

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

This Sunday's Gospel tells the classic story of the presence of the Risen Jesus in the lives of his followers. Two discouraged disciples walk home to Emmaus after Jesus' Death in Jerusalem. A stranger falls in step and helps them see that the Messiah was not to be a triumphant king, but a suffering servant. At supper they recognize the stranger as Jesus in the breaking of the bread. At Mass we listen to the Scripture and we recognize the Risen Christ in the community and in the breaking of the Eucharistic bread.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): The story of the Risen Jesus meeting two followers on the road is full of details your child will remember. Help your child understand that every time you go to Mass you recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

Promise (Grades K-1): This week's lesson helped your child understand how Jesus is with us today—in the Eucharist, in the priest, in the people who come together to celebrate the breaking of the bread, and in the Word of God. Share with your child how important Sunday Mass is to you. Ask your child to show and tell about the happy heart medallion he or she made in class.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned the importance of making loving choices. Ask your child to tell the family the story of Paul and how he changed. In your own words, tell the Gospel story of Jesus and the two disciples at Emmaus and talk about how you all recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread at Mass every Sunday.

Venture (Grades 4-6): The class focused on the story of Jesus and his disciples on the road to Emmaus, and discussed how we can recognize Jesus in our midst. Allow your child to have an opportunity to tell you about his or her own Emmaus Walk, and to share what was learned about the different characters met along the journey. Ask your child to tell you about how our faith practices and traditions are similar to the disciples' in the Gospel.

Visions (Grades 7-8): When the two disciples in the Gospel story walk with Jesus to Emmaus, they began to understand why Jesus had to suffer. They also recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Make a list of questions each of you would want to ask Jesus if you had the chance to take a long walk with him. Share the questions with one another. Talk, too, about ways you can make Mass a more important part of your life. Your family may want to go to weekday Mass during the Easter season.

Pray Together

Each day this week, pray the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be together. These three prayers weave together many of the great mysteries of the Easter feast.