

Our Lady of Lourdes Church and School

A Catholic Tradition in the foothills of Los Angeles since 1920



April 23, 2023

Pastor

Fr. Rolly Astudillo
☎818-352-3218 x 103
✉frrolly106@gmail.com

Deacons

Dn. Mar Enriquez
☎818-802-1639
✉marciano.enriquez@yahoo.com

Dn. Ramon Villasenor
☎818-352-3218
✉rvillasenor10@yahoo.com

In Residence

Fr. Jiwan Kim
✉jiwankim@yahoo.com

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass
5:00 pm (English)

Sunday Mass

7:00 am (English)
8:30 am (Spanish)
10:30 am (English)
12:30 pm (English)

Daily Mass

Monday through Thursday
7:45 am
Friday: 8:30 am

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:30 am - 1:00 pm
2:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Saturday and Sunday

8:00 am - 12:00 pm
✉ollenriquezy@gmail.com
☎818-352-3218

Church Location

7315 Apperson St
Tujunga, CA 91042

Office Location

7344 Apperson St
Tujunga, CA 91042

OLL School Office Hours

✉officemanager@olltujunga.org
☎818-353-1106

Adoration and Benediction

First Fridays after 8:30 am Mass

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:45 pm - 4:45 pm

Rosary

After Daily Mass

Baptism and Marriages

Please call the Parish Office
☎818-352-3218

Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 2:14.22-28

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 16

– Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

The experiences of the early Church after the resurrection of Jesus may probably have been very different from our own but their experiences could also be ours. The apostles themselves were in a quandary after Jesus was seized in the Garden of Olives. They scrambled about to save themselves in fear of those who were beating Jesus to death. Peter denied him three times, Thomas doubted. Yet afterwards, we hear of the apostles going around, preaching about Jesus, who rose from the dead, defying persecution and imprisonment believing that Jesus' death for us is humiliation and infamy while for God, his death was victory as we heard from the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, in the second reading, goes on further to remind the newly baptized of his time and to us in our times that "... you were delivered . . . by the blood of a spotless, unblemished lamb chosen before the world's foundation and revealed for your sake in these last days." This is a wonderful reality, but it also entails weighty responsibilities as it has to match the new life we received. But did the apostles grasp the real meaning of Jesus' death right after he rose from the dead? Not really!

The gospel reading tells us of two of Jesus' disciples travelling, walking toward a town called Emmaus, a place seven miles from Jerusalem. Not so long ago, the hopes of the apostles and followers of Jesus had been burning brightly. But the darkness of Good Friday and the burial in the tomb caused them to lose their joy and gladness. They retreated into isolation and talked about what happened to Jesus.

On the way to Emmaus, "Jesus himself drew near and walked along with them." And the sad thing is: "They saw him, but something prevented them from recognizing him."

The two disciples felt betrayed. They were carrying fresh memories of Jesus, whom they expected to defy death, their anguish prevented them from recognizing the one who was walking with them. They were hurting.

The gospel story says that Jesus "drew near" the two disciples. They no longer felt alone as Jesus joins them, listening to their anguish and explaining all that had happened to him.

In moments of anguish, in those times when we feel betrayed by a friend or a loved one, Jesus, at the right time, comes to us, journeys with us, listens to our stories and leads us in our own journey to experience Emmaus.

Jesus asked them, "What matters are you discussing?" He gets them to pause, to think, to reflect, to take stock of themselves and to start letting go of their anguish. Yes, Jesus is indeed a Good shepherd, gently leading them to confront their anguish. Jesus does not get them to change the topic but instead focuses on their concerns and not on his own interests and concerns.

When we allow Jesus to walk with us, he does not get us to change the topic or avoid our problems but to focus on them. "Take up your cross," he tells us. Do not escape from your cross through drunkenness and drugs but be ready to carry your cross.

When the two reached Emmaus, Jesus acted as if he were going farther but they pressed him to stay as their guest and said, "It is nearly evening, and the day is almost over." The two disciples did not yet recognize who they were inviting, they did not yet recognize him who walked all the way with them, listening to their stories and explaining things about Jesus. But the two felt some responsibility for a stranger who has now become a brother and a friend. And what happened?

When Jesus accepted the invitation to be their guest, he immediately became their host: "He took break, pronounced the blessing, then broke the bread and began to distribute it to them." This is what happens when we invite Jesus. He becomes, not our guest, but the host. Jesus accepts the best that the two could offer him, and doing so, he transformed what they gave him into his gift of grace and gave it back to them as his own gift: bread transfigured and transformed into his own sacrifice. As the apostles let go of their own bread, so is being transformed made possible by our letting go of our bread and putting it entirely into the hands of Jesus.

"Whereupon he vanished from their sight." At the end of it all, the two were left with the most precious gift – the gift of Faith.

The story of Jesus and the two disciples on the road to Emmaus points a finger at us and sheds light on our own situation especially in times of trials and grace, of betrayal and reconciliation. Their distress is ours in many ways and their sadness sounds familiar to us. How many times have we walked the road to Emmaus with downcast faces? All the time, we forget that Jesus is walking with us, ready and anxious to help us, if only we could turn to him in those moments of quiet desperation. ❖

Cast into the Deep (April 23)

The Sunday Experience

Nelle Orsburn

Once upon a time, after the 10:30 Mass, I was going over the hill on the 405 to visit a friend. I marveled how the 405 was always a sea of cars no matter the day or the time of day. As I looked ahead, I wondered about the person traveling solo in the Rav4 before me. Was she coming or going? Was she eager to get to where she was going? Or was she dreading a confrontation? Was she coming from Sunday Mass or service? What about the family in the Highlander behind me. Were they playing a game to entertain the kids? Or telling them stories about their own time at being kids themselves? Were they going to see Grandma to enjoy her cooking or will Grandma even recognize them when they get there. There was also the Honda, next to me with a guy obviously singing to himself as he was keeping beat with his head nods and an occasional tap on the stirring wheel. At least that's what my momentary glances his way seemed to convey. I wondered if he was reliving his Sunday Mass and singing the hymns the choir sang or if he was rocking with Taylor Swift or Bruno Mars.



Last week's gospel reading was the very familiar story about "Doubting Thomas" and Fr. Rolly reflected on the Sunday experience that Thomas missed because he was not present with the disciples when the Risen Lord appeared; and how we too gathered as community in Church on Sundays experience the Risen Lord. This reminded me of my musings on that long ago Sunday.

The Mass is indeed an encounter with the Risen Lord in His Word and in his real presence in the Eucharist that we receive. Nourished, then, by his Word and his Body and Blood, the Sunday experience is not just the hour that we are together in Church but continues through the day and, by the grace of God, sustains us through the week until we come together again to celebrate the Eucharist. For having received Jesus in the Eucharist, we are transformed into Jesus and with St Paul we too can say, "It is no longer I who live but you who live in me (Gal 2:20)." How should we live our day? We must be Jesus. We must be ready to love each person that we meet, in every situation, when it is easy to love and when it is difficult. What would Jesus do?

Our whole day is a long series of what-would-Jesus-do moments. Think about it. There are a million and one decision points as we live our day. Some are no-brainers, we do not even have to stop and think. Someone smiles at you, you smile back. Someone hands you drink, you say thank you. But some other situations require a little bit more time to discern what Jesus would do.

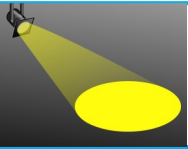
Hence my musings on that long ago Sunday drive. Each person in the vehicles around me, and beyond, were facing decisions most likely while even still on their way to their destination, but most certainly when they get there, me included. What sorts of beautiful experiences awaited us at the end of the journey? How many challenging situations may there have been instead? How many of us were just coming from Mass and had been imbued with the real presence of Jesus? Would we remember to let Jesus reign in our hearts and our lives?

My imagination started running movies about my fellow journeyers. The Highlander mom did not relish taking her kids to see grandma. Her dementia was getting worse. But she had good days and she wanted to capture those moments for her kids and for herself. She prayed that she would always be patient whatever situation arose. It was a chance for all of them to live the love they had received growing up but certainly the love that Jesus showered on them.

The Rav4 lady was delighted to celebrate her best friend's birthday at the trendy Santa Monica restaurant she picked. But she knit her brow momentarily, remembering that there would be others there as well whom she had not yet met. She was decidedly on the shy side and anxious about meeting new people. She put her brave face on again and, out of love for her best friend, she would smile her way through it.

And, finally, Mr. Honda. It wasn't really church music he was listening to but the sixteenth repeat of a Bruno Mars song. He was on his way to an audition. Will he remember the lyrics? Would he sing the right notes? Will he emote well? Will he get the part? What if he doesn't?

Every single action merits a response. Sometimes a smile is all that is needed. Sometimes more than that. By the grace of God and the Eucharist we have received, may our Sunday experience fill our hearts with love, a love that overflows to the other. What would Jesus do?❖



God puts us where He needs us! Claudia Yesenia Navarro



Claudia Yesenia Navarro or, as some of us know her, "Yesenia," is the coordinator of the ministry of the Ushers and Altar Servers. Yesenia is a native of Nayarit, Mexico, and came to the United States 22 years ago. She has 3 children, Bryan, 22, Bryanna, 15, and Brygit, 12. Her children began at a very young age to serve at the Holy Mass. Bryan began serving at the age of 3, bringing the gifts to the altar and when he turned 8 years old he became an altar server and served until he was 18. Bryanna and Brygit, also began at age 3, also bringing the gifts to the altar, then going on to become altar servers as soon as they became old enough to do so. Both of them continue to serve to this day.

Yesenia came to the ministry with the purpose of having her children be servants of the Lord, but she never imagined that she would become the coordinator of the ministry of the Ushers and Altar Servers. One day she arrived to help Doña Rosa Cisneros with the ministry and by the grace of God, more than 4 years ago she became the coordinator of the ministry.

When she began coordinating the ministry she felt many mixed emotions, she felt fear, nerves, but the Holy Spirit guided her. By the grace of God she continues to serve him with much love. What pleases Yesenia the most is serving the Lord and she sees herself not so much as the coordinator but instead as someone at the service of the ministry and its members; as a servant of the Lord. She likes to be of service to others and believes that God puts us where he needs us.

Yesenia is also part of the Prayer Group. It all started when she volunteered to pick up the key to the chapel for the ministry's meeting. But God had other plans and before long, she became a member. She puts herself at God's disposal, and as she says, "Lord here is your servant and put me at your service wherever you need me."

Yesenia feels very happy and content serving the Lord, whether it's moving a chair or washing dishes or whatever else is needed. She also helps with Family Fun Days and the Bereavement Ministry by assisting Antonia Garcia with the various aspects of the Mass during a funeral. She is always very willing to help wherever she can. "When you serve God, you feel a lot of joy and a lot of satisfaction," says Yesenia. It comforts her, and strengthens her and she does not get tired of serving. In fact, the more she serves the more she falls in love with God.

Yesenia feels great joy in having the Church as a family; she is comforted to have the community as brothers and sisters in Christ. She feels that God has done wonders in her home and with her children. She also feels that no matter how much one does we can never repay God for all the blessings he gives us; we always fall short.

Thank you very much Yesenia for always being willing to serve with so much love.

~ Andrea Mata

(editor's note: Reprinted from 12/5/21 issue)

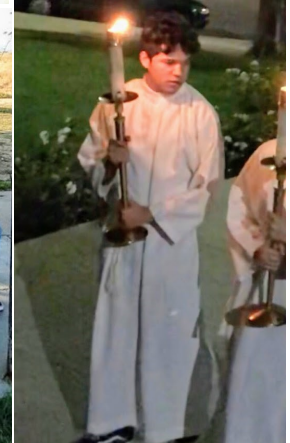


The Navarro family serving at Mass — whether by passing the basket at the outdoor mass or bringing the gifts to the altar



The Navarro kids as altar servers (right panel)

Relaxing as a family (panel below)



Parish News

Schedule of Masses and Reconciliation

Confessions

Saturday at 3:45 - 4:45 pm (music room - entry by baptismal font)

Sunday Masses (all Masses are indoors)

Saturday at 5:00 pm.

Sunday at 7:00 am, 8:30 am (Spanish), 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Live Stream: Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 8:30 am (Sp)

The Link to the live streamed Masses is:

<https://www.facebook.com/106570891120663/live/>

Daily Masses

Monday - Thursday at 7:45 am; Friday at 8:30 am

ADOPT-A-FAMILY: the Religious Education year is almost over and some of our parents are in need of some financial help. There are envelopes in all the pews that say "Adopt a Family" on them. Please help by giving toward their children's tuition. Any amount will be most appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

TOGETHER IN MISSION

	a/o 4/17/23	Last Year
Goal:	\$44,396.00	\$41,607.00
Pledged:	\$21,735.75	\$49,948.00
Paid:	\$15,442.75	\$48,272.75
Over/Under Goal:	(\$28,953.25)	\$ 6,665.25*

If you haven't submitted your pledge, it is not too late. Pledge envelopes are in the bulletin racks. Thank you for your generosity.

* Amount over goal last year was paid to the parish as rebate.

Parish Stewardship:

Collections* for the Month of March:

1st Week (3/5)	\$ 6,785
2nd Week (3/12)	\$ 7,013
3rd Week (3/19)	\$ 6,771
4th Week (3/26)	\$ 8,509
TOTAL	\$29,078



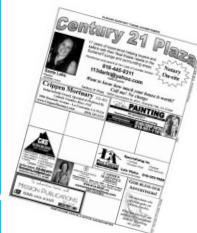
*Includes Ordinary Sunday Collections and Holy Days.



To those who participated in the Divine Mercy Celebration on Saturday and Sunday last week: Those who prepared and served at the special Mass and the Adoration; Those who led the recitation of the Chaplet; organized, prepared and served at the reception; Those who came to the reception,

Thank You!!

In the News:



Save our Parish Bulletin

If you have a business or service that you would like to advertise, consider doing so in our Parish Bulletin. To place your ad, please call our publisher, Mission Publications, at 888-253-4358.



Reminder to **Beware of Scammers**. Do not respond to suspicious messages. Some parishioners have received scam text messages or emails, purportedly from Fr. Rolly, requesting personal information, money and/or gift cards. Please be sure that Fr. Rolly would **never** send you a text message or email asking for personal information or money. If in doubt, call the main number of the parish (818-352-3218) to authenticate the message.

Lions Roar: OLL School News

OLL School Golf Tournament



May 23, 2023 at 12:00 P.M. Moorpark Country Club will be the venue for the first Golf Tournament organized by the OLL Family Fun Days Team to benefit OLL School.

Singles at \$200.00 and Foursomes at \$700.00. Get our buddies to fill in the slots by March 1st. Register at: ollgolfevent@gmail.com. Please check out the flyer on p. 12 for more information.

Our Lady of Lourdes Masquerade Night

Friday, April 28, 2023 @ 6 pm

La Canada Country Club

Cocktail Attire; 21 and over event

Tickets are Pre-Sale only: \$75 per person;

\$800 for a reserved table for 10.

Flyer on p 11 for more information.



Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Court San Ysidro #1507
invites you to our annual

Spring Tea

"Around the World"

Join us for food, fun, prizes, and a

"Parade of Nations"

April 23, 2023, 1:30 - 4:30pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Auditorium
7355 Apperson St, Tujunga, CA

\$15.00

For more information see flyer on p 9



Celebrating our Saint for the Week

April 24: St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr (1578–1622): St. Fidelis was born in Sigmaringen, Germany and was named Mark Rey. He studied Law and started a career as a lawyer defending the poor. He quickly got disenchanted with the evils he encountered in the practice

"It is because of faith that we exchange the present for the future."

of his profession and so joined the Capuchin friars where he was given the name Fidelis, meaning faithful. He became known as a defender of the faith effecting many conversions from among the Calvinists thus

"Woe to me if I should prove myself but a halfhearted soldier in the service of my thorn-crowned Captain."

earning him many enemies. He suffered a martyr's death in 1622 at the hands of these enemies. As he lay dying he prayed that his attackers would be forgiven. He was canonized in 1746.



Mary our Mother, Queen of Heaven:

The Catholic Daughters are inviting you and all of our parishioners to join the Annual May Crowning and Rosary to Our Blessed Lady Queen of Heaven. We will be praying for our Country and the World as Mary asks us to do. We will meet in the Grotto area after the 10:30 Mass and before the 12:30 Mass on **Sunday May 7**. All are welcome spread the word!

Coming Soon:

First Reconciliation - May 3rd

First Communion - May 13th

Confirmation - May 10th

Let us pray for those preparing to receive the Sacraments.



Papal Prayer Intention for:

April: For a culture of peace and non-violence

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



Together we prevent abuse and protect children & young people



National Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) is a good time to review the ways in which we work together as a community of faith to prevent abuse and protect children and young people. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles stands resolute in its commitment

to report allegations of sexual misconduct to law enforcement, support victim-survivors and protect minors and the vulnerable. An updated flyer which summarizes the efforts of the Archdiocese to ensure that our parishes, schools and ministries are safe places for children and young people is available at <https://lacatholics.org/protect/protect-resources/>.

Mass Intentions

April 22 to 28, 2023



Saturday April 22

Clarence Henry Tice †
Erlinda Maclang †
Caroline Fernandez—Healing
Ashley Ann Calon—13th Birthday Blessing
Tessie Arroyo—Birthday Blessing

5:00 PM

David Arthur Tice, Sr. †

Sunday April 23

Mirita & Romina DiGiorgio—Birthday Thanksgiving

7:00 AM

8:30 AM

Cesar † & Ruben Palomino †
Hugo Betancourt †

10:30 AM

Leila Lynn †
Enza Dottore Sanfilippo †
Irene Aguilar Cruz †--Birthday Remembrance
Juana Soleta †
Yolanda Abrantes—Birthday Blessing
Leonora & Vincent Dapat—Wedding Anniversary Blessing
Oscar & Lucila Dypiangco—Wedding Anniversary Blessing

12:30 PM

Jorge Aguirre †
Jose de Jesus Camacho †
Claudia Garcia †
Gerardo Francisco †--Birthday Remembrance

Tuesday April 25

Ymelda Requistas †
Daniel—Spiritual Blessing

7:45 AM

Ralph Marotti †

Thursday April 27

Caridad Velasquez † -- Birthday Remembrance
Jim Sharp—Successful Surgery

7:45 AM

Friday April 28

Thomas Fuentes †--3rd Death Anniversary
Julie Marco—Birthday Blessing
Jennifer Tennant-Tran—Birthday Thanksgiving & Intentions

8:30 AM

"Were not our hearts burning within us..."

Lk 24:32

Readings for April 24 to 30, 2023

4/24	Acts 6:8-15 / Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 / Jn 6:22-29
4/25	1 Pt 5:5b-14 / Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 / Mk 16:15-20
4/26	Acts 8:1b-8 / Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a / Jn 6:35-40
4/27	Acts 8:26-40 / Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 / Jn 6:44-51
4/28	Acts 9:1-20 / Ps 117:1bc, 2 / Jn 6:52-59
4/29	Acts 9:31-42 / Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 / Jn 6:60-69
4/30	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 / Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6 / 1 Pt 2:20b-25 / Jn 10:1-10

From scripture to life...

Would you have the insight to know when Jesus is walking with you? He is, you know.

en Nuestra Parroquia

Calendario de misas y reconciliación

Confesiones: Sabado a las 3:45—4:45 pm (sala de música. entrar por el área del coro)

Misa dominicales:

Sabado a las 5:00 pm

Domingo a las 7:00 am, 8:30 am (Español), 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Misas transmitidas en vivo: a las 5:00 pm; 8:30 am (Español)
<https://www.facebook.com/106570891120663/live/>

Misas diarias

de lunes a Jueves a las 7:45 am; Viernes a las 8:30 am

ADOPT-A-FAMILY: el año de Educación Religiosa casi ha terminado y algunos de nuestros padres necesitan ayuda financiera. Hay sobres en todas las bancas que dicen "Adopt-a-family". Por favor, ayude donando para la matrícula de sus hijos. Cualquier cantidad será muy apreciada. Gracias por tu generosidad.



Recordatorio para tener cuidado con los estafadores. No responda a mensajes sospechosos. Por favor, asegúrese de que el Padre. Rolly nunca te enviaría un mensaje de texto o un correo electrónico para pedirte información personal o dinero. En caso de duda, llame al número principal de la parroquia (818-352-3218) para autenticar el mensaje.

A los que participaron en la Celebración de la Divina Misericordia el sábado y domingo de la semana pasada:

Los que prepararon y sirvieron en la Misa especial y la Adoración; Los que dirigieron el rezo de la Coronilla; organizado, preparado y servido en la recepción; los que vinieron a la recepción,



¡Gracias!

Juntos prevenimos el abuso y protegemos a los niños y jóvenes



El Mes Nacional de Prevención del Abuso Infantil (abril) es un buen momento para revisar las formas en que trabajamos juntos como comunidad de fe para prevenir el abuso y proteger a los niños y jóvenes. La Arquidiócesis de Los Ángeles se mantiene firme en su compromiso de [reportar](#) alegaciones de conducta sexual inapropiada a las autoridades policiales, [apoyar](#) a las víctimas-sobrevivientes y [proteger](#) a los menores y a las demás personas vulnerables. Un folleto actualizado que resume los esfuerzos de la Arquidiócesis para garantizar que nuestras parroquias, escuelas y ministerios sean lugares seguros para niños y jóvenes está disponible en <https://lacatholics.org/protect/protect-resources/>.

"No es de extrañar que nuestros corazones ardieran..."

Lk 24,32

Torneo de Golf Escolar OLL



el 23 de mayo de 2023 a las 12:00 p.m.

Moorpark Country Club será la sede del primer Torneo de Golf organizado por el Equipo de Días de Diversión Familiar de OLL a beneficio de la Escuela OLL.

Singles a \$200.00 y Foursomes a \$700.00. Haz que nuestros amigos llenen los espacios antes del 1 de marzo.

Regístrate en: ollgolfevent@gmail.com

Consulte el volante en la p. 12 para más información.

Noche de Mascarada de OLL

viernes, 28 de abril de 2023 a las 18:00

La Cañada Country Club

Traje de cóctel; evento para mayores de 21 años

Los boletos son de venta solamente: \$75 por persona; \$800 por una mesa reservada para 10. Volante en la página 11.



Intención de oración papal para:

Abril: Por una cultura de paz y no violencia

Oramos por la difusión de la paz y la no violencia, mediante la disminución del uso de armas por parte de los Estados y ciudadanos.



Hijas católicas de las Américas

Tribunal San Ysidro #1507

te invita a nuestro anual

Spring Tea

"Alrededor del mundo"

Únase a nosotros para obtener comida, diversión, premios y un "Desfile de las naciones"

23 de abril de 2023, 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Auditorio de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes,

7355 Apperson ST, Tujunga, CA

Para obtener más información, consulte Flyer en p9

María nuestra Madre, Reina del Cielo



Las Hijas Católicas lo invitan a usted y a todos nuestros feligreses a unirse a la Coronación Anual de Mayo y al Rosario a Nuestra Santísima Señora Reina del Cielo. Estaremos orando por nuestra Patria y el Mundo como nos pide María. Nos reuniremos en el área de la Gruta después de la Misa de las 10:30 y antes de la Misa de las 12:30 **el domingo 7 de mayo.**

¡Todos son bienvenidos, corran la voz!

De las escrituras a la vida ...

¿Tendrías la perspicacia para saber cuándo Jesús está caminando contigo? Él es, ya sabes.

III Domingo De Pascua**Primera Lectura: Hechos 2, 14. 22-28****Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 16***– Señor, me enseñarás el sendero de la vida.***Segunda Lectura: 1 Pedro 1, 17-21****Evangelio: San Lucas 24, 13-35**

Las experiencias de la Iglesia primitiva después de la resurrección de Jesús probablemente hayan sido muy diferentes a las nuestras, pero sus experiencias también podrían ser las nuestras. Los apóstoles mismos estaban en un dilema después de que Jesús fue apresado en el Huerto de los Olivos. Corrieron para estar a salvo por temor a los que golpearon a Jesús hasta matarlo. Pedro lo negó tres veces, Tomás dudó. Sin embargo, después, escuchamos que los apóstoles andaban predicando acerca de Jesús, que resucitó de entre los muertos, desafiando la persecución y el encarcelamiento, creyendo que la muerte de Jesús por nosotros es humillación e infamia, mientras que para Dios, su muerte fue una victoria, como escuchamos en la primera lectura de los Hechos de los Apóstoles.

Pedro, en la segunda lectura, va más allá para recordar a los recién bautizados de su tiempo y a nosotros en nuestro tiempo que "...los ha rescatado Dios, ... con la sangre preciosa de Cristo, el cordero sin defecto ni mancha, al cual Dios había elegido desde antes de la creación del mundo y, por amor a ustedes, lo ha manifestado en estos tiempos, que son los últimos..." Esta es una realidad maravillosa, pero también implica grandes responsabilidades ya que tiene que estar a la altura de la nueva vida que recibimos. Pero, ¿captaron los apóstoles el verdadero significado de la muerte de Jesús justo después de que resucitó de entre los muertos? ¡No precisamente!

La lectura del evangelio nos habla de dos de los discípulos de Jesús que viajaban, ellos caminaban hacia un pueblo llamado Emaús, un lugar a siete millas de Jerusalén. Poco tiempo antes, las esperanzas de los apóstoles y seguidores de Jesús ardían con fuerza. Pero la oscuridad del Viernes Santo y el entierro en el sepulcro les hizo perder el gozo y la alegría. Se aislaron y hablaron sobre lo que le sucedió a Jesús.

En el camino a Emaús, "Jesús se les acercó y comenzó a caminar con ellos". Y lo triste es: "los ojos de los dos discípulos estaban velados y no lo reconocieron".

Los dos discípulos se sentían traicionados. Sus recuerdos de Jesús aún frescos en la mente, ellos esperaban que él desafiara la muerte, su angustia les impedía reconocer a quien caminaba con ellos. Estaban tristes.

La historia del evangelio dice que Jesús "se acercó" a los dos discípulos. Ya no se sienten solos cuando Jesús se une a ellos, escucha su angustia y les explica todo lo que le había sucedido.

En los momentos de angustia, en esos momentos en que nos sentimos traicionados por un amigo o un ser querido, Jesús, en el momento oportuno, viene a nosotros, camina con nosotros, escucha nuestras historias y nos conduce en nuestro propio camino hacia la experiencia de Emaús. Jesús les preguntó: "¿De qué cosas vienen hablando?" Hace que hagan una pausa, que piensen, que reflexionen, los hace discernir y comenzar a sentirse mejor. Sí,

Jesús es en efecto un Buen Pastor, que los conduce con delicadeza a afrontar sus angustias. Jesús no hace que cambien de tema, sino que se enfoca en sus preocupaciones y no en sus propios intereses y preocupaciones.



Cuando permitimos que Jesús camine con nosotros, él no hace que cambiemos de tema o evitemos nuestros problemas, sino que nos concentremos en ellos. "Toma tu cruz", nos dice. No escapes de tu cruz a través de la embriaguez y las drogas, sino prepárate para llevar tu cruz.

Cuando los dos llegaron a Emaús, Jesús actuó como si fuera más lejos, pero lo presionaron para que se quedara como su invitado y le dijeron: "Ya es tarde y pronto va a oscurecer". Los dos discípulos aún no reconocían a quién invitaban, aún no reconocían a aquel que caminó todo el camino con ellos, escuchando sus historias y explicando cosas de Jesús. Pero los dos sintieron cierta responsabilidad por un extraño que ahora se ha convertido en un hermano y un amigo. ¿Y qué pasó?

Cuando Jesús aceptó la invitación de ser su huésped, inmediatamente se convirtió en su anfitrión: "tomó un pan, pronunció la bendición, lo partió y se los dio". Esto es lo que sucede cuando invitamos a Jesús. Se convierte, no en nuestro invitado, sino en el anfitrión. Jesús acepta lo mejor que los dos podían ofrecerle y, al hacerlo, transformó lo que le dieron en su don de la gracia y se los devolvió como su propio don: pan transfigurado y transformado en su propio sacrificio. Así como los apóstoles ofrecieron de su propio pan, la transformación se hace posible cuando ofrecemos nuestro pan y lo ponemos completamente en las manos de Jesús.

"Entonces él desapareció". Al final de todo, los dos se quedaron con el regalo más preciado: el regalo de la fe.

La historia de Jesús y los dos discípulos en el camino a Emaús nos apunta con el dedo y arroja luz sobre nuestra propia situación, especialmente en tiempos de prueba y gracia, de traición y reconciliación. Su angustia es la nuestra en muchos sentidos y su tristeza nos suena familiar. ¿Cuántas veces hemos recorrido el camino de Emaús con el rostro abatido? Todo el tiempo, nos olvidamos de que Jesús camina con nosotros, listo y ansioso por ayudarnos, si tan solo pudiéramos acudir a él en esos momentos de desesperación silenciosa.

Our Lady of Lourdes

10275 Tujunga Canyon Blvd, Tujunga, CA 91042
Parish Hall

Edge
NIGHT
Middle School
Youth Ministry

Classes Start January

First Class - Monday January. 23rd 6:00PM-8:00PM

Semester: Jan. 23rd-Jun. 5th

Classes every 2nd & 4th Monday

Edge is a Catholic middle school youth ministry program for grades 6th-8th. It provides a safe fun place for youth to find solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about faith, and, most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way.

Class Price: \$30

**For More Info Call (818) 606-5165
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1:30 - 4:30pm

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For tickets contact Katie Morin by phone, 818-472-6161, or email,
morinkj@gmail.com, or talk to your favorite Catholic Daughter member.

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Anita Dominguez at 818.397.5178

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Ministry	Contact Name	Email address	Office #	Cell #
Adult Bible Classes	Christopher Plance	christopherplance@gmail.com		818-317-1542
Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts	Dan Kelgreen	dirty_dan@earthlink.net		818-521-1137
Catholic Daughters of the Americas	Gloria Mayol	upmyca@yahoo.com		818-439-0110
Children's Liturgies & RCIA	Jackie Tanker	jitanke@gmail.com		818-383-4688
Confirmation/ Youth Ministries	Geraldo & Geraldine Salazar	lourdesconfirms@gmail.com		818-606-5165
Counters Ministry	Violet Alex	vganda.ko@gmail.com		818-353-1752
Devoción al Santo Niño	Martha Brambila	viejitachula525@gmail.com		818-517-4960
Divine Mercy	Blanca Marco	bmarcoemoll@gmail.com		818-307-0807
English Pre-Baptism Classes	Henry Medina	hmedina605@gmail.com		213-550-6278
Environment Leader				
Eucharistic Ministry	Jackie Pensanti	djpensanti@yahoo.com		818-686-2450
Family Fun Days	Anita Dominguez	wlvinnow@yahoo.com		818 397-5178
Fellowship Ministry				
Filipino Community	Bobby Rigoroso	amrigoroso@yahoo.com		714-350-4509
Greeters Ministry	Paul Robich			818-352-2821
Health Ministry	Eloisa De Guzman	eloie@ca.rr.com		818-281-4818
Hispanic Community	Irma Velasquez	ixv5310@lausd.net		323-447-2290
Jr. Legion of Mary	Cel Cabrera	celcabrera911@gmail.com		818-913-9479
Knights of Columbus	Patrick Bellue	patrick@bellue.com		818 281-0824
Lectors Ministry	Claire Hickey	cmhickey56@gmail.com		
Legion of Mary	Linda Bustamante	lindapb5678@gmail.com		818-943-1346
Liturgy Committee & Wedding Coordinator	Michelle LaForce	sd4mal@aol.com		818-515-5068
Martha's Helpers	Candy Piscitelli	candyp2@aol.com		818-429-1333
Ministry of the Sick	Eleanor Graf	grafea@hotmail.com		818-897-6143
Monday Bingo	Chuck Naudet	charles.j.naudet@jpl.nasa.gov		818-951-0062
Music Ministry	Ania Balon	mychoir@live.com		818-224-9363
OLL School Principal	Evelyn Cortes	principal@olltujung.org		818-353-1106
OLL Spanish Youth Ministry (Ministerio Juvenil OLL)	Eloisa Macias	maciasd96@hotmail.com		818-352-4001
OLL Women's Group	Barbara Reardon	barbara.mich.reardon@gmail.com		
Parents Club (PTO)	Star Barrios	starbon87@gmail.com		909-997-3585
Parish New Evangelization Ministry	Nelle Orsburn	ollpfwdc@gmail.com		818 352-3218
Pasture/Food Bank	Gena Beierschmitt	genabeier@dslexreme.com		818-352-1550
RCIA Adult Formation				
Religious Education Coordinator	Gloriann McGowan	Ollgloriann.tujung@gmail.com	818-353-3053	213-278-8910
Religious Education Office Manager	Linda Masucci	lmasucci@ca.rr.com		818-515-0702
Respect Life	Joan Noyes	joannoyes@aol.com		818-425-6251
RICA Spanish Adult Formation	Armando Santiago/Carmen Bautista	lourdesrica21@gmail.com		747-207-5637
Sacristans	Raquel Rose	raquelrose1115@yahoo.com		818-633-0813
Spanish Pre-Baptism Classes	Henry Medina	hmedina605@gmail.com		213-550-6278
Spanish Adult Prayer Group	Yolanda Oliva	yolanda@riocompany.com		818-793-9683
Spanish Altar Servers/ Ushers	Claudia Yesenia Navarro			818-279-5573
Spanish Choir Ministry	Rosalia Perez	rosalia0628@aol.com		818-642-9606
Spanish Eucharistic Ministry	Ma. Zoila Ezequiel Mendoza	mariazoilamendoza1960@gmail.com		818-723-7096
Spanish Lectors Ministry	Andrea Mata	matajosee@yahoo.com		818-601-2805
Spanish Wedding-XV Coordinator	Jenny Aguilar	jjeragui@yahoo.com		818-470-0532
Ushers Ministry	Ben Menicucci			626-808-1696
Youth Choir				
Parish Office	Yolanda Enriquez	ollenriquezy@gmail.com		818-352-3218
English Bereavement Ministries	Brenda Mikhall	brendamikhall@msn.com		818-352-5265
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