

## *Background to scripture readings in February 2016*

### **Sunday February 7**

#### **Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14**

An apocalyptic vision of hope and consolation—the fate of the faithful is in God's hands and God can be trusted to keep his people safe

#### **2 Peter 1:16-21**

St. Peter, an eyewitness to Jesus' ministry, death and resurrection, gives the Church a sound foundation for faith. As Jesus appeared at his transfiguration in glory, so he will again when he comes a second time.

#### **Luke 9:28-36,(37-43a)**

Jesus' transfiguration begins with prayer and grows into a profound religious experience. Jesus talks with Moses the lawgiver and Elijah the prophet. In Luke 9:51 he will begin his journey to Jerusalem and the events of what we now call Holy Week..

### **Sunday February 14**

#### **Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

In Exodus, the Israelites are to offer the best fruits of the harvest to God. In Deuteronomy, the offering is also in thanks for deliverance from Egypt.

#### **Romans 10:8b-13**

The Israelites sought a right relationship with God by trying to keep the Law, but no one can be completely obedient to the Law. We have the opportunity to achieve a right relationship through faithfully responding to God's love offered in Jesus.

#### **Luke 4:1-13**

Jesus was tempted to deviate from his divine mission as the devil tests him in the hope that he will decide to meet his own needs and seek political power.

## February 21

### **Genesis 15:1-12,17-18**

Abram is promised an heir and many descendants and God promises the Promised Land to them. In both incidents Abram comes in contact with the Lord in visions.

### **Philippians 3:17-4:1**

At a time when he is in prison, St. Paul offers himself as an example of centering oneself in Christ, in his sufferings, even though St. Paul does not understand Christ completely

### **Luke 13:31-35**

Warned that his life is in danger, Jesus says that he still has much to do in his earthly ministry, but the time will shortly come when his work will be complete. He has tried to bring the people to him but they have not listened to the good news. He mentions the event we call Palm Sunday.

## February 28

**Isaiah 55:1-9** In a hymn of joy and triumph, the prophet celebrates Israel's pending restoration, and invites all people to share in the abundant life of the people of God.

**1 Corinthians 10:1-13** St. Paul warns us about overconfidence. Even those who have been called by God can be condemned for behaviour unbecoming a Christian!

**Luke 13:1-9** Jesus challenges his listeners to renounce sinful ways, to turn to God, and to live a life worthy of God's chosen people.