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WHAT IS YOUR FAITH JOURNEY LIKE, ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS?

The road to Emmaus story is one of the great and wonderful stories that have come down to us, probably the most popular one next to the stories of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son.

But for all of its marvelousness, it is interesting to note that the biblical scholars and the archaeologists have yet to discover just where this little town of Emmaus was. They haven't quite found its location. The biblical scholars whom I followed during the Israeli Study Programme in Israel some years ago, never quite agreed on the exact location, which made me reflect that I might as well find my own Emmaus spiritual journey.

And maybe just as well, I think, because the way the gospel is written, the road to Emmaus story is less an account of geography than it is a story of every person's story.

And it is a universal journey, a kind of prototype story of human existence itself because the simple fact is that every human being, you and I and everyone who's ever lived, is a sojourner. We're all travellers on this road of life, all of us, therefore, as the gospel suggests, travel the same way. And at this moment our journey on the road to Emmaus, is interrupted by an enemy we cannot see, covid-19.

The Emmaus story in the gospel of Luke tells us, the two disciples were downcast while on the road to Emmaus when they met a stranger. As it was getting late they invited him to share their food and hospitality. It was only at the breaking of the bread that they recognised him as the risen Jesus.

Now we see why the Emmaus story is also our story. As we walk along the road we meet the stranger who offers us comfort and a promise in the midst of this crisis. More importantly, the Emmaus story urges while we wait for things to get better, we offer deeds of love, concern and neighbourliness to one another. This, Jesus promises, will be our point of entry to finally recognising someday that he broke bread with us, and we will survive this time of unease and uncertainty soon, with hearts burning with fire and hope for a safer and brighter future.

On our road to Emmaus we thank all those on the frontline fighting this dreadful virus, saving lives, and the essential workers. We also remember all those who have lost their lives because of covid-19.

Reflection by Glenn de Cruz, CSSR

Novena notes



3rd Sunday of Easter
 Year A
 26th April 2020

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 26 April	Ac 2:14,22-33; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35 Show us, Lord, the path of life.
Mon, 27 April	Ac 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29 They are happy whose life is blameless.
Tue, 28 April St. Peter Chanel, St. Louis M. Grignion de Montfort	Ac 7:51-8:1; Jn 6:30-35 Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Wed, 29 April St. Catharine of Sienna	Ac 8:1-8; Jn 6:35-40 Cry out with joy to God all the earth.
Thu, 30 April St. Pius V	Ac 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51 Cry out with joy to God all the earth.
Fri, 1 May St. Joseph the Worker	Ac 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59 Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.
Sat, 2 May St. Athanasius	Ac 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69 How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?

All other services, including novenas and weekday masses remain suspended. The church will also remain closed during the week.