



faith FORMATION

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH // VOLUME 1 // ISSUE 32 // APR. 20, 2023

3rd
Sunday
of Easter

In the Beginning...

Martin Smith, Director of Religious Education
msmith@stjudes.net | 616-364-7488

This week's Gospel reading is the road to Emmaus. It's one of my favorite readings. I crossed the Tiber nine years ago (i.e., became Catholic) and this story has struck a chord with me in my journey. God's gift of the Eucharist is such a powerful conduit of His graces. Jesus is truly present - body, blood, soul and divinity - and given to us to consume. If our hearts burn like the hearts of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, that grace will dwell within us as well every time we reverently participate in the breaking of the bread. Through that participation our eyes, like the eyes of the disciples in this week's Gospel, will be opened. We will see things we didn't see before, understand things we didn't understand. And we'll be filled with an overwhelming desire to run down the road and proclaim the good news!

Maybe that's something you don't want right now. That's understandable. I mean, people will think you're slightly crazy running down the road like that. Maybe you don't feel qualified to reach out to people. I don't remember where I heard this, but it rings so true: "God doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the called." One of the ways he does so is through the Eucharist. It's like a spiritual booster shot for us in this fallen world. It's our manna from Heaven to help us through our Exodus.

In this time of [Eucharist revival](#), I invite you to pray to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Seek God's wisdom and counsel in the Eucharist. And don't be afraid if He asks you to do something. You won't regret it!

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Confession

Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM

Thursday: 8:30AM

Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION PREP

SUNDAY APRIL 23, 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Please remember that the class this Sunday is mandatory for all students planning to attend the First Reconciliation Ceremony on Thursday April 27th.

Mr. Allen will review the Sacrament of Reconciliation; instruct the students on what to expect from their time they will spend with Fr. Ayub during their first confession; tour the church & answer any questions they may have.

The class is for students only. The information is very important. Please plan on having your child attend.

THURSDAY APRIL 27, 6:30pm

An inspiring Reconciliation Service with personal confessions has been planned for this evening. At least one parent should be in attendance with their child.

Please have you child dress in their Sunday best clothing. During the upcoming week remind you child that going to reconciliation is an opportunity to talk to God about the times they have messed up, made poor choices, or turned their back on God and his wonderful plans for them. Reconciliation is an opportunity for them to say sorry to God and ask for forgiveness. It is also an opportunity for Father Ayub to share some ideas about how you can do better in the future. Also take time to pray the Act of Contrition as a family.

Together we can make this a memorable evening for your child.

God Bless,
Janet DeBoe

Signs of Grace
"You Are Loved"
(about the Eucharist)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

[Episode 5](#)

[Episode 6](#)

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[Presence for Children](#)

Signs of Grace
"You Are Forgiven"
(about Reconciliation)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

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[Episode 6](#)

[How to Make a Great
Confession](#)

[Forgiven](#)

[Session 1](#)

[Session 2](#)

[Session 3](#)

[Preparing Your Child
for First Confession](#)

[Answering Common Questions
about Confession](#)

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute" (CCC 2221).

Although the parish helps to form our children in the faith, no one can take the place of the parents' role in forming holy individuals. As parents, we should be well equipped to answer questions and to act, not only as the first teachers, but as the first witnesses of faith. This page is intended to help you in the journey as we work together to prepare your children for this special moment in their lives!

SUNDAY LITURGY REFLECTION

By Scott Hahn

Readings:

[Acts 2:14, 22-28](#)

[Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-11](#)

[1 Peter 1:17-21](#)

[Luke 24:13-35](#)

[LISTEN HERE](#)



We should put ourselves in the shoes of the disciples in today's Gospel. Downcast and confused, they're making their way down the road, unable to understand all the things that have occurred.

They know what they've seen—a prophet mighty in word and deed. They know what they were hoping for—that He would be the redeemer of Israel. But they don't know what to make of His violent death at the hands of their rulers.

They can't even recognize Jesus as He draws near to walk with them. He seems like just another foreigner visiting Jerusalem for the Passover.

Note that Jesus doesn't disclose His identity until they describe how they found His tomb empty but "Him they did not see." That's how it is with us, too. Unless He revealed Himself, we would see only an empty tomb and a meaningless death.

How does Jesus make Himself known at Emmaus? First, He interprets "all the Scriptures" as referring to Him. In today's First Reading and Epistle, Peter also opens the Scriptures to proclaim the meaning of Christ's death according to the Father's "set plan"—foreknown before the foundation of the world.

Jesus is described as a new Moses and a new Passover lamb. He is the one of whom David sang in today's Psalm, whose soul was not abandoned to corruption but was shown the path of life.

After opening the Scriptures, Jesus at table took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples—exactly what He did at the Last Supper (see Luke 22:14-20).

In every Eucharist, we reenact that Easter Sunday at Emmaus. Jesus reveals Himself to us in our journey. He speaks to our hearts in the Scriptures. Then at the table of the altar, in the person of the priest, He breaks the bread.

The disciples begged Him, "Stay with us." So He does. Though He has vanished from our sight, in the Eucharist—as at Emmaus—we know Him in the breaking of the bread.

Source: [St. Paul Center](#)

"That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles* from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

LUKE 24:13-18

The Gospel at Home

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Gospel Reading:

Luke 24:13-35

Jesus appears to two disciples who are walking to Emmaus.

Background on the Gospel Reading

On most Sundays during the Easter season in Cycle A, our Gospel is taken from the Gospel of John. This week's Gospel, however, is taken from the Gospel of Luke. As in last week's Gospel, today's Gospel shows us how the first community of disciples came to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In these stories we gain insight into how the community of the Church came to be formed.

When we read today's Gospel, we may be surprised to learn that these friends of Jesus could walk and converse with him at some length yet not recognize him. Again we discover that the risen Jesus is not always easily recognized. Cleopas and the other disciple walk with a person whom they believe to be a stranger; only later do they discover that the stranger is Jesus. We learn that the first community met and recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

We can imagine the feelings of the two disciples in today's reading. They are leaving their community in Jerusalem. Their friend Jesus has been crucified. Their hope is gone. They are trying to make sense of what has occurred, so that they can put the experience behind them.

Jesus himself approaches the two men, but they take him for a stranger. Jesus asks them what they are discussing. He invites them to share their experience and interpretation of the events surrounding his crucifixion and death. When the two disciples have done so, Jesus offers his own interpretation of his crucifixion and resurrection, citing Jewish Scripture. In that encounter we find the model for our Liturgy of the Word—what we do each time we gather as a community for the Eucharist. We reflect upon our life experiences and interpret them in light of Scripture. We gather together to break open the Word of God.

In the next part of the story, we find a model for our Liturgy of the Eucharist. The disciples invite the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. During the meal in which they share in the breaking of the bread, the disciples' eyes are opened; they recognize the stranger as Jesus. In the Eucharist too we share in the breaking of the bread and discover Jesus in our midst. Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem to recount their experience to the other disciples, we too are sent from our Eucharistic gathering. Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others.

Family Connection

Families, as the domestic church, have the opportunity to make the family meal a time of prayerful encounter with one another and with Jesus. At a family meal we share our experiences of the day and connect them with the experiences of others in the family. We can also enjoy the meal as an opportunity to reflect upon our family life in light of Scripture. At their best our family meals can connect us to Jesus too.

Choose a family meal this week to share one another's experiences of the week in a special way. Perhaps invite family members to plan and prepare the meal together. Begin the meal by reading today's Gospel, Luke 24:13-35. As you eat, talk together about how the disciples discussed their experiences in Jerusalem and how they came to understand them differently when Jesus interpreted those events in the light of Scripture. Then invite each family member to share the things that are going on in his or her life. Consider what Jesus might say to each person if he were sitting at your dinner table. Conclude with a special prayer after your dinner. Pray a prayer of blessing for each family member, asking that Jesus continue to be present in each person's life, helping each one to be a better follower of Jesus. Conclude with a Sign of Peace.

"When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread."

LUKE 24:30-35

Source: [Loyola Press](#)

Did You Know?

Archaeologists may have discovered Emmaus recently

Archaeologists may have discovered the site of an important event in the life of Christ while uncovering the massive walls of a fortification related to an Old Testament event.

Diggers uncovered 2,200-year-old walls, part of a Hellenistic fortification that may have been built by the Seleucid general who defeated Judah the Maccabee, the famed Jewish leader at the center of the Hanukkah story, Haaretz reported.

The Israeli newspaper said that since 2017, a Franco-Israeli expedition has been digging at Kiriath Yearim, a hill overlooking the approach to Jerusalem a few kilometers west of the city, next door to the town of Abu Ghosh.

“The site is mainly known for being the spot where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years before being taken to Jerusalem by King David, according to the Bible,” the paper said.

Tel Aviv University archaeologist Israel Finkelstein and Thomas Römer, a professor of biblical studies at the College de France suggest that the hill of Kiriath Yearim and the adjacent town of Abu Ghosh should be identified as Emmaus. It played an important role in the history of the Jewish rebellion against the Hellenistic Seleucid Empire, written about in the Book of Maccabees. Judah the Maccabee was defeated and killed in 160 B.C. at the Battle of Elasa by a Seleucid army led by Bacchides, a general dispatched to Judea to quash the rebellion. Bacchides fortified a number of towns surrounding Jerusalem, including Emmaus.

After the Resurrection, it was on the road to Emmaus that Jesus first appeared to two of his disciples. They did not recognize Jesus at first, but once they reached Emmaus and broke bread with him over supper “their eyes were opened and they knew Him,” according to the Gospel.

According to St. Luke, Emmaus was 60 stadia from Jerusalem—about seven miles.

[CONTINUE READING...](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Opportunities to Grow in Faith

Sunday, April 23:

8:30am - Mass

10:30am - Mass with Children's Liturgy

3:00pm - The combined choirs of St. Gerard and St. Jude present: Divine Encounter (Craig Courtney, Composer).

5:30pm - Class for First Communion students. Reconciliation review and tour of the church.

Tuesday, April 25:

7:00pm - Men of Emmaus in the Millennium Conference Room.

Wednesday, April 26:

7:00pm - Reboot with Chris Stefanik. Reboot! is the fun, inspiring and practical experience for all ages (12+) of applying the beauty and genius of the Gospel to every aspect of your life. Chris Stefanick is an internationally acclaimed author, speaker, and television host who has devoted his life to inspiring people to live a bold, contagious faith. [More info here.](#)

Thursday, April 27:

6:30pm - Reconciliation Service for First Communion students.

"Jesus replied,
'The first is
this: 'Hear, O
Israel! The Lord
our God is Lord
alone! You shall
love the Lord
your God with
all your heart,
with all your
soul, with all
your mind, and
with all your
strength.'"

MARK 12:29-30

Confession

Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

Save the Date

Vacation Bible School

SAINT JUDE PARISH

July 24-28

9 am to 12 noon

All Children
age 4 - 5th Grade

join us
in



For more information
or to volunteer
contact Janet DeBoe at
jdeboe@stjudes.net

Reading the Scriptures

In today's Gospel reading two disciples were walking together and thinking sadly about how Jesus had just been tortured and killed. Then Jesus started walking with them- but they didn't recognize Him. He explained to them what the Scriptures had said about Him suffering and dying. He helped them to understand what God's plan had been.



Every time we go to Mass we hear about Jesus in the Gospel reading. But we don't need to wait until Mass to learn about Jesus. You can read the Bible every day. God wants us to know Him better so we can love Him more. And the more we love Him the happier we will be.

Do you have a children's Bible? Maybe your Mom or Dad can read to you from the big Bible a little every morning or night. Reading saint stories also helps us to know God through His friends. Try to read or listen to some of the Bible or the life of a saint every day!



Top- 4, 1 middle- 2, 6 bottom- 3, 5.

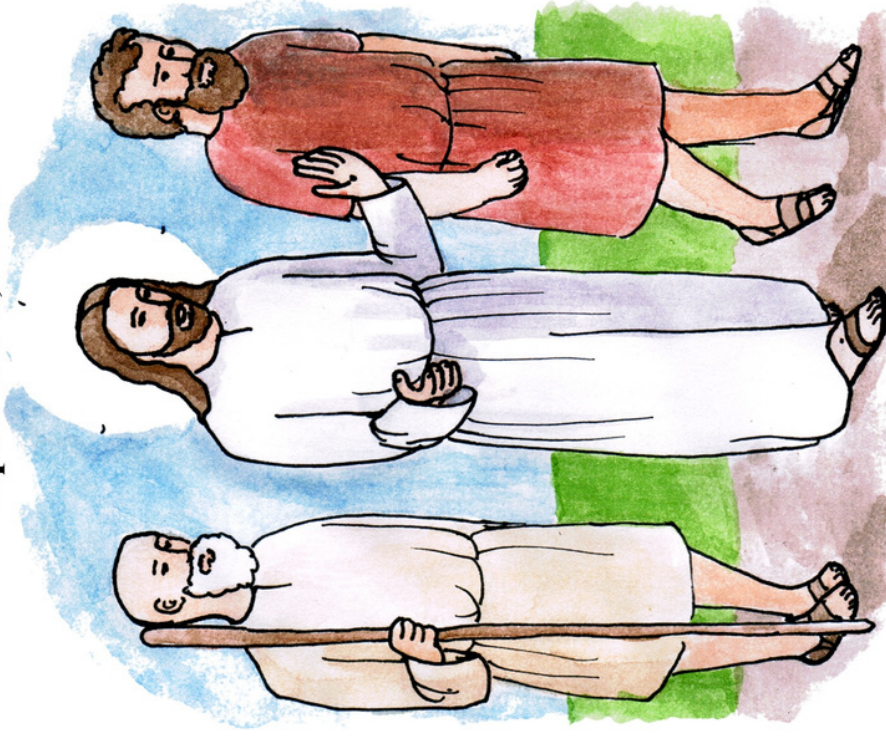
Answer to puzzle on front: In the Breaking of the Bread.

Answer to picture puzzle inside:

The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter

April 23rd, 2023



A B D E F G H I K N O R T

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The disciples on the road to Emmaus didn't recognize Jesus at first. How did they recognize Him eventually?

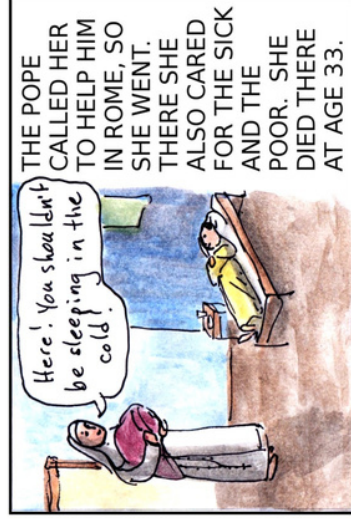
Use the code to find out!

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Saint Catherine of Siena

April 29



CATHERINE ALSO HAD GREAT PHYSICAL SUFFERING. OFTEN SHE LIVED ON ALMOST NO FOOD OTHER THAN HOLY COMMUNION. SHE RECEIVED THE WOUNDS OF CHRIST AND ASKED GOD TO LET HER CARRY THE SINS OF THE WORLD. WE CAN LEARN FROM HER TO PRAY FOR THE HOLY FATHER AND DEFEND HIM.

Picture Puzzle: The Road to Emmaus

How well do you know the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus?

Figure out the order of the pictures and put the appropriate numbers in the corners.

