

# Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Wednesday, April 15, 2020



**Wednesday of Easter Week Readings: Acts 3:1-10; Psalm 105:1-4, 6-9; Luke 24:13-35**

Dear Parishioners:

It had been a very bad weekend. If it could have gone wrong it did. Jesus, their hope, had been crucified then hastily buried and now there was the news that the tomb had risen from the dead. What nonsense! They were so wrapped up in their own grief and concerns that the two disciples walking to Emmaus - about 7 miles from Jerusalem - were wallowing in confusion and self pity. This stranger appears out of nowhere and joins them on the walk, talks with them about the local events and explains the Scriptures to them. When they reach their destination the two disciples prevail upon the stranger to stay with them because it was so late in the day. He agrees to stay with them at a local Inn, breaks bread with them, enlightens them to His identity -- and disappears from sight as mystically as He'd appeared.

It wasn't until Jesus broke bread with the two that they realized who He was. He had prepared them by once again teaching them, interpreting the Scriptures for them, encouraging them and agreeing to stay with them when He could have gone on farther. Only when they listened to what the Lord had to say to them and understand what He had to say with renewed and refreshed minds that they could see Him in the breaking of the bread.

We can become so wrapped up in our own grief, doubts, concerns and confusion that we can't see Jesus even when He plainly shows Himself to us. Take the Scriptures in hand and read them again slowly, prayerfully. Even though we can't join in a public celebration of the Eucharist for a time being listen to what He says and, when the bread is broken and given you can be certain of the risen Lord's presence in your life.

All of this corona virus pandemic, confusion, doubt, fear, concern will pass. But Jesus refuses to leave us. He doesn't go farther than we can go. He stays with us on the journey until we see Him present.

What can you do these days to let people know Jesus is here? First of all, see Christ in every person - even when your patience has been worn to a frazzle. Then:

- Write a note (not an email); actually write, stamp and post a note or send a greeting card to someone, anyone and let that person know you're thinking of him or her.
- call a neighbor to see how he/she is doing. It doesn't have to be a long talk, just a short chat to say "hello."
- check on an elderly person who's shut in and can't get out. See if there are needs from the grocery store or CVS that you can pick up for that person.
- When the kids or the stay at home spouse get on your nerves -- well, not being married with kids I can't help you much here!

Be Patient! Don't break the Social Distancing even if the weather is nice. We don't want to give up what we've accomplished. PRAY for an end to this scourge.

**A Little Humor:** A bored at home man said: "My wife sat down next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked 'What's on TV?' I said, 'Dust.' And then the fight started."

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