# “Jesus’ Revelation of Final Exodus for Humanity”

Last week, we reflected on, how Jesus reversed in forty days and forty nights, the lack of trust, the disobedience, and unfaithfulness to God, by the Israelites. This week, our reflection is on the mission of Jesus for the salvation for all.

In our first reading, God made two promises to Abraham. The first promise is, Abraham would be the father of many descendants that would be as numerous as the stars. The second promise is that Abraham would inherit the land of the Chaldeans. God then sealed His promise to Abraham by walking between the split animals in the symbol of a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch. Then God made a covenant with Abraham that his descendants would inherit the land.

To many people without faith in God, all these promises would sound like pie in the sky! But Abraham had faith in God and he was rewarded for his faith. We know in our time, that God has fulfilled all His promises He made to Abraham.

The tiny State of Israel exists amidst many enemy Countries who would like to exterminate her. But we know that God is in control and He would not allow that to happen. My brothers and sisters, God keeps His promises when we are faithful to Him. He will never abandon us when we set our hope on Him and keep His commandments.

To fulfill the first promise God made to Abraham, God has made all Christians who obey His commandments the fulfillment of the first promise He made to Abraham. Through our baptism into Christ, sisters and brothers in Christ, we have become the numerous descendant of Abraham. Because by baptism, we have been buried with Christ and we have a new life with Christ, like Abraham, through our faith in the power of God.

We must live our lives by the obedience of faith, which shows itself in works of charity and self-giving. That is what we do at St Francis six days a week in the dining Hall where we minster to the poor and hungry as Christ would want us to minster to them.

As we journey with our Lord on His way to Jerusalem for His exodus, in today’s Gospel, we encounter Jesus allowing three of His apostles, to experience a taste of heaven on earth. The Exodus of Jesus is to bring all people to Himself and free us from the shackles of the devil who is intent on destroying us along with himself and his demons.

Jesus by His death and resurrection wants to liberate all humankind, Jews and Gentiles from the bondage of sin and death. He wants to lead us not to the land promised to Abraham, but to the heavenly kingdom where there will be no more sorrow, pain, weeping but everlasting joy prepared for us by His Father.

Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain to strengthen their faith in Him. He knew their faith would be shaken when they would see their Master, the Son of God, treated and crucified like a common thief. He wanted them to know that His Passion would lead to glory of His Resurrection. As Paul said in our Second reading, it is to manifest to the apostles what our mortal bodies at our resurrection would look like in conformity with His glorified body.

The transfiguration, was a time again for the manifestation of the Trinity. Similar to what happened at His baptism. The voice of His Father was heard, saying, **“Listen to Him.”** The Holy Spirit this time, was seen not in the form of a Dove, but in the form of the cloud similar to His manifestation during the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. It was an occasion of the manifestation of the Trinity.

Jesus wanted the apostles to understand that He is the fulfillment of the Law as represented by Moses the giver of God’s law. Also, present at the transfiguration was Elijah who was taken into heaven after his earthly life. Jesus wanted the three apostles to know that He is the fulfillment of all prophesies prophesied by the all the Prophets. Elijah represented all the Prophets. Both Moses and Elijah were the only figures in the Hebrew Scripture who heard the voice and saw the glory of God on the same Mount Sinai during their ministry on earth.

As we come to receive Him in the Eucharist, let us ask Him for more faith in God.