

The Mountaintop: Our Fuel not our Mission A Gospel Reflection from Brian Wigger

When was the last time you said the word "*Transfiguration*"? It is certainly not a word frequently heard at the barber shop, beauty salon, grocery store, bank or gas station.

"*Transfiguration*" is a "churchy" word that we generally trot out once a year and then it goes away for another 51 Sundays. This weekend we hear the word *Transfiguration*. While we can certainly call this event a miracle, it is unique among others that appear in the gospels in that it happens to Jesus rather than something he is doing for others.

As Christians, we are responsible for placing ourselves in situations that will help us see the divine in life. Moments like: The beauty of all four seasons, the satisfaction that you might feel when you know that you have done something kind for somebody else, and the birth of a baby into our lives. In moments like these, we can see God clearly, and we understand Jesus' love dynamically.

As the saying goes, a boat is safest when it is docked in the harbor, but that is not what boats are made for. Jesus could have stayed on the mountaintop, but that's not what He was sent for. Life on the mountaintop is safe, and we DO need these moments, but that is not what our Christian vocation is. Mountaintops are to fuel our mission, not become our mission. Our Mission is to spread the Gospel of Christ in word and deed and to be engaged in the world, in lives, in love, and in service.

The Transfiguration can easily be seen daily at St. Stephen Parish all 52 weeks.