

A JUBILEE RESOURCE FOR THE WEEKS OF LENT 2016



CALLED TO BE a people of

HOPE



"The season of Lent during this Jubilee Year should also be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy. How many pages of Sacred Scripture are appropriate for meditation during the weeks of Lent to help us rediscover the merciful face of the Father!" MV 17

MERCIFUL like the Father

POSTSCRIPT
Emmaus and the Resurrection

 JUBILEE
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POSTSCRIPT EMMAUS AND THE RESURRECTION

*'Did not our hearts burn within us
as he talked to us on the road.'*

This is either a simple "postscript" to the session on the Passion or one which you may like to use sometime during the Easter season. Fr Henry reflects upon the Easter narrative and the journey to Emmaus by way of helping us understand a completed narrative of mercy, love, and forgiveness in the Gospel of Luke.

OPENING PRAYER

O God of mystery,
out of death you delivered Jesus Christ,
and he walked in hidden glory with his disciples.

Stir up our faith,
that our hearts may burn within us
at the sound of his word,
and our eyes be opened to recognize him
in the breaking of bread.

Grant this through Jesus Christ, the first born from the dead,
who lives and reigns with you now and always in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen

WORD OF GOD

Luke 24:13-34

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the

whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

REFLECTION

Fr Henry Wansbrough OSB

The short reflection from Fr Henry is available to download from cliftondiocese.com. Play the video clip [here](#).

QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION

Do I allow the Risen Lord to accompany me in those moments of anxiety, loneliness and fear? Am I aware that he walks alongside of me? Do I allow my heart to *burn within* at the sound of his Word?

The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord. How is my celebration of the Sunday Eucharist an invitation to embark upon a week of mission?

Am I a missionary and disciple of mercy and forgiveness? If not, how might I be more so?

Re-read the Scripture passage for this session. You may like to follow the reading with a time of prayer and intercession after which you might pray the OUR FATHER.

FINAL PRAYER

Loving Father,
you are a God of mercy and compassion.

We thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, into our world
to show and teach us how to love.

When we walk through the
Door of Mercy during this Holy Year,
may we open our hearts to you
so that we may reflect your love, mercy
and compassion in our families,
communities and parishes.

May we walk with Jesus through the 'streets of Galilee',
comforting the sick, opening our arms
to the 'little ones', sharing with the poor
and searching out the marginalised in our society.

May it be a year when barriers between us fall
and reconciliation becomes possible:
a year when our faith in your mercy is strengthened
and we learn how to be your face of mercy in our world. Amen.