

**Let us Pray: Easter Sequence:**

**“Praise the Pascal Victim”**

Christians, to the Paschal Victim  
Offer your thankful praises!  
A Lamb the sheep redeems;  
Christ, who only is sinless,  
Reconciles sinners to the Father.  
Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous:  
The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.  
Speak, Mary, declaring  
What you saw, wayfaring.  
“The tomb of Christ, who is living,  
The glory of Jesus’ resurrection;  
bright angels attesting,  
The shroud and napkin resting.  
Yes, Christ my hope is arisen;  
to Galilee he goes before you.”  
Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining.  
Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!

Amen. Alleluia.



**Act of Love**

O Lord God,  
I love you  
above all things  
and  
I love my neighbor  
for your sake  
because you are  
the highest,  
infinite  
and  
perfect good,  
worthy of all my love.  
In this love I intend  
to live and die.

Amen.



Two of Jesus’ disciples set out for the town of Emmaus.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

Today’s Gospel shows us how the first community of disciples came to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In these stories we gain insight into how the community of the Church came to be formed.

We may be surprised to learn that these Cleopas and the other disciple of Jesus could walk and converse with him at some length yet not recognize him. Again we discover that the risen Jesus is not always easily recognized. We learn that the first community met and recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

In that encounter we find the model for our Liturgy of the Word—what we do each time we gather as a community for the Eucharist. We reflect upon our life experiences and interpret them in light of Scripture. We gather together to break open the Word of God.

Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others.

**Family Connection**

Families, as the domestic church, have the opportunity to make the family meal a time of prayerful encounter with one another and with Jesus.

Invite each family member to share the things that are going on in his or her life. Consider what Jesus might say to each person if he were sitting at your dinner table. Conclude with a special prayer after your dinner. Pray a prayer of blessing for each family member, asking that Jesus continue to be present in each person’s life, helping each one to be a better follower of Jesus. Conclude with a Sign of Peace.

**CORONAVIRUS PRAYER**

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

**Heal** those who are **sick with the virus**. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

**Heal** us from our **fear**, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

**Heal** us from our **pride**, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, **healer of all**, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

**Be with those who have died** from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

**Be with the families** of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

**Be with the doctors**, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

**Be with the leaders** of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

**Jesus Christ, heal us.**

*“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.” [Numbers 6:24-26](#)*

**Readings for 3rd Sunday of Easter**

**First Reading**

*Acts 2:14,22-33*

Peter and the apostles announce that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalms 16:1-2,5,7-11*

God will show us the path of life.

**Second Reading**

*1 Peter 1:17-21*

You were saved by Christ’s sacrifice.

**Gospel Reading**

*Luke 24:13-35*

Jesus appears to two disciples who are walking to Emmaus.

**Special announcement from Fr. Joe**

Hello my dear parishioners,  
I hope you are all doing well. I remember all of you and your families in my daily prayers and the Holy Mass. Please keep me in your prayers as well.

In these challenging times you may wish to offer a Mass for a special intention. For those of you who wish to offer a Mass for a special intention such as a Mass for your beloved dead or for any intention in this time of pandemic, please call 519 323 1054 Ext. 7 and leave a message or send an email with your request to [stmarypastor@wightman.ca](mailto:stmarypastor@wightman.ca)  
I am very happy to do any Mass request for you while I am doing my daily Mass.  
May God bless you and keep you safe.

Fr. Joe (Pastor)