

In watching the Olympics it is interesting how often the camera fixes on the faces of the athletes and coaches or family members in the audience. We can see the thrill of victory as well as the agony of defeat. We are privy to expressions of exuberance and joy as well as frustration and pain. In some situations it is easy to read what is taking place within the person.

In our Gospel, Luke relates “while Jesus was praying, his face changed in appearance.” Jesus is connected and conversing with God. He is in communion with his Abba, Daddy. Something powerful and deep is occurring within him.

Our experiences, feelings and emotions are expressed upon our faces. We can readily observe when two persons are deep in thought and conversation. People in love radiate a glow. People seriously ill have a gray, dull color. There is little sparkle in their eyes. People lost or confused have a puzzled look. People of determination may have their lower jaw sticking out as they grit their teeth. People who are laughing, smiling and happy are transparent; sometimes infectious..... so we laugh, smile and become happy along with them.

We may not be able to be aware of our face as we go about daily living. However, this week pay attention to one another’s faces. Notice the beauty, goodness and attractiveness of each person. Be aware and respectful of whatever the person with whom we come in contact or perceive is experiencing. Whatever is transpiring within each person, God is present. God is working a wonder. God’s glory is seeking room within the person as well as within us.

My sisters and brothers, “the glory of God is the human person fully alive.” Let’s allow God’s glory to manifest itself in us, especially in the face we show to one another.