

[81]

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

B

FIRST READING

Nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

8:31, 38-39

Brothers and sisters:

What can we say about all this?
If God is on our side, can anyone be against us?

I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love –
not life or death, not angels or spirits,
not the present or the future,
and not the powers above or powers below.

Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us
in Christ Jesus our Lord!

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

103:1-2, 8 and 11

R. (8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.

With all my heart
I praise the Lord,
and with all that I am
I praise his holy name!
With all my heart
I praise the Lord!
I will never forget
how kind he has been.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

The Lord is merciful!
He is kind and patient,
and his love never fails.
How great is God's love for all
who worship him?
Greater than the distance
between heaven and earth!

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

See Matthew 17:5

R. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
This is my beloved Son, hear him.

R. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL

This is my beloved Son.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him
and went up on a high mountain,
where they could be alone.
There in front of the disciples,
Jesus was completely changed.
And his clothes became much whiter
than any bleach on earth could make them.
Then Moses and Elijah were there talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, "Teacher, it is good for us to be here!
Let us make three shelters,
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."
But Peter and the others were terribly frightened,
and he did not know what he was talking about.

The shadow of a cloud passed over and covered them.
From the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, and I love him.
Listen to what he says!"
At once the disciples looked around,
but they saw only Jesus.

As Jesus and his disciples were coming down the mountain,
he told them not to say a word about what they had seen,
until the Son of Man had been raised from death.
So they kept it to themselves.
But they wondered what he meant by the words "raised from death."

The gospel of the Lord.

Then write the word, BLESSING. Tell stories about the blessings that have come to you, your family or friends, because you believed in each other, you trusted each other, i.e. Winning a sports game, special gifts, good health, surprise trips or visits. Point out what a blessing it is to know you did the right thing, the good deed, to feel good about being you. This is the best blessing of following Jesus. How much better can it get!!?? Have the children share how they felt when they did the right, the good thing? How do they know they are loved?

When we bless something, we mark it as a holy, special, object or person. An object or person that helps us remember God is with us. On page 2, draw a picture (or write the words) of your special blessings.

Finally, have the children form a circle for prayer. Recall that last week they blessed each other with the sign of the cross. In this Sunday's Transfiguration story Jesus hears God say: "This is My Beloved Son." Either hold hands and pray for special blessings we need or have received—good parents, teachers, friends, health, home, etc; Or mark each other's forehead with the sign of the cross and say: Remember, you are God's child and you are loved.