

# SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

NEXT BEFORE LENT (YEAR C)

## COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

*Exo 34.29–35*

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*from Ps 99*



℟. Exalt the Lord our God, for he is holy.  
(*All repeat*)



The Lord is king, let the | peoples tremble;  
he is enthroned upon the cherubim, let | the  
earth shake.

The Lord is | great in Zion,  
and high a-|bove all peoples. ℟.

Let them extol his name, so | great and  
awesome;  
holy is the | Lord our God.

Exalt the Lord our God, fall down be-|fore  
his footstool,  
for he the | Lord is holy. ℟.

Moses and Aaron his priests, and Samuel |  
who invoked him,  
they called upon the Lord | and he answered.  
He spoke to them in the pill-|lar of cloud;  
they kept his testimonies and the law | that  
he gave them. ℟.

You answered them O | Lord our God;  
you forgave them and pardoned | their  
offences.

Exalt the Lord our God, worship him upon  
his | holy mountain,  
for the Lord our | God is holy. ℟.

## SECOND READING

*2 Cor 3.12 – 4.2*

A reading from the second letter of Paul to  
the Corinthians.

Since we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the

Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*cf Mt 17.5*

**Alleluia.**

From the bright cloud the Father's voice is heard:

This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

**Alleluia.**

GOSPEL READING

*Lk 9.28–36*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now about eight days later Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white.

And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one

for Elijah" – not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone.

And they kept silent and told no-one in those days anything of what they had seen.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Trusting in your love, Lord, we gather to present our offerings upon your holy altar, so that we may be purified by your grace and cleansed by the holy mysteries which we serve; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**