

POST EASTER SEASON

St. Peter's Catholic Parish of Pambula
79 Main Street, Merimbula NSW 2548
Ph: 64951880; Email: pambula@cg.org.au

Third Sunday of Easter April 26th, 2020

Acts 2:14, 22-33/Psalms 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/1 Peter 1:17-21/Luke 24:13-35



Hearts uplifted

"Your faith and hope, then, are centered in God." —1 Peter 1:21

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus said they "were hoping" that Jesus would redeem Israel. The two disciples lost hope when Jesus was crucified. Likewise, we may be struggling to hold on to hope. We may feel that we have toiled in vain, and for nothing, our strength spent on our families, evangelization, work, or life in general (Is 49:4). We know that the Lord has promised that our "hope will not leave us disappointed," but we feel disappointed anyway.

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus found their lost hope when their hearts were burning as Jesus interpreted the Scriptures for them and when they recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, which probably refers to the Eucharist. Our hope is in Jesus teaching us His Word and giving us His Body and Blood.

However, we will not accept the power of the risen Christ to transform our lives until we yield to and receive the Holy Spirit in a new Pentecost. For example, Peter met the risen Christ several times, heard His words of life for years, and was even at the Last Supper. However, Peter put hope in Christ permanently when the Holy Spirit transformed Him at Pentecost. By the Holy Spirit, we put our hope in Christ to the glory of the Father.

I have met many people who found this story really helped at times when they were down, when there were disappointments in life, when they encountered illness and many of the crosses of life. They believed in him after he had vanished, having broken bread with them. He had accompanied them in a dark journey of life.

Jesus went to them – he did not await their visit. Somehow he knew that people of his 'set' were in darkness and maybe despair. This is the call of the church – to be with us in prayer, community and service always, and especially for what Pope Francis calls '*the peripheries of life*'. Most of us spend some time there, and appreciate the help of love and faith.

Then they went to tell the story of how they were changed. Faith grows through sharing it. A father said, 'At my child's first communion, my faith became stronger'.

Jesus meets us on our Emmaus Road. The risen Lord meets us on the road to our Emmaus, both in the ordinary experiences of our lives, and in the places to which we retreat when life is too much for us. We too, have hopes and dreams about better health, healing, financial security and better family relationships. These often shatter. The story promises us, however, that Jesus will come to us in unfamiliar guises to support and strengthen us when we least expect the risen Lord. Emmaus moments come to us when we meet the risen Christ on our life's journey through rough times.

WEEKDAY READINGS

Monday of the Third Week of Easter
Acts 6:8-15/Psalms 199:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/John 6:22-29

Tuesday: Memorial of St Peter Chanel, priest, martyr
Acts 7:51--8:1A/Psalms 31:3CD-4, 6 and 7B and 8A, 17 and 21AB/John 6:30-35

Wednesday: Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the Church
Acts 8:1B-8/Psalms 66:1-3A, 4-5, 6-7/John 6:35-40

Thursday of the Third Week of Easter
Acts 8:26-40/Psalms 8-9, 16-17, 20/John 6:44-51

Friday of the Third Week of Easter (First Friday of the Month)
Acts 9, 1 – 20/John 6, 52 – 59

Saturday: Memorial of St Athanasius, bishop, doctor
Acts 9, 31 – 42/John 6, 60 – 69

MARIAN PROCESSION - COBARGO 3pm Sunday 3rd May

Our annual Marian Procession at Cobargo in the month of May (next Sunday 3rd) will not take place this year due to the COVID 19 pandemic. However, will pray together with other parishes from home online and our parish will have the opportunity to lead a decade. I invite and encourage you to join us all in this very special prayer devotion to our Blessed Mother Mary and patron, Mary help of Christians. You will receive a link soon to join in praying the rosary next Sunday at 3pm.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2020

WE CAN STILL PRAY FOR THESE PEOPLE ACROSS OUR WORLD
'Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things, with great love' (Saint Teresa of Calcutta)

Through your generosity during Project Compassion in 2020, you are empowering communities with hope and helping those in need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Mindful of all the needs here locally in our own community perhaps we can give 'something small with great love'. 'We have all known the long loneliness, and we have found that the answer is community'. (Dorothy Day)
<https://lent.caritas.org.au>

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

3 o'clock prayer - the hour of great mercy

Jesus said: **Call upon my mercy on behalf of sinners; I desire their salvation. When you say this prayer, with a contrite heart and with faith on behalf of some sinner, I will give that person the grace of conversion.**

Let us pray: O Blood and Water which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a Fount of Mercy for us, I trust in you. Jesus, I trust in You.

THE SICK

As we journey with our Risen Lord through this difficult time let us remember in our prayers our family, parishioners and all those who are sick. May the mercy and healing power of God touch and give them strength and heal them.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for the recently deceased in our parish community. Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of Lyn Matthews' mother and Mary Roberson.

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Margarita Adecer, Manong Lapinig, Pedro Lapinig, Ruth Tarn Pike, Elwood Zimmerman, Heather Grimmett, Alona Oppus, Cornella (Malaque) Galleros, Rosario Malague.

*May all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.*

Just a Note to those parishioners who may be in the process of rebuilding their homes following the recent bushfires, Blue Ridge Hardwoods, Eden are still selling timber to the public.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A Readings

First Reading

Acts 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize.' (R.)

2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the Lord ever in my sight:

since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)

4. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence,

at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Pt 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:

make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.



The Easter mystagogical instruction continues. Today we reflect on life as a journey. This theme expresses well the fact that life is not static, but is a movement from one point to another. Actually, we do not so much make the journey as we join one that is already in progress. Nor are we alone on it. We have companions who share their encouragement and support, their talents and insight. Like the two disciples travelling to Emmaus, we have certain expectations which Jesus does not seem to fulfil. They did not realise that through his death he had accomplished everything. They did not realise that the Risen Lord himself was their travelling companion.

As with them, so with us. We may not see the extraordinary in the ordinary. We may not see the hand of God in our lives. Perhaps we need someone to interpret for us both the tradition and the events of life. Despite appearances, something is happening beneath what we are able to observe. God is at work beneath and within our lives. Once we realise who this unique travelling companion really is, our hearts too will burn within us, our eyes too will be opened, and we too will look at life with the assurance of faith. Easter faith will transform our disillusionment into missionary zeal. Some of us may be called upon to give public witness, as did Peter. Most will preach with the example of our lives. All can enter this mystery as we recognise him in the breaking of the bread.

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The two disciples did not recognise Jesus. But as they walked and talked with him, and listened to him explain the events of the Crucifixion in light of the Scriptures, their hearts began to burn within them.

Has your heart ever burned within you as you recalled something you said or did? What happened?

This story has four parts: they meet; they share stories and listen; they break bread; and they part, knowing they will see one another again. Does this sound like what you often do with your friends? How is it similar?

Do these four movements sound like the Mass? Where is the similarity?

THANK YOU

There is no doubt that we have all faced some challenging times in the past months, but your kindness and solidarity has made such a difference to the lives of our brothers and sisters. **THANKYOU ALL** for your prayers and your continued support. We will get through this together, so stay strong and stay blessed.

Jesus is always with us

3rd Sunday of Easter, Year A

Life is like being on a journey of faith, but sometimes we encounter obstacles along the way. What are some of the toughest obstacles on your path of life?

How does Jesus help you and guide you along that path?

Jesus is always with us, even when we don't realize he is there. Where or when can we recognize Jesus in our everyday life?

Colour the shapes that contain a white dot in red. Colour the remaining shapes in colours that you find in a loaf of bread.

Lk 24:13-35 © Creative Ministry Resources 2005

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

They knew it was Jesus when he broke bread

Lk 24:13-35

S S H O U S E T H R E E P E
 U V T L B Z B D S T Q H D A
 H H J X E B O S U F F E R T
 Q V C X H Y R B R E A D S X
 F Y E C I U L P P D E T C D
 N P V K S O L Z Z J M Z R C
 I T V D A N G E L S M C I H
 D I S A P P E A R G A W P B
 P P A A D L J F P G U L T T
 B F C B R F W P O U S T U N
 Z T B H Y I E W H E G U R A
 Q Q J L B M K X A H C M E H
 J E R U S A L E M C R N S T
 X R N N C L E O P A S Z S D
 D E K P N Q F M E S S I A H

Try to find these words:

- angels
- bread
- Cleopas
- disappear
- eat
- Emmaus
- house
- Jerusalem
- Messiah
- Scriptures
- suffer
- three

3rd Sunday of Easter - Year A (NOVEMBER 2005, 502-1)

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Jesus is always with us, even when we don't realize he is there. Where or when can we recognize Jesus in our everyday life?

OUR LADY PRAYS

THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY
 DICTATED BY JESUS TO ST. FAUSTINA, SEPT. 14TH, 1935

BEGIN WITH THE SIGN OF THE CROSS
 In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OUR FATHER x1
 Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

HAIL MARY x1
 Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED x1
 I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ON EACH OF THE 5 'OUR FATHER BEADS' SAY THE FOLLOWING PRAYER: →
 Eternal Father I Offer you The Body And Blood, Soul And Divinity Of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, In Atonement For Our Sins And Those Of The Whole World.

ON EACH OF THE 50 'HAIL MARY BEADS' SAY THE FOLLOWING PRAYER: →
 For The Sake Of His Sorrowful Passion, Have Mercy On Us And On The Whole World.

FINAL PRAYER (REPEAT X3)
 Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, Have Mercy On Us And On The Whole World.

Jesus I Trust In You!

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