

*April 26, 2020*

**3<sup>RD</sup>**

**SUNDAY OF  
EASTER**

**THE  
APPEARANCE  
ON THE ROAD TO  
EMMAUS**

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.

Luke 24:30-31



## ***St. Ann's Church***

**652 Main Street, PO Box 488, North Oxford, MA 01537**

**Rectory # 508-987-8892 to leave a message on Fr. Michael's voicemail**

**To help us to keep in touch with you please email us at**

**[stannsrectory@hotmail.com](mailto:stannsrectory@hotmail.com)**

**Please check out our website for Masses, Catholic News and Prayers**

**[www.stannschurch.us](http://www.stannschurch.us)**

**Please send prayer requests to**

**[StAnnParishPrayerline@hotmail.com](mailto:StAnnParishPrayerline@hotmail.com)**

**Fr. Michael Lavalley, Pastor**

**Deacon Thomas Creamer cell # 774-696-0903**

**Deacon James Denning (Retired)**

**Mary Lajoie, Administrative Assistant**

**Peggy Moynahan, Religious Education Secretary**

**Dennis O'Brien, Maintenance Director**

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



**Dear Friends in Christ,**

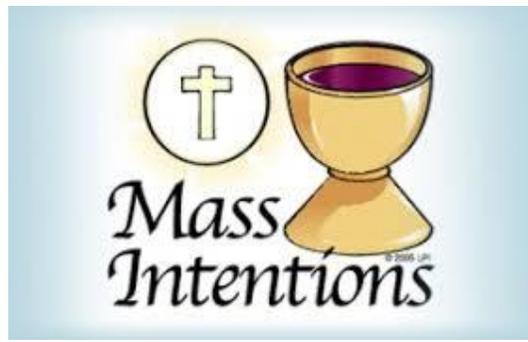
On this Third Sunday of Easter we read St. Luke's account of The Risen Christ's appearance to the disciples on The Road to Emmaus. These disciples were walking away from Jerusalem, sorrowful and downcast, mourning the loss of Jesus with whom they had shared intimate friendship. Everything seemed to be over and lost when a Stranger drew near and invited Himself into their conversation. Later, the disciples would learn the Stranger's identity. His coming to them in their sufferings is important for us to see. He arrived and began talking to them when they needed Him most. The Stranger lifted them up by sharing Scripture with them and, strangely, their hearts began to burn with new hope and faith. They realized they wanted this so much in their lives...so they invited the Stranger in to stay. It was one of the most important choices they would ever make.

They asked Him in, to stay, and the Stranger prepared to feed them with Himself, for as He celebrated Eucharist for them they recognized who He really was. When He vanished He wasn't gone for He was truly present in the Eucharist He had consecrated and provided for them. Through this Eucharistic encounter with Jesus, the disciples came to profess to the others that Jesus had TRULY been raised.

**This Sunday's Gospel challenges us to invite Jesus in to our lives in a new way. May we ask Him in, to stay, in our sufferings, our anxieties, our concerns and joys. There, may He encourage us with His Word of Life that our hearts may burn with new hope, new desire and new faith.**

**In Christ,**

**Fr. Michael**



**Saturday, April 25 Mass Intention is for Marguerite Mary Morrissey.** Let us pray together for the repose of her soul.

**Sunday, April 26 Mass Intention is for Russel Carlson Jr. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.** Let us pray together for the repose of his soul.

**Monday, April 27 Mass Intention is for Doris McKiernan.** Let us pray together for the repose of her soul.

**Tuesday, April 28 Mass Intention is for the health and well being of Tracy Lavallee and family.**

**Wednesday, April 29 Mass Intention is for Mr & Mrs Valmore Dube.** Let us pray together for the repose of their souls.

**Thursday, April 30 Mass Intention is for Andrew McGrath.** Let us pray together for the repose of his soul.

**Friday, May 1 Mass Intention is for Nora Reilly.** Let us pray together for the repose of her soul.

*(This Mass was originally scheduled for Sunday, May 3 at 11:00am)*

**Saturday, May 2 Mass Intention is for Stephan Miller.** Let us pray together for the repose of his soul.

**Sunday, May 3 Mass Intention is for Amy Niepokoyczycki.** Let us pray together for the repose of her soul.

### **Offertory for April 16 through April 20**

Offertory (Mail)	\$2,325.00
Online Giving	\$ 225.00
Maintenance	\$ <u>135.00</u>
Total	\$2,785.00

SVDP \$135.00

*Thank you to all who have contributed to our parish financially during this difficult time.*

*Online giving can be found on our website [stannschurch.us](http://stannschurch.us)*

## Announcements

The church will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 to 12 for private prayer. Adoration will be live streamed <https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnnParishOxfordMA> at these times so that you may pray with us from the safety and comfort of your homes. Kindly be aware that if you come to the church the number of people in church may not exceed ten at any given time. Sunday Mass will be held at 9 am without a congregation and will be live streamed to you until restrictions are lifted and public Masses can once again be held in the church. Let us continue to pray for God's mercy that this time of difficulty may soon pass.



### Chip Hanlon 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memorial Scholarship **extended deadline!**

This year St. Ann Parish, through the Chip Hanlon Memorial Scholarship, will be awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are pursuing college studies and young parishioners currently attending College. There are two separate applications, one for graduating High School Seniors and one for College students, both can be found on our website [stannschurch.us](http://stannschurch.us) under forms.

**Applications must be received by April 30, 2020.**

**Please mail your application to St. Ann's Rectory P.O. Box 488, North Oxford, MA 01537**

### **Update on Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf**

Our "Drive Thru" food boxes have been doing very well.

Christina St Martin has 6 volunteers going in on Wednesday morning to put together 72 boxes of food. She also has volunteers making up the USDA bags to go with those boxes.

Ron Chesties and Doug Selby put together bags of eggs, margarine or butter, cheese and frozen meats to hand out with the food boxes.

Families from all over Oxford and Charlton and Dudley are calling us

and coming in for food. As word of the help we are doing is still spreading around town we have been able to give out more than 200 boxes of food so far. The Oxford Town Manager, Jennifer Callahan has added our Food Shelf website address to her town notice letters regarding the virus and the help available for Oxford residents.



### **Prayer line volunteers**

If you are interested in joining the members of the Prayer Line ministry please send an email to [StAnnParishPrayerline@hotmail.com](mailto:StAnnParishPrayerline@hotmail.com) to join.



**St. Vincent De Paul**  
Serving those in Need

If you are a parishioner and are in need of assistance, please call #508- 987-8892 and leave a message on the SVDP private line and someone from the SVDP will return your call. Maybe you have lost your job and are behind on your utilities or can't afford to have oil delivered. We can help. We also can point you in the direction of other resources that are available.

# Third Sunday of Easter

## READING 1..... ACTS 2:14, 22-3

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words. You who are Israelites, hear these words. Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it. For David says of him:

*I saw the Lord ever before me,  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.  
Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted;  
my flesh, too, will dwell in hope,  
because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,  
nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.  
You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.*

"My brothers, one can confidently say to you about the patriarch David that he died and was buried, and his tomb is in our midst to this day. But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld nor did his flesh see corruption. God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured him forth, as you see and hear."

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM.PS 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

R. (11a) **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;  
I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you."

O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.

R. **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

I bless the LORD who counsels me;  
even in the night my heart exhorts me.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

R. **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
because you will not abandon my soul to the  
netherworld,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo  
corruption.

R. **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

You will show me the path to life,  
abounding joy in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.

R. **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

## READING 2..... 1 PT 1:17-21

Beloved: If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb.

He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

## ALLELUIA..... LK 24:32

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;  
make our hearts burn while you speak to us.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Third Sunday of Easter

### GOSPEL..... LK 24:13-35

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples 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 Christ 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 bread.



Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Psalm refrain © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner.



## **ST. PAUL CENTER FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

*By Dr. Scott Hahn*

### **Emmaus and Us**

Third Sunday of Easter (Cycle A)

Acts 2:14, 22-28

Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-11

1 Peter 1:17-21

Luke 24:13-35

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.

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology*

*[www.SalvationHistory.com](http://www.SalvationHistory.com)*



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