

## *A Coffee with Alessio*



### Lent Part III- "Lord it is good to be here."

Well, just as in television series, we need to wait till the following week to see who the "murderer" was, who broke up whom, or who the new girlfriend in town is, my column today picks up where I finished last week. Last week I wrote about how music during Lent needs to be different from the rest of the year, and how I have adopted that approach in my coffees. I always use my coffee time as a way of just switching off from the world. If I am on my own I will read the paper. (Remember, I told you in my first column how an effective liturgical musician needs to be informed of what is going on in the world.) If I am with a friend that is a good social opportunity and therefore I never check emails or send text messages if I am in someone else's company.

Well, anyhow, just as it is good to be in a café, having personal "down time" or with a friend catching up on some juicy gossip about who did what, or who is dating whom for the first time, in this Sunday's Gospel reading for the Second Sunday of Lent, we hear the Transfiguration story. The most important line in that Gospel reading is when Peter says to Jesus: "Master, it is good to be here." The same must be for us, that whatever week we have had, whoever has hurt us, or whoever we misunderstood or hurt, it is always good to be at Mass and in the presence of the Lord. Our music must let that motto shine through.

In last week's column I explained how it is an effective practice during Lent to go out on a low and end the Mass with silence. So today on your pew sheet or your PowerPoint presentation for the Recessional slide you can put the following:

“The ministers of the liturgy depart in silence as we continue our Lenten journey with the Transfigured Christ. Just as it is good for us to have been here today, it will be good for us now, to take the Transfigured Christ to our brothers and sisters in the world.”

Let your coffee this week, be an opportunity to bring Christ to someone in the world. Enjoy your coffee!

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