



ST. DENIS Parish

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Diocese web site: www.archsaintboniface.ca

LOVE GOD LOVE OTHERS TRAIN DISCIPLES

Eucharistic Celebrations :

Sunday, April 26th - private mass – Sereena Klassen (Simone & André Lambert)

Friday, **May 1st - 9:00 am** Adoration and reconciliation
private mass – René Dedieu (funeral collection)

Sunday, **May 3rd - private mass – Alphonsine DiNottia (Tognet)**
(Gamby & Katopodis families)

Sanctuary Lamp – this week: **Denis & Claudette Philippe**

God's Share April to date : \$715.00 + \$22.00 (loose) + \$360.00 (DD) = **\$1097.00**

Holy Land Collection to date : **\$85.00 (6)**

Raffle Draw: A new date for the bazaar has not yet been chosen but the draw will be made at that time. So continue selling all those tickets whenever you have a chance. It's a bit difficult with the social distancing protocol but we do what we can.

Readings for Sunday: May 3, 2020



Acts 2: 14a, 36b-41;
1 Peter 2: 20b-25;

Psalm 23: 1-3a, 3b, 4, 5, 6;
John 10: 1-10

Prayer Intention for April 2020:

Freedom from Addiction - We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter (A)

Words from Fr. Peter to parishioners of St. Claude and St. Denis,

Brothers and sisters,
Recently, I have listened to a song named "**Lean on me**". This song was written and recorded by Bill Withers. I like its melody. It sounds like an informal conversation between good friends. What strikes me the most are the lyrics of this song - simple, sincere and very meaningful.

*"Sometimes in our lives
We all have pain, we all have sorrow.
But if we are wise,
We know that there's always tomorrow.*

*Lean on me when you're not strong
I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.*

*Please swallow your pride
If I have things you need to borrow
For no one can fill those of your needs
That you won't let show.*

*You just call on me, brother, when you need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on.
I just might have a problem that you'll understand,
We all need somebody to lean on"...*

This is a one of the inspirational songs for me during this difficult and uncertain time due to the Coronavirus pandemic. At present moments, we all are coping with the consequences of the pandemic, such as self-isolation, boredom, unemployment, financial crisis, domestic violence in some families, etc. In the middle of sadness and darkness, there is always light and hope. Life is worth living when we know that we are not alone. Yes, we all have pain and sorrow but we all have someone to lean on—good friends, neighbor, family, and the positive and beautiful things happening around us daily. If we take a moment of silence at the end of the day to review the day, count blessings, we will realize that we have thousands of reasons to be thankful for in our lives.

We are trying our best to overcome the ups and downs in our lives. That is good. But if we are wise, we need to rely on divine assistance. Remember that God is always with us. Jesus said: "**Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid**" (Mark 6:50). He promised to be with us always, to the end of the age (Mt 28:19). He invites us to come to Him, all of us that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and He will give us rest (Matthew 11:28). As people of faith, we are blessed because we can lean on Jesus in any circumstances. Therefore, cast all our anxiety on Him, because he cares for us (1 Peter 5:7).

The Gospel reading of the 3rd Sunday of Easter (Luke 24: 13-35) tells us the story of the two disciples of Jesus walking on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. After the death of Jesus, they were coping with an uncertain future. Sadness and despair occupied their minds and hearts. Jesus came, walking with them, talking with them, interpreting to them the things about himself in all the

Scriptures. However, their eyes were kept from recognizing him. Finally, they recognized Jesus at the breaking of the bread. They discovered that their hearts were burning while Jesus was opening the Scriptures to them. Overwhelmed with joy, that same hour, they got up and returned to Jerusalem, sharing with other disciples the joy of meeting the Risen Lord.

Brothers and sisters,

Remember that Jesus is accompanying us on our Emmaus Road. Open our hearts to welcome Him. Invite Him to stay with us. Spend time with Him in prayer to deepen our personal relationship with Him. We will recognize him; recognize his presence in our brothers and sisters and in the ordinary experiences of our lives.

Keep hoping and believing, Jesus will show us the path of life for He is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6).

Some announcements to share with you as follows:

- ***The cancellation of assemblies for Sunday Mass until the end of April, as decreed on March 19 in Liturgical Protocol III, is now being extended until Monday, May 18, 2020.***
- You can watch daily Mass, and Sunday Mass on TV. In our archdiocese, every Sunday morning, Masses will be celebrated by His Grace Albert LeGatt, and will be broadcast LIVE onto the Archdiocesan Facebook page. Mass time: 9:00 - In French; 10:30 - In English.
- You can receive the Holy Communion spiritually by saying this prayer:
“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.
- **Ringling of Church Bells:** Archbishop LeGatt invites parishes to ring church bells at noon on Easter Sunday and on every Sunday until Pentecost, i.e. till the end of the Easter season. In St. Claude and St. Denis- Haywood, we will ring the bells to express the joy of Easter, and to express our gratitude to all frontline workers who dedicate themselves for the service of many people during this pandemic. We are invited to show our deep appreciation for all these people and pray for them.
- Please follow our parish Facebook page: “Paroisse Saint-Claude Parish” for updated information.
- I am here to serve you, do not hesitate to contact me at parish number 2043792434 or my cell as seen on the parish bulletin.
- *I would like to thank you all for your donations to our parishes in these difficult times. We hope to receive your continued support to maintain our pastoral activities in our parishes. May the Lord reward you abundantly for your generosity.*

You are in my thoughts and my daily prayers! May the Lord keep you safe and healthy!

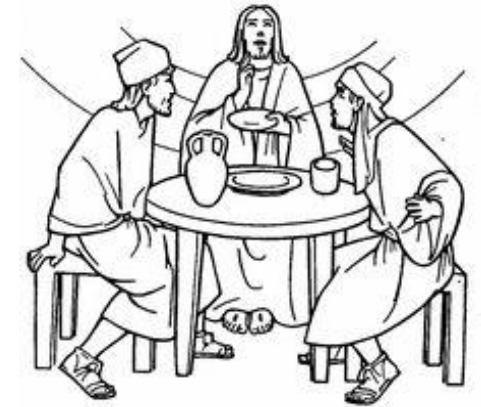
Fr. Peter Le

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter (A)

Stay with us!

It is possible that many of us have different ideas when we consider Christ's Resurrection – perhaps even a reanimation of a corpse. Engravings and paintings have featured a tortured face, wounds and bloody traces on Christ's body, hands and feet. The Gospels use language that reflects these images. Yet the stories they depict are far more complex. Jesus appears to his Apostles in a house whose doors are locked. As soon as the disciples recognize Christ, He disappears.



We may expect an explanation of Christ's Resurrection based on scientific verification that could be examined in a laboratory and produce measurable, precise and irrefutable details. This is impossible. The Risen Jesus can only be perceived in and through faith. In St. Mark's Gospel, Jesus reproaches the Eleven for their disbelief and hardness of hearts (Mark 16:14). In fact, after His Resurrection, many who had known and even followed Jesus and to whom Jesus had appeared, hesitated to believe, and did not recognize the Risen Lord, raised from the dead.

The story of the travelers on the road to Emmaus clearly illustrates this fact. Two depressed and sad people (traditionally we have referred to them as two men, but it could possibly have been a man and a woman) are travelling together when a stranger joins them. The travelers said that Jesus disappointed them. Christ had seemed like a mighty prophet but was crucified as a condemned criminal. Their hopes had been destroyed. The stranger, however, speaks to them of their faith in God and explains the Scriptures. The two travelers did not recognize the voice or guess the identity of their companion. His words intrigued them and when it came time to part, they ask him to stay with them. The stranger then broke bread and shared it. The travelers were enlightened: It was Jesus, but He had already disappeared.

The Risen One does not try to trick us into believing in him. Christ reveals Himself when we are suffering from despair and helps us to re-examine our lives and make different choices based on our spiritual traditions. As we reconnect with our spiritual community, we share in Christ's Eucharist. Then we begin to understand and say as did the travelers, *Stay with us!*

André Beauchamp

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli