

Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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Third Sunday of Easter - 18th April 2021

This Weekend **Apr 18th**

11.00 a.m. 1. Eamon Harte

2. Jack Colgan (Months Mind)

Weekday Masses: **St Mary's Church at 11.00 a.m.**

Wed 21st Apr People of the Parish

Next Weekend: **Apr 25^h**

11.00 a.m. 1. Donal Drake (First Anniv.)

RECENTLY DECEASED - Please pray for William (Billy) Kelly, Lisnageeragh, who died recently. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Requiescant in Pace.

An Easter prayer

Living Lord,

When we stand before the empty tomb

We don't always feel the joy of resurrection.

We feel fear, doubt and mistrust.

Our lives at times feel empty.

Help us to welcome new life.

Fill the emptiness with new light.

Call us to abundant new life.

Guide us in the light of your love

• The Deep End • 'You are Witnesses of these things' •

Today's Gospel is one of the resurrection accounts from St Luke's Gospel. It begins with the disciples recalling their experience on the road to Emmaus and how they recognised Jesus in the breaking of the bread. The Gospel continues into another account of the Risen Jesus with his disciples. Jesus interrupts the disciple's story and greets them with 'Peace' (Shalom) yet, in this account, they are terrified by this. Jesus shows them his wounds and Luke tells us that they are full of joy, but they still can't believe it and think it is a ghost. Jesus shows them that he is no ghost as he asks for food and eats fish with them. Jesus then journeys with them back through the scriptures in order to open their minds. He speaks to them compassionately, trying to relieve their anxiety and fear.

Jesus tells the disciples that 'you are witnesses of these things'. Luke wants to establish an important point, that these disciples are witnesses to the Resurrection, they ate with Jesus after his death and he opened their minds. The Resurrection accounts in the Gospels are not fantasy, they are the actual experiences of Jesus' disciples. So often in Luke's Gospel Jesus conveys his message through food and banquets, moments of celebration. The Risen Christ brings compassion and joy into difficult spaces. Today let us share with Jesus the situations in our lives which need an injection of compassion and Easter joy.

'Every year the dull and dead in us meets our Easter challenge: to be open to the unexpected, to believe beyond our security, to welcome God in every form, and trust in our own greening.'
(Joyce Rupp) - Jane Mellett (INTERCOM)

• Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel •

1. When we are not expecting it to happen, even a good event can startle us. So it was with the disciples when Jesus appeared to them. He sought to calm them and helped them to see the good news behind what had initially alarmed them. Who has been a Jesus person for you by helping you to find meaning and good news in life?

2. Jesus helped the disciples to find new hope, but he did not give them easy answers. He asked them to see the facts before their eyes. He wanted them to learn from the lived experience they were having. As a parent, teacher, friend or guide, have you been a Jesus person to another, helping him/her to find hope and purpose in life by learning from his/her experiences? Who has done this for you?

3. Jesus opened their minds to 'understand the scriptures', and the effect was transformative. Perhaps there have been times when a new and deeper understanding of scripture has had a transformative impact on you. Recall the experience and give thanks for those who opened the scriptures for you.

4. The resurrection experience empowered the disciples to be witnesses. Unexpected possibilities for the future surfaced when it seemed that hope had gone. When have new possibilities opened for you after a 'resurrection' experience: recovery of health when it did not seem possible, new opportunities after failure or disappointment, inner healing after a deep hurt, etc?

- John Byrne osa (INTERCOM)

"Abandon yourself for a little while to God and rest in his love" - St Anselm

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire" - St Catherine of Siena

"Jesus Christ, inner light, you came not to judge the world, but so that with the Risen Lord, every human being might be saved and reconciled. Your love forgives and enfolds us. Then our hearts, even when afflicted, can begin to love anew" - Br Roger

JOY - "Joy shows from the eyes, it appears when one speaks and walks. It cannot be kept closed inside us. It reacts outside. When people find in your eyes that habitual happiness, they will understand that they are the beloved children of God" - Mother Teresa of Calcutta

The Development of the Gospels

The public ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus.

From the start of his public ministry, Jesus called the apostles to be witnesses to all that he said and did. They saw Jesus show compassion to the poor and the outcast. They heard him teach great truths in a simple style so that everyone could understand him. They saw him heal the sick and even restore the dead to life. They saw him suffer and die. Then, after his resurrection, Jesus appeared to them at different times and in different places. This led the apostles to believe that Jesus was the promised messiah. He had brought a message of salvation for all people.

Divine Inspiration

Christians believe that, as with the other books of the Bible, the Gospels were written under divine inspiration. This means that:

- God guided the evangelists as they wrote.
- The evangelists recorded the things God wanted to reveal and in the way God wanted to reveal them.

'Faith Alive' - Junior Cert Religion Book

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- Fr Tom Healy -