

## 2nd Sunday of Lent (Year B)

### Mark 9:2-10

We know that God sacrificed His only son for our sins, and the readings this weekend, particularly the Gospel that tells of the Transfiguration, reinforce our belief that Jesus truly is the Son of God. The Saviour of the world came for **all** of us, meaning that every person is deserving of a life filled with dignity and love. Therefore, when we see inequality, it is our Christian responsibility to support our sisters and brothers in addressing the problem.

### Sharing Scripture

Share with the children the Gospel reading, **Mark 9:2-10**

As you read the passage encourage the children to think more deeply about it and use their imagination by asking questions such as:

- + What do you think it would feel like to witness the dazzling transformation of Jesus?
- + Can you picture what it might have looked like?
- + How do you think the Apostles felt when they saw this?

Ask the children if they have ever experienced something surprising or awe-inspiring, and how they felt in those moments.

The Apostles must have been afraid and confused when they saw Jesus transfigured, or changed, into dazzling white robes. Or when they saw the prophets Elijah and Moses. Or, even still, when they heard the voice of God announce Jesus as His “beloved Son” (Mk 9:7). Things must only have become worse when Jesus told them that they couldn’t even tell anybody what they had seen or heard!

Thankfully, we don’t have to keep the glory of Jesus a secret. In fact, He asks us to share His love with everyone we meet. That’s why we must remember to do our best to support our sisters and brothers around the world who are living in poverty every day. Sometimes this may involve personal sacrifice, such as spending time praying, using our talents volunteering or donating our treasure through fundraising.

No matter what we are able to do or give, we should always remember that these are but small sacrifices when compared to the sacrifice that Jesus made for us on the Cross. With joyful hearts we can follow His example and proclaim; “If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Rom 8:31).

### SCIAF

Remembering that Jesus came for everyone, SCIAF want to ensure that all people are empowered to live life to the full. That’s why we’re working with our partners in Rwanda.

Sister Epiphanie is part of the Justice and Peace Commission in Rwanda, one of SCIAF’s partners.

Share her story (on the print-off sheet below) with the children.

## **Respond**

Lead the children in reflecting on the case study they have just heard. Ask them to think silently about the tiny sacrifices or changes that we can all make to help support one another.

Perhaps they can add one additional prayer each week for the people of Rwanda who are being helped by SCIAF and our partners at CEJP Rwanda? Maybe they can sacrifice one treat each week to show solidarity with children around the world who don't have enough to eat?

Close the liturgy by praying the following prayer together.

**Loving Father, Merciful God, we worship You.  
You are a mighty God, far above the sin of this world,  
yet You choose to show compassion  
to each of us because You love us.  
We remember the country of Rwanda.  
Bring your comfort to those who suffer and bring Your  
healing power in their lives.  
Help us understand the ways of Jesus better,  
so that we can show love in action  
to our sisters and brothers across the world.  
Amen**

## Sister Epiphanie



Sister Epiphanie works for the Justice and Peace Commission in Rwanda. They are a part of the Catholic Church in Rwanda and were established in 1988. The Justice and Peace Commission are SCIAF's partners. They support communities to live in peace.

Sr Epiphanie is also a part of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary religious order.

The Sisters don't wear a religious habit and they live within the communities they serve, like our Mother Mary, in the midst of the world. They unite with communities in prayer and fellowship.

"I love what I'm doing. I don't consider it a job; it's a vocation.

"I like SCIAF's approach to helping people; to support them fully.

"I think about the Gospel, John 10: 'I have come to them to give life, and for them to have it abundantly.' That is, for me, what I do. I am always inspired by that Gospel, to give life fully, the way Jesus came to give life."



Sister Epiphanie with Bernadette, Rwanda