

The road to Emmaus is a road of companionship. Jesus, now freed from the space-time limits of his earthly life, is present with us and wants to be our friend. The risen Lord desires that we walk with Him and with one another: “*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, and the flame not consume you. For I am the LORD, (Isaiah 43:2-3).* He wants to be with us in our travels of life. *Where two or three are gathered in My Name, I am there among them” (Matthew 18:20).*

We meet Jesus daily in our life’s journey. The Church instructs us to hear Jesus daily through our faithful reading of, and meditation of Scripture; through our participation in the Eucharistic celebration at which we receive Jesus as our spiritual nourishment; through our personal and family prayers and through our family meals. When we meet our risen Lord through the Word of God, we communicate with him. We renew our relationship with Jesus through prayer. All these meetings prepare and enable us to encounter the risen Jesus living in all the people we meet.

Do our hearts burn when we listen to the Risen Lord. Tradition teaches us that the reading of the Scriptures, the study of the Scriptures and the proclamation of the message of the Scriptures are the primary ways in which we meet God. Vatican II (*Dei Verbum 21*) tells us that Jesus is to be equally venerated in the Eucharist and in the Bible. Therefore, we need to study the Bible, learn the Bible, memorise some Bible passages and meditate on the Word of God. We get to know Christ through the Bible, and so we need to spend time in the Bible to have a deep, intimate, loving, caring, long-term relationship with Jesus Christ. When we read the Scriptures daily, we meet and converse with Jesus Christ.

We need to find Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread. In the Gospel of John (John 6), Jesus says, “*Whoever eats My Body and drinks My Blood shall live with me eternally.*” The Eucharist is truly food for the soul, the Bread of Life for eternity. In this meal, we are in communion, not only with Jesus and our living community of faith, but also with our family and friends who have preceded us in death. The Eucharist is not simply Bread and Wine for today – it is a banquet for all eternity.

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER 2021

PRIEST ON DUTY: FR.MARK BENNETT C.C. 071-9650881

MASS FOR SUNDAY 18th APRIL

ST.MARY’S Sunday 10am: Maura Miney (Months Mind)

MASSES FROM MONDAY 19th APRIL TO SATURDAY 24th APRIL

Monday 8pm: Private Intention

Tuesday 10am:

Wednesday 10am: Private Intention

Thursday 10am: Nell & Tommie Dolan (Anniv)

Friday 8pm: Edward Stokes (Months Mind)

Saturday 10am:

MASSES FOR SUNDAY 25th APRIL

St.Mary’s 10am: Emily Rooney

DEATHS: We pray for the happy repose of Florence O’Mahony, (Caheragh, Co. Cork, brother of Sr. Ann O’Mahony, Marist Convent) and Kathleen Tiernan (formerly of Cloone, sister of Michael Tiernan, Jamestown, who died in London). May they rest in the Peace of Christ.

Reflection for 3rd Sunday of Easter

Why are you so agitated, and why are doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves....” What questions do you think were going through the disciples’ minds? Were they expecting that Jesus would condemn them for abandoning him? Did they feel shame or guilt? Were they wondering why they didn’t believe the women and didn’t believe the two disciples on their way to Emmaus? Would the situation be much different for each of us today? Where do we meet Jesus?

Jesus meets us on our Emmaus Road. The risen Lord meets us on the road to our Emmaus, both in the ordinary experiences of our lives, and in the places to which we retreat when life is too much for us. We all have our hopes and dreams and visions about our wellbeing, financial security and family relationships. These hopes and dreams often shatter. The story promises us, however, that Jesus will come to us in unfamiliar guises to support and strengthen us when we least expect our risen Lord.

Continued on next page