

Third Sunday of Easter

18th April 2021

Preparing the prayer space

Place a white cloth on the table or floor (white – the colour for Easter)

Place a cross, bible and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

- YouTube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
- Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
- Print out sheet if required



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<https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/revived-jesus-appears-to-disciples-100x100.jpg>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we hear that Jesus came to visit his disciples while they were travelling along the road to Emmaus.

Opening prayer: Lord God, we ask you to give us the courage to speak about the good things that Jesus has done for us. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to John (24:35-48).

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

The disciples from Emmaus told what happened on the road and how they knew he was the Lord when he broke the bread.

While Jesus' disciples were talking about what had happened, Jesus appeared to them and said, "May God give you peace!" They were frightened and terrified because they thought they were seeing a ghost.

But Jesus said, "Why are you so frightened? Why do you doubt? Look at my hands and feet and see who I am! Touch me and find out for yourselves. Ghosts don't have flesh and bones as you see I have."

After Jesus said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. The disciples were so glad and amazed that they could not believe it.

Jesus then asked them, "Do you have something to eat?" They have him a piece of baked fish. He took it and ate it as they watched.

Jesus said to the, "While I was still with you, I told you that everything written in the Law of Moses, the Books of the Prophets, and in the Psalms had to happen."

Then he helped them understand the Scriptures. He told them: "The Scriptures say that the Messiah must suffer, then he will rise from death. They also say that all people of every nation must be told in my name to turn to God, in order to be forgiven. So beginning in Jerusalem, you must tell everything that has happened."

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the video together

Road to Emmaus <https://youtu.be/cOvoOU5MQY0> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3QkZsKLU2o>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why the disciples were on the road to Emmaus ...

I wonder why Jesus appeared to the disciples...

I wonder why the disciples didn't recognise Jesus ...

I wonder where the other disciples were?...

I wonder why Jesus asked the disciples for something to eat?...

I wonder how they were feeling when Jesus said, "beginning in Jerusalem, you must tell everything that has happened"...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkJGQ> (4 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.

(We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer')

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders: that they can be leaders who keep their promises to whoever they lead.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for those people who were baptised and confirmed at Easter as well as those preparing for their Sacraments of Initiation. May they all continue to grow in knowledge and love of God as they journey with Jesus..

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray that our Church will continue to see the needs and reach out to those who are isolated, who don't have food to eat or a place to sleep.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*)

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all people who have died recently and or are suffering at this time. May they find their resting place with Jesus.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: Loving God, you gave us Jesus who walks with us everywhere we go. Hear our prayers and help us to go out in courage, to share the Good News Jesus brings. Amen.

Closing song: *Joy of the Lord* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8bf-D2-WDc> (3.40mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- **Prayer journal**

Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).

- **Share stories**

Jesus ate with his disciples and shared memories with them. Whilst eating lunch or dinner, use this time to share favourite memories and stories about your family.

- **Footstep dominoes**

The disciples were travelling to Emmaus. You can play a game of dominoes using this template from <https://www.jesus-without-language.net/psalm-25-craft-1/> . Discuss how God can lead us to amazing places when we journey with Jesus.