Daily Homily Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time, Wednesday 28 July 2021 <u>USCCB Daily Readings</u>

The first reading from Exodus is dedicated to Moses' face.

When he came out of prayer his face was changed. It was radiant. It made him socially awkward. The others noticed and were afraid of him. So Moses had to cover his face up. He had to put a veil over it.

This isn't the only time in scripture where this occurs. Jesus was on the Mount of Transfiguration and as he stood speaking with Moses and Elijah – he was dazzling white. This made his apostles, Peter, James, and John, afraid.

The Gospels make special mention about Jesus' veil that covered his face when he is placed in the tomb. When the Apostles go into the tomb to find it empty, the cloth that covered Jesus' face is rolled up in a separate place. It means, the veil is removed, that Jesus is speaking with His Father face to face. When he is seen by the others, he isn't recognizable at first.

All of this means that coming before God changes us. Being in prayer changes us. Each time we pray we are made different. Maybe not in ways noticeable all at once, but in subtle ways, bit by bit. The saints would say that our humanity becomes more divine and we become more like God.

From this prayer, from this Eucharist let us radiate the presence of God from our faces and from our lives to a world in need.