults After 9am Mass

Baptism

Baptism Classes are held monthly as needed. Parents and Godparents must attend class. The next class will be held at 8:30am on Saturday, March 14 in the Office Conference Room.

To register, please email baptism.stmichaelkona@rcchawaii.org

Marriage

Please notify the office and allow six months before the date of marriage for preparation.

us to simply be with that person. We feel their presence. We rest in their being. No words are needed because words would destroy the moment. This is what we are called to in a relationship with God. This is good stewardship because it is about giving of our very presence to God and receiving strength from that resting in Him. Sometimes, all we need is to snuggle up to our God on the couch. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments - Three Tents

You guys, I was *such* a good Catholic at the National Eucharistic Congress. Mass every day? Check. Rosary every day? Check. Deep thoughts and deep conversations about God with total strangers? Check. Hours in adoration reflecting on the state of my soul? Check. When I went to Indianapolis in the summer of 2024 to cover the NEC for our archdiocesan news-paper, I knew it would be a fun and spiritually rich experience. But I didn't expect that it would make me think differently about my whole life (and afterlife). And when people ask me why - "What happened in Indianapolis that changed you?" - I can only tell them this: I spent time with God.

Of course, I do all these things in my regular life at home, too. I try to be a good Catholic here. But good grief, it's a lot harder. In Indianapolis, I didn't have a calendar full of appointments and to-do lists that filled me with dread. I didn't have the world crowding around me, grasping at my attention and my will. Indianapolis was the mountain, and if I could have, I would have built three tents.

So I understand Peter's feelings at the Transfiguration. He's thrilled - he sees it all clearly now. Here is the fullness of Truth, revealed in all its glory, and he's ready to start bringing groups of tourists up to see it. He's ready to bring people to Christ. But in the blood-soaked, fear-filled days to come, Peter will realize that it's not his job to bring the world to the Truth. His job is to bring the Truth into the world. What a tragedy it would be, if Truth only lived on the mountaintop.

So build three tents, strong and durable shelters for the Truth to dwell. But build them in your heart. And then, the Transfiguration won't be just an event, something that happened at a certain time and a certain place. It'll be a reality that lives within us all. And we will bear it with us wherever we go.

- Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman © LPI



As Catholics, let us witness the beautiful gift of life with civility and love, and with our peaceful prayers and our compassionate service to all those in need. - USCCB 5/10/22

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

- 4pm - Repose of the Soul of Jeremy McKinnon

SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7am - Macario Salvador Cervantes, Rest in Peace
- 9am - John & Monica Choe, 42nd Wedding Anniversary
- 4pm - Mike & Mary Sotomayor and Henry Vasquez, Rest in Peace

MONDAY, MARCH 2ND

- 7am - Leopoldo Mendez Vargas, Juan Sanchez Geronimo, Mark Weaver, Jacen Ham, Christopher Kanoko, Catalina Ramos, Gabriel Zarate, All Souls in Purgatory
- 5pm - Alfred Lacro, 10th Anniversary of Death

TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD

- 7am - Richard Joseph Merenda, deceased, Birthday Remembrance
- 5pm - Deacon Michael Ross, Rest in Peace

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4TH

- 7am - MISSA PRO POPULO

THURSDAY, MARCH 5TH

- 7am - Jimmy McClean & Frances Acol, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Michael and Karen Freitas, Prayers

FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH

- 7am - Ronald Benarao, Jr. Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Carmen Lacro, 14th Anniversary of Death

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH

- 7am - Souls in Purgatory

Requesting a Mass Intention

A Mass intention can be scheduled by calling the Office at **808-326-7771**.

Mass cards are available.

"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat..."

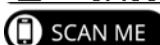
—Matthew 25:35

The Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 9 - 9:45am at Immaculate Conception Church Parking Lot.



Use this QR Code for our Amazon Wishlist. Items purchased can be mailed directly to the Parish Office.



Mahalo for your support!

Human or Divine?

This Week's Readings at Mass

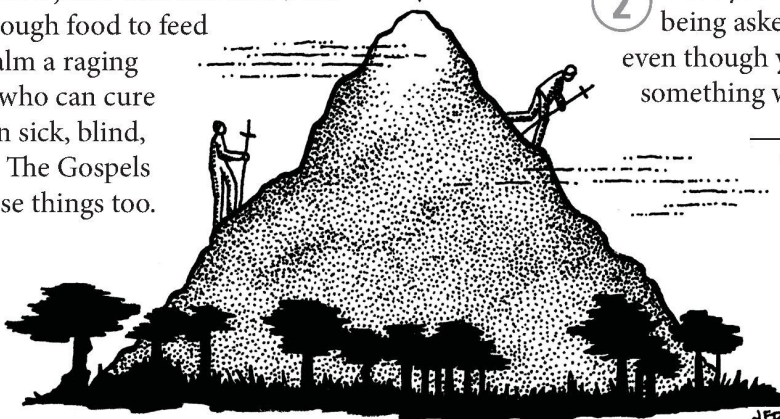
- ▶ Genesis 12:1-4 • Call of Abraham
- ▶ 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 • Exhortation to faithfulness
- ▶ Matthew 17:1-9 • Jesus transfigured

In this week's reading from Genesis, God makes a "big ask" of Abram, asking him to leave the only place he knows to travel to an unknown land and start over. The ask comes with a promise, and because Abram takes the risk, God rewards him with descendants who multiply and eventually become the Jewish people. The three disciples who climb the mountain with Jesus in today's Gospel reading have Abram to thank for their existence as worshipers of Yahweh.

While last week's reading about Jesus' temptations in the desert showed us how fully human Jesus was, this week's reading of Jesus' Transfiguration shows us another side of him, his more-than-human side. These different sides of Jesus that show up in the Gospels can, at times, seem confusing or even contradictory. Is Jesus human, or is he divine? Which is it? We can make ourselves crazy trying to figure this out intellectually. Instead, if we allow it to be a mystery that we don't have to explain, we can more readily accept the gift in the mystery.

Sometimes we need a Jesus who knows what it was like to be human like us. We need to be able to relate to him as someone who knew physical hunger, thirst, and fatigue, and someone who, at times, cried, was filled with fear, got impatient, and even became angry. The Gospels tell us Jesus felt all of these things. At other times, we need a Jesus who is more than human to save us. We need a Jesus who can turn a few fish and loaves into enough food to feed thousands, who can calm a raging storm on the sea, and who can cure someone who has been sick, blind, or paralyzed for years. The Gospels tell us Jesus did all those things too.

When Peter, James, and John saw Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop, along



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"This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."
Sheepish Question:
 Where, recently, have I seen or experienced the glory (Godliness) of Jesus? How can that bolster me when times get tough?

with two of the greatest people from their history, they couldn't have understood what they were seeing. They could have spent the rest of their lives trying to "figure out" what happened up there, and what it all meant. Instead, they are told to let the intellectual debates go. Simply enough, the voice from heaven instructs them to listen to Jesus. With that, they get up, go down the mountain, and spend the rest of their lives studying him closely and trying to live out his teachings.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Can you relate to Jesus more as a human or more as God? How so?
- 2 Have you had an experience of being asked to trust Jesus/God even though you couldn't understand something with your mind?

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Music Ministry

MIGUEL SALAZAR
Spanish Music Ministry

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