**FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAY 3-4, 2025**

Third Sunday of Easter

**Gospel Reading**

Jn 21:1-19

After this, Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias.

He revealed himself in this way.

Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael from Cana

in Galilee, Zebedee’s sons, and two others of his disciples.

Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We also will

come with you.” So, they went out and got into the boat, but that night they

caught nothing.

When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples

did not realize that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to them, “Children, have you caught anything to eat?” They

answered him, “No.”

So, he said to them, “Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will

find something.” So, they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the

number of fish.

So, the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord.” When Simon

Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly

clad, and jumped into the sea.

The other disciples came in the boat, for they were not far from shore, only

about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish.

When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and

bread.

Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you just caught.”

So, Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred

fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn.

Jesus said to them, “Come, have breakfast.” And none of the disciples dared to

ask him, “Who are you?” because they realized it was the Lord.

Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner

the fish.

This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being

raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of

John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord, you know

that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

He then said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He

said to him, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my

sheep.”

He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was

distressed that he had said to him a third time, “Do you love me?” and he said

to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” [Jesus] said to

him, “Feed my sheep.

Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to dress yourself

and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your

hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want

to go.”

He said this signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when

he had said this, he said to him, “Follow me.”

**Intercession**

May take time to feel our Lord’s presence in our lives and may we nourish others with God’s love through support of the Bishop’s Stewardship Appeal.

**Copy for Bulletin Announcement**

Jesus comes to us in our ordinary lives. We may not be fishermen, like Peter and the other disciples in today’s Gospel, but He is present as we teach our students, prepare the family meal, balance the books, drive the bus, build a home, try a case, or throw in that load of dirty laundry. Jesus is all around, inviting us to a more abundant life. He wants to feed us with His love and nourish us with His words. We need only to respond with “yes” to receive blessings beyond our imaginations, like the fishing net so full it’s difficult to pull in.

He is with us during trying times. When the long night of discouragement tests us, Jesus stands on the shore at dawn, bringing the hope of a new day. We can also know Jesus in our celebrations. When He invites the disciples to eat, they know Him in the shared meal. It is a feast of both food and friendship, and the bleakness of the previous night is dispelled with joy and abundance.

When you support the Bishop’s Stewardship Appeal, you share the hope Christ’s presence brings with those served by the ministries and programs supported by it. Please consider contributing to this year’s appeal and pray for its success.

**Copy for Pulpit Announcement**

Sometimes it is not easy to recognize Jesus in our midst. Maybe we are too preoccupied with our ever-increasing “To Do” list. Perhaps busy family schedules distract us or worries cloud our thoughts. Even those who consider themselves very close to our Lord can be blinded to His presence.

His disciples in today’s Gospel didn’t know who Jesus was at first. But, just as realization dawned on them who the “stranger” was after catching an abundance of fish, we can eventually come to know Christ through actions. The old song, “They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” comes to mind. We may not *see* Jesus as we go about our day, but we can *know* His love through service and the kindness of others.

And we can share this life-changing love with others through our support of the Bishop’s Stewardship Appeal. Please consider making a gift to the appeal today so that more may feel Jesus at work in their lives.

**Social Media Post/Content**

Photo: Bountiful harvest.

Header: “Feed my sheep” – John 21:17

Copy: Let our words, actions, and prayers bear fruit – that is, grow closer to God in faith! Through support of the Bishop’s Stewardship Appeal, we can nourish others in Christ’s name.