

2nd Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2010
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These readings took me where I never expected. The stars spoke to me as I reflected.

The first reading said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars if you can. Just so shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the Lord. How many times have I looked at the stars? Do they make me feel insignificant, overwhelmed, in awe, calm, or peaceful before God? What does God say to me in that moment? Am I called to look higher ... to look beyond my life, my daily temptations and difficulties, to see what God is saying to me, calling me to? Am I being invited to a higher calling in God? What is my response to God? Is it a life-changing exchange, like it was for Abram, or an encouraging exchange that I am not alone? God saying, "I am always with you."

I need to let God speak to me through the stars. As the Responsorial Psalm tells us, "The Lord is my light, whom should I fear?" The Second Reading says, "Our citizenship is in heaven." Let the stars remind me of these truths.

In the Gospel, "Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up the mountain to pray." Was this to have a better view of the stars, to connect with God? There "they saw Jesus' glory" and Peter said, "It is good that we are here." While Peter was speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them. Covering the stars? They became frightened in the cloud, but God's voice (the light/star within) said, "This is my chosen Son, listen to Him." Then the cloud lifted and they found Jesus. "They were silent and didn't tell anyone what they had seen."

Let the stars do that for us. May we hear God's voice (even on cloudy nights and dark moments), take it in and let it transform our hearts, our lives and all those we touch. We won't have to tell anyone, either, if we just let God transform our hearts.

Stars /God are still there with the clouds. What do the stars hold for us? What promise does God have for us (like Abram) in the stars?

For helps in reading the night sky, go to:
www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/ataglance)