

**Prepare your space** Turn off all electronics, light a candle, and sit in a comfortable chair

**Prepare your head:** Take a few moments to sit in silence, to allow your thought to calm and to focus yourself on God and being open to his word...

To help focus yourself spend a few moments meditating on this passage: "Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia."

Then listen to or sing an Easter hymn.

#### Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **Opening Prayer**

May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

# First Reading | Acts 2:14, 22-33

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."

The word the Lord. Thanks be to God

## **Responsorial Psalm** | PS 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

# **Second Reading** 1 Peter 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.

The word the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **Gospel** | Luke 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.

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Reflection Questions**

- 1. What words/phrases or images strike you? Why?
- 2. How does Jesus Resurrection offer us hope?
- 3. What are some of the ways that Jesus walks with us in our journey?
- 4. Jesus brings victory in His Resurrection: What graces do you want to ask of Him this week?

#### Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Petitions | Response: Lord, hear our prayer

- 1. For all God's people, that in meditating on Christ's Paschal Mystery, we may have an increase of hope, we pray to the Lord....
- 2. For those in positions of leadership throughout the world, give them wisdom and prudence and may they use their influence to effect positive change and promote the common good, we pray to the Lord...
- 3. For the whole world, that it may truly know the peace give by Christ, especially during these trying times, we pray to the Lord...
- 4. For all health care workers, and all public servants who care for us, that they may have a greater outpouring of perseverance, patience and trust, we pray to the Lord...
- 5. For all those who are feeling the economic impact of these trying times, especially those who have lost their jobs and their families, we pray to the Lord...
- 6. For all those who are sick in body and spirit, those on our prayer chain and those dealing with the Coronavirus, we pray to the Lord....
- 7. For all those who have died, especially in our own families, and for consolation to those who mourn, we pray to the Lord...

God of life, you are the source and the destiny of our lives. Kindle your Spirit within us and hear the prayers we offer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Offertory

#### **Pray**

Receive, O Lord, we pray, these offerings of your exultant Church, and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness, grant also that the gifts we bring may bear fruit in perpetual happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

#### **Meditate**

What do you want to offer to the Lord?

- -What struggles in your own life?
- -A person you want to offer up in prayer?
- -Something I want to thank/praise God for

### Giving

Your financial support is very important to our parishes, even if we are not able to celebrate Mass as a faith community. The majority of our parishes' expenses will still be incurred even though we do not have weekend Masses. You now have the option to make your gift online through a portal set up by the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

Use this link: <a href="https://dbqarch.org/donate-to-your-parish">https://dbqarch.org/donate-to-your-parish</a> or click on it from our linkage website. Choose your amount and select your parish from the drop-down menu, which is listed alphabetically by city. Just complete the fields and click donate! The Archdiocese will notify us of all gifts and transfer the funds directly to the parish account. If you would like to make an additional gift later, please repeat the same process. Please contact Mary Quinlin, linkage business manager, at dbq108bm@dbqarch.org if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!

#### Our Father...

### **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### **Closing Prayer**

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord, and grant, we pray, that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries may attain in their flesh the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.

Through Christ our Lord.

#### Stay connected!

Website	franklinhardincatholic.org/
Facebook	Livestream Masses and Videos from Fr. Kevin can be found at: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/StPatrickHampton">https://www.facebook.com/StPatrickHampton</a>
YouTube	OR you can also visit our YouTube channel: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaDhY0kFJcygZcv-4L9mIsg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaDhY0kFJcygZcv-4L9mIsg</a>

### April 26 – The Road to Emmaus and the Eucharist

This Sunday we hear the story of the "Road to Emmaus"; where two disciples are walking along and Resurrected Jesus walks up beside them, although they don't recognize them. They are upset about everything that happened regarding Jesus, but then Jesus opens up the Scriptures to them. He then stays for a meal with them and He is revealed to them at the breaking of the bread!

We see in this story part of the pattern of how we worship as Catholic Christians. There are two "parts" of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In the Liturgy of the Word, we listen to the readings from Sacred Scripture, and how they point to and reveal Christ (that's why we always juxtapose readings from different parts of Scripture (usually an Old Testament reading, a Psalm, a New Testament reading and the Gospel Reading)). Just as Jesus walked along with the disciples on their road, so we believe Jesus walks with us as we meditate and pray with Scriptures and He speaks to us through them (even if we don't immediately recognize Him).

Then we have the Liturgy of the Eucharist, which involves taking the bread, blessing it, breaking it, and giving it (Fun fact "Blessed, Broken, and Given was the THEME of this past NCYC; so you can ask our youth who attended NCYC about that). And as we hear in the Emmaus story it was then that their eyes were opened and Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is partly why for us as Catholic Christians the Eucharist is such a central part of our faith and worship. Besides the fact that Jesus commanded us to "do this in memory of me," we have this story of Emmaus that gives a little more of the WHY; that somehow in some way, Jesus is revealed is MADE PRESENT in the Eucharist. We disagree with our other Christian brothers and sisters of other denominations just HOW Jesus is present in that, but no Christian can dispute that Jesus said we should take the bread and the wine together and that SOMEHOW Jesus is present in that experience!

For us as Catholic Christians, we have a much more robust belief of the level of Jesus' presence; that Jesus isn't just metaphorically present, but is REALLY TRULY present, that the very essence of the bread and the wine itself is changed to Jesus Christ really truly fully present with us "Body, Blood, soul, and Divinity!" In a way it is through the Mass and thus the Eucharist the Jesus extends the power of the Paschal Mystery (His Passion, Death, and Resurrection); to us throughout time.

The Eucharist is first of all connected to the saving power of Christ Crucified on the Cross (He says "this is my Body, this is my Blood, which will be given up and poured out for you"); and secondly it is connected to His saving and victorious power of the Resurrection – as we hear in the story of the Road to Emmaus that the Resurrected Christ (and thus the fullness of the Resurrection), is made known to the two disciples in "the breaking of the bread."

This is why the Mass and the Eucharist is so core to our worship as Catholic Christians; this is why the Church talks about the Eucharist as "the source and summit of the entire Christian life" (see Catechism of the Catholic Church #1324)

I know it's a painful time in the midst of this pandemic that we cannot gather together in person to pray the Mass and share in the Eucharist together! But may this be a time to deepen our hunger for that Eucharist, for our appreciate for this profound mystery that Christ desires to reveal and give Himself to us in such an intimate way!

But may we also remember too, during this time, that just as with the disciples on the Road to Emmaus, that Christ is with us and walking with us, even if at times we don't see or recognize Him with us!

Peace,

-Fr. Kevin