

Vox Populi

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The Transfiguration of Jesus is one of the key events of the Gospels.

Jesus, accompanied by Peter, James and John, go to a mountain to pray and while there, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the Old Testament figures Moses (representing the law) and Elijah (representing the prophets) appear, and Jesus speaks with them, revealing himself in Glory.

Saint Thomas Aquinas considered it the “greatest miracle” of Christ’s life, complementing His baptism and showing the perfection of life in Heaven.

Liturgically, the Church celebrates this Feast on August 6. It’s a fitting time of the year, between Easter and Christmas. It foreshadows the light of the Resurrection and reveals the Paschal journey.

Pope Leo XIV said through the Resurrection, Christ comes to Redeem, and to transfigure the wounds of history and reveal God’s gift of salvation.

“[The Transfiguration] foreshadows the light of Easter: an event of death and resurrection, of darkness and new light that Christ radiates on all bodies scourged by violence, crucified by pain, or abandoned in misery,” he said.

“Indeed, while evil reduces our flesh to a commodity or an anonymous mass, this same flesh shines with the glory of God. The Redeemer thus transfigures the wounds of history, enlightening our minds and hearts: his revelation is a gift of salvation! Does this captivate us? Do we see the true face of God with a gaze of wonder and love?”

This year, Pope Leo XIV will visit the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli in Assisi to celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Transfiguration