



#### Welcome!

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# March 2020: Transfigured in Christ

## 1. Mountaintop Experience

"The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God." CCC #27 "You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." St. Augustine

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." Matthew 17:1-5 (from the Gospel/March 8)

"If man exists it is because God has created him through love, and through love continues to hold him in existence. He cannot live fully according to truth unless he freely acknowledges that love and entrusts himself to his creator." Second Vatican Council (Gaudium et spes)

To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement." St. Augustine

### 2. Mountaintop Maintenance

"The Bride catches sight of the Bridegroom, and – as soon as He is seen – He slips away. He does this again and again through the course of the Song. And this is something that no one can understand unless he has experienced it himself. God is my witness: I myself have often caught sight of the Bridegroom drawing near to me and being most vividly present to me. Then He suddenly withdraws and, despite my efforts, I am unable to find Him. I then desire that He draw near again, and He sometimes does so. Then, upon appearing, I lay hold of Him, and He slips away once more. And, when He has slipped away, my search for Him begins anew.

He does this time and again." St. Origen, Homily on the Song of Songs

In those days, in their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? a little more and they will stone me!" Exodus 17:3-4 (from 1st Reading/March 15)

Seminary student experiment: If we are too busy, we do not leave room for the Holy Spirit, and it is difficult to live out our values and beliefs. Darley, J. M., and Batson, C.D., "From Jerusalem to Jericho": A study of Situational and Dispositional Variables in Helping Behavior". JPSP, 1973, 27, 100-108.

Yes, they tell me there are men who work well and who sleep poorly. Who don't sleep. What a lack of confidence in Me... I pity them. I hold it against them. A bit. They don't trust Me. As a child lays innocently in his mother's arms, thus do they not lay innocently in the arms of My Providence. They have the courage to work. They don't have the courage to do nothing. They possess the virtue of work. They don't possess the virtue of doing nothing. Of relaxing. Of sleeping. Unhappy people, they don't know what's good." French poet Charles Peguy "The Portal of the Mystery of Hope"

"God loves sleep. He made it. Your Heavenly Father has designed you so that approximately one-third of your life should be spent asleep. He Himself rested after creating the heavens and the earth (see Gen 2:2-3). God is a father.

He delights in His children when they sleep." Fr. Donald Calloway "Consecration to St. Joseph"

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept... Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go." From John 11 (from the Gospel/March 29)

## 3. Mountaintop Witness

Jesus said to her, "Go call your husband and come back." The woman answered and said to him, "I do not have a husband." Jesus answered her, "You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband." ... "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you." ... "Come see a man who told me everything I have done." ... Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified." From John 4 (from the Gospel/March 15)

"When men have a longing so great that it surpasses human nature and eagerly desire and are able to accomplish things beyond human thought, it is the Bridegroom who has smitten them with this longing. It is he who has sent a ray of his beauty into their eyes. The greatness of the wound already shows the arrow which has struck home, the longing indicates who has inflicted the wound" (Byzantine theologian, Nicholas Cabasilas "The Life in Christ," 14<sup>th</sup> Century).

Foundational Item to work on this month: (10 minutes daily prayer, church on Sunday, staying out of mortal sin):
deas to Build Myself/Others/Church this month:

#### **Mosaic Small Group Information**

Mosaic small groups meet once a month for 90 minutes and offer friendship and accountability, but more importantly, they can fill our deepest longings to be truly known and loved. We have put together an amazing Start-Up Series to lead small groups through an authentic four-part discovery period. All women of any faith background are welcome and encouraged to sign up.

Fort Wayne Area Mosaic Sign-up link: <u>bit.ly/2K6iWey</u> or Warsaw Area Mosaic Sign-up link: <u>bit.ly/2ORq7tN</u>

Questions/Assistance (Lisa Didier): <u>BuilderMosaic@gmail.com</u>

#### **Kingdom Builders Contact Information**

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