**FOR THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 22-23, 2023**

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 may glorify God through our Annual Diocesan Appeal and the ministries it supports.

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

Today, Jesus reveals himself to his disciples in the breaking of the bread. We cannot experience him so utterly in any other way than the Eucharist. It makes a sacred union possible: God with man, man with God, one in both soul and body. What a mysterious exchange.

Please support our Annual Diocesan Appeal so that we can share the delightful news that God is here and ready to commune with those who hunger and thirst for him. It is abundantly true that “the harvest is abundant” (Matthew 9:37). When you think about it, it’s shocking how accessible God is through the Eucharist. Tens of thousands of parishes throughout the world offer the most profound, satisfying, intimate experience ever. Our local community’s salvation is counting on us to reach out to help them Please generously join our Appeal. Please help us help him reach them!

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

In today’s Gospel, Jesus reveals himself “through the breaking of the bread” (Luke 24:35). He chose to become the bread of life for us. Please support our Annual Diocesan Appeal so we can reveal Him on our parish altar. He showed us in the Gospel that He wishes to multiply our gifts with his immense power.

**Social media post/content**

Photo: Image of the Eucharist

Header: *“With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him.” – Luke 24:31*

Sub-header: Third Sunday of Easter

Copy: In today’s Gospel story, Jesus reveals himself to them “through the breaking of the bread” (Luke 24:35).

There are hearts in our community that burn to taste his bread. Our Annual Diocesan Appeal is an opportunity for Jesus to make significant inroads. He waits hereto satisfy these hungry souls in our parish! He longs to give himself completely to them in the Eucharistic feast. Through your support of the Appeal, we will reach them*.*