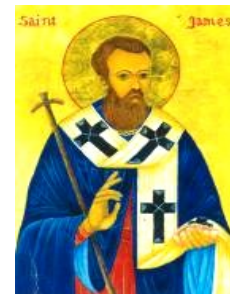


**3RD SUNDAY
EASTER
YR A 2020
25 / 26 APRIL**

**The Parish of St James
Coorparoo**
**A Vibrant, Prayerful, Inclusive
Augustinian Parish
Archdiocese of Brisbane**



AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE RISEN CHRIST

St James Parish, Coorparoo
(from the Augustinian Priory Chapel)
8am Sunday Mass Live Streamed
via our Parish Facebook Page:
[StJamesCoorparoo](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesCoorparoo)



When was the last time you've had a conversation with a stranger? How about the last time a stranger asked you a question about your life, your frustrations, what you want to do in life? Or perhaps it was you who asked a stranger about his/her life, frustrations, goals in life? How was that encounter like?

We have a very rich Gospel reading this Sunday from Luke, the story of the two disciples on the way to Emmaus, where they had an encounter with the risen Christ. For me, it is one of the Jesus-encounters in the four



gospels where the development of the story, or the realisation of who Jesus is, is slow-paced. The realisation that it was Jesus happened only after a long day of being with this 'stranger' who walked with them, which culminated with them breaking bread together. They had a long-conversation with Jesus, discussing about Scriptures, and they had a meal together.

If I have to be brutally honest in spite of myself, I have to say I am terribly inept with starting a conversation with strangers. Engaging in small talks has never been my strong points. I have no excuse for this except perhaps for my personality. There is only less apprehension to engage in a conversation on my part if the other person is comfortable with a slow-paced conversation, even if it's personal. So, as a default, I tend to find myself to be this introverted type. Thanks to friends who know me quite well, they have feedbacked to me what I only seldom see: they find me very talkative and forthcoming when it comes to topics that I'm very passionate about.

The Emmaus story ends with the two disciples getting up "that very hour" (Luke 24:33) returning to Jerusalem and telling the eleven about their encounter with the Risen Lord. This is one of the things I find very relatable in the story. Their encounter with the risen Lord (with the once 'stranger' who walked with them) is what drives them to go and tell others of their experience. It is this encounter which gives them, not just hope, not just courage, but a new way of looking at life that is unfamiliar to them.

Unfamiliar time and space, this is the situation we find ourselves thrown into at the moment. I'm praying that this would be a moment of grace for you; I certainly hope for this for myself as well. May we be open to encounter the risen Lord in people and in moments we might not expect: perhaps in the neighbour who greets you when you make your afternoon run; or perhaps with someone whom you've bumped into a couple of times but have never gotten into a conversation with; or it could perhaps be with some-

one not totally a stranger, maybe your partner or someone you live with who's annoyed the crap out of you these past few days of quarantine; essentially it is with anybody you encounter with really. We may be called to go deeper with our encounters with them. Having meals together might be hard at this point though if they're not part of our household, but it's something that we can always look forward to be having sometime soon!



On another note, I kind of "celebrated" (or had!) my 41st birthday this Monday, 20th April 2020. Last year there was no celebration for my 40th because it fell on Black Saturday. This year I celebrated it by presiding the morning mass in our priory chapel with my brother Augustinians and a simple dinner in the priory. I'm thankful I live to see this year. My family back home in the Philippines cooked a special noodle-based dish called "pansit". Two days later, that is, as I'm writing this, a beautiful chocolate mousse cake with a candle came to the office as a surprise. We enjoyed it with Fr Dang, Br Tuan, Trish, Sylvia (plus Karleen on the phone). No blowing of the candle though, I fanned it (they say this is the current practice for birthdays that is consistent with social distancing, hehe!). - Fr Francis, osa



Mass Live-streamed
from the Cathedral

www.archbne.org/bzw

**Mass For You
at Home**

6.00am - 6.30am
Channel 10



Bringing Home the Gospel

Jesus in Our Midst



The story of disciples who encounter Jesus on their walk to Emmaus is found only in Luke, but it offers us an important insight into what the Eucharist is about. The story takes place three days after Jesus was crucified. Two of his followers are returning home, feeling dejected. Jesus joins them, but they don't recognize him until he sits down with them at table and breaks bread with them.

The walk to Emmaus is one of my favourite Gospel stories. Two ordinary folks, disciples of Jesus, are walking home. They are sad and discouraged. Everything has gone wrong: All they had hoped for was gone. Jesus joins them, but they don't recognize him. They begin to share what had happened back in Jerusalem and Jesus reminds them of the Scripture readings that foresaw such happenings. During the walk, they do not recognize Jesus. It is at table, in the breaking of the bread, that their eyes are opened.

I think one of the reasons I like this story is that it is such a clear reminder that Christ is in our midst. It is easy to talk about the Jesus we find in Scripture, or the glorified Christ who sits at the right hand of the Father. It is often easier to believe in the miracle worker and King of

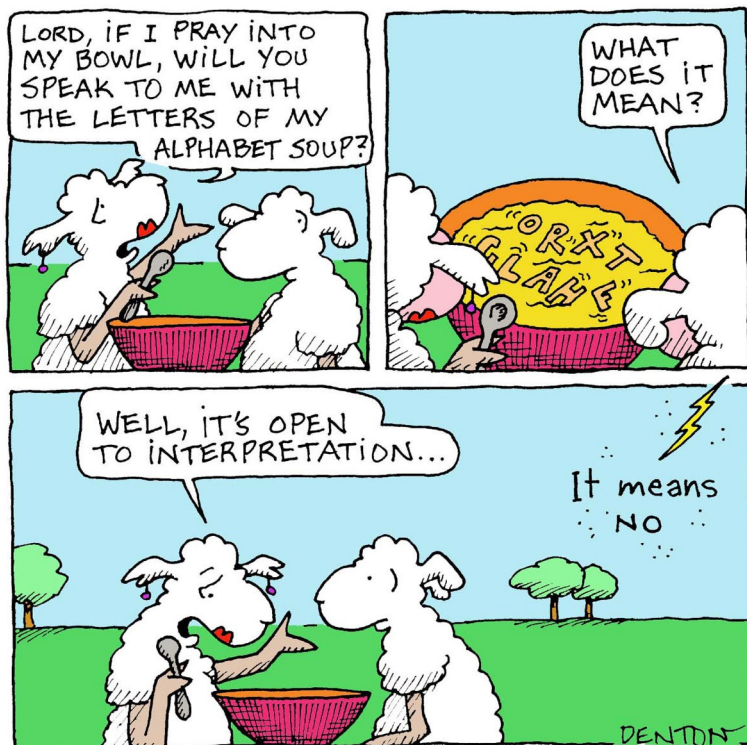
Kings than to see Christ in the face of a stranger or beggar. It is sometimes even more difficult to see Jesus in the people we walk with every day—the people in our own homes.

FAMILY RESPONSE

Ask each family member to name one quality of Jesus they see in each of the other family members.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Experts tell us we all need at least 20–30 minutes of quiet time to let go of tensions when we come home from work or school. Do you think this is a good idea for your household? How can you arrange it? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?



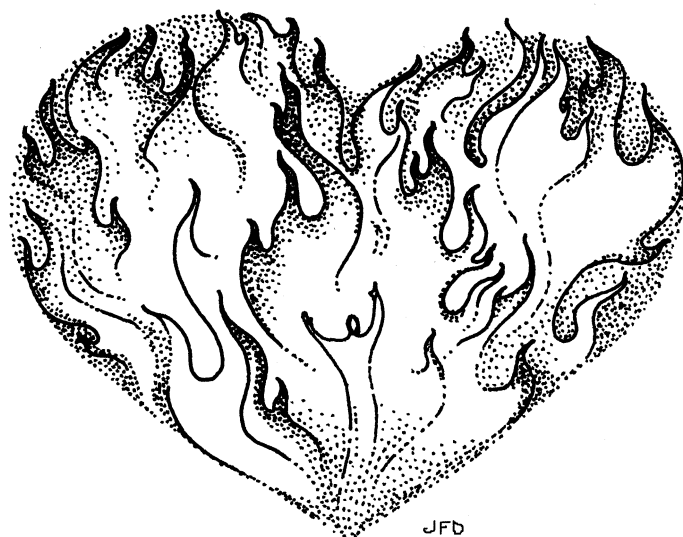
© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Their eyes were opened and they recognized him."

Sheepish Question:

As I follow Jesus today, where do I look and listen for him?

Here's my updated replay of the walk to Emmaus. A woman (or man) comes home from work tired and discouraged. After a half hour of breathing space (we all need time to disengage), she sits down and shares her day with her husband or offspring. The listener becomes the storyteller as he shares his day. Each person is gently affirmed. Finally, they all sit down together at table, and as they eat their meal, they smile at each other as they recognize the look of Christ in the face across from them.



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St. James Parish acknowledges the Jaggera People of Coorparoo as the traditional owners of the land on which we live.

Prayer Requests



Parishioners, we rely on you for our prayer list in our bulletin and we pray for these people during mass also. We do not have an eternal book with names listed; we rely on personal communication each year. If you have a parishioner, family member or friend who is ill, has recently died, or their anniversary is around this time, please let us know, so these people can be prayed for and remembered...

Please pray for recently deceased:

Jean Goddard; Eulogio Diaz; Mary Dunne RSM; Trevor Swifte; Allan Yared; Archbishop John Bathersby; Rollie Van Roca.

And these anniversaries: Keith Killin; Mary-Anne Dunagan; Carmel Sheehan.

Please pray for these unwell: Carmel Remphrey; Peter Herman; Jenny Stelmach; Brent Hill; Noela McCormick; Meighan Harris-O'Reilly; Sylvia Wilson; Jocelyn Tibayan; Judy Ketter; Veron Forsyth; Peter & Stephen Darch; Tina Romano; Fr Ron Mollison; Greg Whitney; Tess Walsh; Rodrigo Urbano.

Parish news

Trish works from home (Mondays and Fridays) from her converted sewing table! ⇨⇨⇨

Trish continues to work from our Priory Office on Wednesdays— this is our main day for preparing, producing, and posting our parish bulletin. Parish phone is checked regularly.



Pope launches COVID-19 emergency fund

The establishment of the emergency fund was boosted by a \$US750,000 (\$1.2m) contribution from Pope Francis, coinciding with a campaign launched by Catholic Mission titled, "We Are Still Here". It will be used to accompany impacted communities in mission countries via Church structures and institutions.

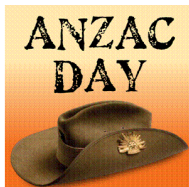
It focuses on the continued presence of missionaries in communities around the world where the impact of COVID-19 is exacerbated by poverty and inequality. The campaign has raised more than \$50,000 and will run until June 30.

"The support of our global missionary network and the critical projects they operate, including pastoral care, water, health and sanitation initiatives is as critical now as ever," said Fr Brian Lucas, national director of Catholic Mission.

Saturday 25th April... ANZAC Day
Service at home—

www.rslqld.org/ANZACDay

This year, stand with a candle in your driveway, on your balcony or in your living room to remember all those who have served and sacrificed. At 6am, you can stream an audio file from RSL Qld website of a short commemorative service from wherever you are at home.



Today's Readings

3rd Sunday Easter:
First Reading Acts 2:

14, 22-33 It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades. **Second Reading 1 Peter 1: 17-21** The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading Luke 24: 13-35 They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Updates & Resources: See this tab on our website page also..

* **Liturgy Brisbane** has offered 2 additional resources for **every weekend** which are very useful for **families with kids**. Please feel free to view or download [here](#)

* **Maintaining Social Connection while Maintaining Social Distance** – A reflection from Paul Jensen, Director of Mission and Formation at Centacare. [Click here.](#)

* The Australian Government and **BEYOND BLUE** have launched a **Coronavirus Mental Wellbeing Support Service** available to support all Australians to manage the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their mental health and wellbeing. [Click here for more information.](#)

Parish news

From Bishop Ken Howell...

while we have been forced to close church doors, we are finding new and creative ways to reach out and bring Church to the people. To share just one inspiring example of this, in the four-day period between Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday last week there were 93,000 views of Masses and Easter services on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel. This included 13,000 views of Holy Thursday Mass held at St Vincent's Hospital Chapel to pray for the sick and those who care for them. Masses and Easter week services were also livestreamed across 28 Archdiocesan parishes and multicultural communities during that four day period engaging an additional 57,000 views. That's 150,000 views of Catholic Mass and services across the Archdiocese on Easter week – with Church doors closed.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Feeling unwell? If you develop a fever, a cough, sore throat or shortness of breath, contact a doctor or call 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84).
our commitment to ensure that

Social Justice

**SIGNIFICANT DATES
APRIL:**

Saturday 25: 1945: opening of First United Nations Conference.

Sunday 26: 1986: nuclear accident in Chernobyl, Ukraine, causing thousands of deaths.

Tuesday 28: World Day for Safety and Health at Work

Wednesday 29: Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare.

1 May St Joseph the Worker

For over 20yrs the Catholic Church in Australia has marked this Feast with a pastoral letter to place Catholic Social Teaching in dialogue with current work issues in Australia. Created by laity and bishops.

The Parish of St James

165 Old Cleveland Road.

Postal:

PO Box 1051

COORPAROO DC, QLD, 4151

Phone: (07) 3397 1671 OR 3847 3696

Email: osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Administrator: pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au

Web: www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au



Primary School

92 Kirkland Ave,
Coorparoo, 4151.

John Bates - Principal

Phone: 3457 1100

Fax: 3847 3337

Email: pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.stjames.qld.edu.au/



Administration

Parish Priest	Fr Francis Belciña OSA	3397 1671
Assistant Priest	Fr Ngọc Hải Đăng Nguyễn OSA	3397 1671
On Pastoral Experience	Br Tuan Anh Le OSA	3397 1671
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad	3397 1671
Parish Council Chairperson	Ray Mitchell	3892 1682
Finance Committee	Mark Garden	mrkgarden9@gmail.com
Pastoral Care	Parish Office	3397 1671
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson	capearson @optusnet.com.au

Several Options to Financially Support Your Parish:

- **Thru Direct Debit (this is the recommended option).** Kindly complete the [“Direct Debit Request - Offertory Giving” form](#), and drop the completed form in the Priory Letterbox, or scan it (or take a picture of it) and send it via email to the parish office. This *direct debit request* gives you the option to nominate your donation to the Augustinians and/or the Parish. We will then submit your form to ADF for processing. (If you're receiving this by email, you may click on the link and access the form; if you're receiving this by post, the form is available on our parish website).

With the Direct Debit method, one has the liberty to decide on the amount to be donated as well as the frequency of this (weekly, fortnightly or monthly). This donation method mirrors our Sunday collection: 1st Collection (**Augustinian Order**) and/or 2nd Collection (for the upkeep of **St James Parish**).

- Thru processing your own transfer using your bank account app or website.

1st Collection: Augustinian Order	2nd Collection: St James Parish
Account Name: Augustinian Priory	Account Name: St James Parish
BSB: 064 786	BSB: 064 786
Account #: 006160102	Account #: 006161103
Reference: (Surname, & First Name if first name fits too)	Reference: (Surname, & First Name if first name fits too)

- **Thru the Planned-Giving envelopes** which you already have. You may drop them off at any time in the letterbox at the top of St James Priory steps.
- You may mail in a cheque at any time. Please indicate if it's going towards **ST JAMES PARISH** and/or the **AUGUSTINIAN ORDER**.

Next Sunday's Readings:

4th Sunday Easter: First Reading Acts 2: 14, 36-41 God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

Second Reading 1 Peter 2: 20-25 You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Reading John 10: 1-10 I am the gate of the sheepfold.

For complete Sunday's readings, visit our St James website (look for the Prayer tab).