

*We Respond*

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**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** (or a hymn) Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 15)

**ANTIPHON:** Lord, you will show us the path of life

**RESPONSE:** Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Or **Alleluia.**

**LECTOR:** Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord: "You are my God. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize." **R.**

**LECTOR:** I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

**LECTOR:** And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

**LECTOR:** You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** (or a hymn) The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

**TODAY'S READINGS** Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

**NEXT WEEK** (4th Sunday of Easter, Year A) Acts 2:14, 36-41; Ps 22; 1 Peter 2:20-25; Jn 10:1-10

*Want  
to learn  
more?*

Mother's Day will be celebrated around the country on Sunday May 10. Families will get together to celebrate their wonderful mums. In her book, *Being a Catholic Mother*, Elizabeth Davies looks at what it means being a Catholic mother in this day-and-age. The single mum to four children explores her faith and how she "weathers the storms" in her life. The book is available from Majellan Media for \$19.95 (postage included). Further details from **03 9592 2777** or **office@majellan.org.au**

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*God is always  
with us*



**26 April 2020 3rd Sunday Easter Year A**

Shocked and bewildered after the brutal execution of Jesus, two of the disciples were wrestling with the horrific events they had been swept up in. In their trauma, they were discussing the words and promises of Jesus about the coming Reign of God, and how cruelly their hopes had been shattered with his arrest and crucifixion. They had expected Jesus to be the Messiah, fulfilling the ancient hopes of Israel.

But they were even more baffled by reports from some women in their group that Jesus was not dead. How could this be after what they had been through?

Curiously, they do not recognise Jesus when he starts walking by their side, asking why they were so downcast. He patiently explains how the prophets and Scriptures point to the coming of Christ. They still do not recognise him until at the meal that evening, he breaks the bread, but then disappears. Amazed, they hurry back to Jerusalem with their news, to hear that Jesus had also appeared to Simon.

What an amazing incident. No wonder it was so treasured by the early Christians. Who among us today would not welcome Jesus joining us in our journey, walking with us, and explaining how God's grace was unfolding in the mystery of our lives?

The message of St Luke is that Christ does indeed walk with us in our life journey, as a community in the breaking of bread,

the Eucharist, but as individuals too, in our joys and sadness. Some people have a deep sense of God's love and presence in their lives and families. But others may not feel the closeness of God's touch, and long for such a sense of love and intimacy. It can seem like God is playing hide-and-seek with them.

This is not a bad thing. We are all seekers, and God loves nothing more than for us to seek him out, each in our own way. Just as the relationship between two lovers is unique, so is our relationship with God. We long to know more about how intensely God loves us, even to the point of laying down his life in Jesus in his total commitment to all humanity.

We are all especially called into the mystery of his Resurrection, by contributing in our own tiny perhaps, but graced way of loving and working to transform the earth into a realm of peace and justice, while realising that Jesus identifies most with those who are distressed or oppressed. We can be sure that God delights in our little lives, and longs to walk with us, especially when our faces are downcast in difficult times. Then we hope we too may feel our hearts burning within us.

**Bruce Duncan CSsR**  
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