

The Spirit of Truth bears witness to Christ.

Jesus knew that his Apostles would not understand what would soon be required of him as Messiah. The choices that he would make during the coming days of his Passion would shatter their hopes. So Jesus traveled to a high mountain with three of his Apostles—Peter, James, and John. And there he gave them a glimpse of his divinity. They were suddenly present with Moses and Elijah. And in a brief moment Jesus’ “face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light... 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 17:2, 5).

In this transfiguration the Blessed Trinity was again revealed—“the Father in the voice; the Son in the man; the Spirit in the shining cloud” (CCC, 555). And as the Father spoke to the Son in the presence of the Holy Spirit, Jesus’ followers were given a taste of the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God!

As the final events in Jesus’ life were about to unfold he gathered his disciples together for the

Last Supper, their last meal with him. He called them to be joined to him—in union with him—as branches are joined to a vine. He gave himself to them in the bread and wine they shared. And he promised them, “When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth

that proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me” (John 15:26). So Jesus promises the Holy Spirit to all of his disciples, knowing that “the Spirit will teach us everything,

remind us of all that Christ said to us and bear witness to him” (CCC, 729).

“The Spirit will teach us everything.”

(CCC, 729)

Activity What if you could interview James, John, and Peter about what took place on the mountain during the transfiguration of Jesus. Write three questions that you would like to ask them. Exchange your questions with others in your class.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



Raphael (c. 1483-1520) The Transfiguration