

FOR THE WEEKEND OF APR. 18-19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading

Lk 24:13-35

Now that very day two of them were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus,

and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.

And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,

but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.

He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast.

One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?"

And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,

how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him.

But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place.

Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning

and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive.

Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see."

And he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!

Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther.

But they urged him, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning [within us] while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?”

So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them

who were saying, “The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”

Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Intercession

May we draw closer to Our Lord through the Holy Eucharist, and may we, through support of the Catholic Ministry Appeal, help others grow their relationship with God.

Copy for Bulletin Announcement

We can relate to what the disciples are feeling at the beginning of today’s Gospel. They are feeling lost and defeated. They gave up everything to follow Jesus, and what did this get them? A long and dusty walk back to their old lives. Feelings of dejection and hopelessness are part of the human condition. But so are feelings of joy and promise. When the disciples first meet Jesus on the road, they do not recognize him. Then their eyes are opened when Jesus joins them for

dinner, breaking and blessing the bread as he did during the Last Supper. Despair gives way to hope, their faith is renewed, and, with it, the strength to return to Jerusalem.

Just as Jesus walked alongside the disciples, he accompanies us as well – through Scripture reading and prayer that calms our fears, through friends who bring us meals when our parents die, through our spouses who hug us at the end of a difficult day, even through the quiet of a sunrise that fills us with optimism. When we recognize him, our lives are transformed. And like those disciples, we are called to return with joy and witness to his presence among us.

As a Church, we are invited to be companions for others on their journeys – to walk with them, to listen, to break bread, and to reveal Christ through our love and action. One way we do this is through our support of the Catholic Ministry Appeal, which strengthens ministries that open hearts and bring Christ’s presence to those in need. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the Appeal.

Copy for Pulpit Announcement

“Stay with us,” the disciples urge Jesus. They invite him to share their evening meal, and he accepts. Our Lord always wants to spend time with us. But he isn’t overbearing or demanding, pushing his way into our lives. He is patient and gentle, waiting for us to welcome him into our lives and hearts.

One of the most powerful ways we can meet Christ is through the Eucharist. The same Jesus who broke bread in Emmaus is present on our altar. Spending time with Jesus through the Holy Eucharist nourishes us. His Body and Blood heals what afflicts our spirits and brings a peace that we so want but what the world cannot provide. Christ’s presence in the Eucharist gives us strength to live his commandments and reminds us that our mission as disciples begins at the altar. We are called to bring the love we receive in the Eucharist to the world around us.

Supporting the Catholic Ministry Appeal is one way we do just that. The Appeal funds ministries that share Christ’s presence with those in need: the poor, the sick, the young, and those longing to return to the Church. It allows our diocese to carry the grace of the Eucharist beyond our parish.

Social Media Post/Content

Photo: Loaf of bread broken in half

Header: “He was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.” – Luke 24:35

Copy: Our Lord is present in the Eucharist! We are all the Body of Christ! We can help our brothers and sisters in Christ through support of the Catholic Ministry Appeal.