

HE IS (STILL) RISEN!

3RD WEEK OF EASTER

WORD OF THE WEEK LUKE 24: 13-35: THE ROAD TO EMMAUS



This week's Word of the Week is a beautiful story of Jesus walking with His disciples even though they didn't recognise him at first. Take time to read this story this week and as you read think about what this story could be trying to teach you.

On that same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking to each other about all the things that had happened. As they talked and discussed, Jesus himself drew near and walked along with them; they saw him, but somehow did not recognize him. Jesus said to them, "What are you talking about to each other, as you walk along?" They stood still, with sad faces. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who doesn't know the things that have been happening there these last few days?" "What things?" he asked. "The things that happened to Jesus of Nazareth," they answered. "This man was a prophet and was considered by God and by all the people to be powerful in everything he said and did. Our chief priests and rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and he was crucified. And we had hoped that he would be the one who was going to set Israel free! Besides all that, this is now the third day since it happened. Some of the women of our group surprised us; they went at dawn to the tomb, but could not find his body. They came back saying they had seen a vision of angels who told them that he is alive. Some of our group went to the tomb and found it exactly as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then Jesus said to them, "How foolish you are, how slow you are to believe everything the prophets said! Was it not necessary for the Messiah to suffer these things and then to enter his glory?" And Jesus explained to them what was said about himself in all the Scriptures, beginning with the books of Moses and the writings of all the prophets. As they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther; but they held him back, saying, "Stay with us; the day is almost over and it is getting dark." So he went in to stay with them. He sat down to eat with them, took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke the bread and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, "Wasn't it like a fire burning in us when he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" They got up at once and went back to Jerusalem, where they found the eleven disciples gathered together with the others and saying, "The Lord is risen indeed! He has appeared to Simon!" The two then explained to them what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized the Lord when he broke the bread.



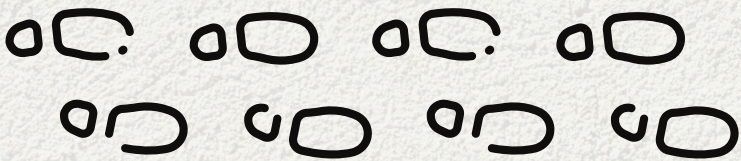
JESUS IS STILL RISEN!

It has been a few weeks since Easter Sunday but that doesn't mean that Easter is over and done with. In the Catholic Church we celebrate 7 Sundays and weeks of Easter. This week we are into the 3rd Week. In this week's WORD OF THE WEEK we hear about Jesus appearing to some of His disciples after He has risen from the dead.

DO YOU RECOGNISE HIM?

These two disciples thought that they had lost Jesus forever. They thought that all hope was lost. However, even though they didn't recognise Jesus straightaway, He was still with them. And Jesus is with us today, he is walking with us in our lives, even if we can't see him and feel like these disciples did, sad, lonely and hopeless.

We can be reminded of Jesus presence with us in lots of different ways. Take time this week and remind yourself each day to look for Jesus, look for the good in the day, the positives, the things that make you smile, the good news!



Emmaus Daily Walk

Why not make your own journey, like these disciples did, on your daily walk. Head out and as you walk take time to pray, and to recognise Jesus in the world around you. On your journey think about these questions or talk about them with the person you are walking with.



Prayer for the week

Thank you Jesus, you give us hope even when all seems lost. We pray that we have faith in your presence with us even when times are difficult. Help us to recognise you in the world around us, in the kindness of others, the smiles of strangers, the love of our family and friends and the beauty of nature. Help us to remember that you are still risen and there is always hope.

Amen.



- How did the disciples feel as they walked?
- Why did they feel this way?
- Have you ever felt the way the disciples felt?
- Why do you think they didn't recognise Jesus?
- Is it easy for us to see God with us?
- When have you seen God at work in your life?
- What happened to them and how did they feel when they recognised Jesus?