

DIPPING INTO THE CATECHISM

From the Compendium to the Catechism: 108 – 113

WHY DID JESUS MANIFEST THE KINGDOM BY MEANS OF SIGNS AND MIRACLES?

Jesus accompanied his words with signs and miracles to bear witness to the fact that the Kingdom is present in him, the Messiah. Although he healed some people, he did not come to abolish all evils here below but rather to free us especially from the slavery of sin. The driving out of demons proclaimed that His cross would be victorious over “the ruler of this world” (John 12:31).

IN THE KINGDOM, WHAT AUTHORITY DID JESUS BESTOW UPON HIS APOSTLES?

Jesus chose the twelve, the future witnesses of His Resurrection, and made them sharers of His mission and of his authority to teach, to absolve from sins, and to build up and govern the Church. In this college, Peter received “the keys of the Kingdom” (Matthew 16:19) and assumed the first place with the mission to keep the faith in its integrity and to strengthen his brothers.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE TRANSFIGURATION?

Above all the Transfiguration shows forth the Trinity: “the Father in the voice, the Son in the man Jesus, the Spirit in the shining cloud” (Saint Thomas Aquinas). Speaking with Moses and Elijah about his “departure” (Luke 9:31), Jesus reveals that His glory comes by way of the cross and He anticipates His resurrection and His glorious coming “which will change our lowly body to be like His glorious body” (Phil 3:21).

“You were transfigured on the mountain and your disciples, as much as they were capable of it, beheld your glory, O Christ our God, so that when they should see you crucified they would understand that your passion was voluntary, and proclaim to the world that you truly are the splendour of the Father.” *From the Byzantine Liturgy.*

The Transfiguration



by Carl Bloch

HOW DID THE ENTRANCE OF JESUS THE MESSIAH INTO JERUSALEM COME ABOUT?

At the established time Jesus chose to go up to Jerusalem to suffer His passion and death and to rise from the dead. As the Messiah King who shows forth the coming of the Kingdom, he entered into His city mounted on a donkey. He was acclaimed by the little children whose shout of joyful praise is taken up in the Sanctus of the Eucharistic liturgy: “blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna (save us!)” (Matthew 21:9). The liturgy of the Church opens Holy Week by celebrating this entry into Jerusalem (on Palm Sunday).



“Sanctus” means “Holy” or “blessed”.

WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PASCHAL MYSTERY OF JESUS?

The Paschal Mystery of Jesus, which comprises His passion, death and resurrection and glorification, stands at the centre of the Christian faith because God’s saving plan was accomplished once for all by the redemptive death of His Son Jesus Christ.

WHAT WERE THE ACCUSATIONS BY WHICH JESUS WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH?

Some of the leaders of Israel accused Jesus of acting against the law, the temple in Jerusalem, and in particular against faith in the one God because He proclaimed Himself to be the Son of God. For this reason, they handed Him over to Pilate so that He might condemn Him to death.

(The Roman Emperor Tiberius had appointed Pontius Pilate to be the governor of the province of Judea, where they lived, and he served as such for about 10 years: from about 26 AD to 36 AD. Judea had been invaded by the Romans and they ruled it as a Province of Rome at that time.)

It is essential that every Catholic has access to good Catechesis to be able to deepen their faith. The Diocese of Plymouth recommends the many Catechetical Workshops from 'Franciscan at Home,' for more information on access to these and online or real group sessions contact deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk Department of Evangelisation and Catechesis.