

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33

1 Pt 1:17-21

Lk 24:13-35

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

GROW: The two disciples had every reason and opportunity to see that it was Jesus walking beside them. They knew that the tomb was empty and the women who had discovered it had relayed what the angel had told them: Jesus was alive. It had only been three days since he had died. Yet, even as he was in their midst, the two disciples' *eyes were prevented from recognizing* it was Jesus. Only when he broke bread with them did they perceive and understand. Jesus walks beside us as well, but perhaps our eyes, like those of the two disciples, are prevented from recognizing him. What clouds our vision? It could be fear, doubt, despair, as on that road to Emmaus. Or maybe it is pride or hardness of heart. Like the early disciples, we must speak to Jesus, and tell him our story. Jesus comes to meet us, and we in turn have an opportunity to encounter him in many ways, most particularly in the breaking of the bread – the Eucharist. No matter how frantic or chaotic our lives may have become, attending Mass serves as an anchor, and a reminder of Jesus' presence with us every day.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

GO: It took them a minute to "get it," but once the disciples recognized Jesus they didn't hesitate. They made a hasty return to Jerusalem to share the news with the other disciples: "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Having encountered Jesus in the breaking of the bread, they felt compelled to share the Good News of his resurrection with others. As Catholics, we can ask the Lord for eyes to see Jesus in our daily lives and especially at Mass. Nourished by the Eucharist, we can share our love for Jesus and our hope in the resurrection with others we encounter. Wherever we are and whatever we do, we can rest assured that Jesus walks alongside us.

PRAY: Pray with the psalmist: "Lord, you will show us the path of life."