



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

## Fr. Danny Murphy – TRANSFIGURATION 2017

This morning we're going to reflect on a sentence from our Gospel where God our Father, speaking about Jesus, tells us, "Listen to Him." As far as I know, this is the only place in the New Testament where God our Father tells us to do something. What he tells us to do, is to listen to Jesus! And, as far as I know, the only place in the New Testament where Mary tells us to do something is at the Wedding Feast at Cana, when speaking about Jesus, she tells us: "Do whatever he tells you!" So, we should listen to Jesus: closely, carefully, frequently. What I am about to say, hopefully, will help us to listen to Jesus, closely, carefully, frequently. Now, I admit that I am getting so old I can remember when the Dead Sea was only SICK! BUT, having admitted that, knowing that what I am about to say might seem to be from a bygone age, an earlier era; not in touch with the contemporary society in

which we all live. Acknowledging all that, I am very concerned that we might be in danger of losing our interior life. Without an interior life, you really can't listen to Jesus. Without an interior life, it's all appearances, it's all on the outside. There's a hole, a vacuum on the inside. You may have heard the expression: "Don't just stand there, do something!!" Maybe a more helpful expression would be: "Don't just do something, stand there!!" maybe we need to slow down our doing, doing, doing. Maybe we need to slow down our going, going, going. Maybe we need to go deep within. The scriptures tell us: "Be still and know that I am God!" You might want to ask yourself, in the course of a typical day, how much of that day are you still? If we are in constant motion, if we are in constant contact, the various social media, listening to music, watching television, reading, so often on our phones: making calls, taking calls, texting, googling, sending and receiving emails, checking messages. If we're almost always engaged in something, could it be the reason why we're so doing, going, engaged with something or another, because I'm uncomfortable with silence, I'm uncomfortable with solitude, I'm uncomfortable with going within. Maybe it all comes down to the first commandment: "I am the Lord your God, you shall not have strange gods before you." I am a jealous God. Maybe God doesn't like competing for our undivided attention. Listen to him. You might not hear voices, but I am convinced that he does talk to you. But you have to listen to him, closely, carefully frequently.