

Dear Padre,

Why are there different stories about Jesus' resurrection?

As a whole, the New Testament is a testimonial to the resurrection. About twenty years after Jesus' death, St. Paul offers the earliest written reference to the resurrection. (See 1 Thessalonians 1:10.) All four gospels tell the story of Jesus, who was crucified, rose from the dead, and appeared to his disciples. However, the evangelists incorporated elements that were handed on orally, and they presented them in their own style to address the particular needs and cultural backgrounds of their readers. Each author attempted to express the inexpressible resurrection within the limits of language, and they selectively highlighted or omitted material for theological purposes. If minor details vary among the writers—such as the number of women or angels at Christ's tomb—these variations are consistent with the nature of eyewitness accounts and recorded events as they are remembered. Divergent accounts are not false accounts. Despite discrepancies, the objective of the authors remained uncompromised: the identity of the historical Jesus of Nazareth is now the risen Lord of All. (See Acts 10:34–43.) Moreover, the authors wanted to convey this fundamental truth: Jesus Christ's defeat of death by his resurrection is central to our Christian hope and is the assurance of our own resurrection! Guided by the Holy Spirit, the gospels' resurrection accounts have inspired believers for 2,000 years—for “if Christ has not been raised, then...empty, too, your faith” (1 Corinthians 15:14). ●



Fr. Byron J. Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Mark, Evangelist	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 6:8–15 Jn 6:22–29	Acts 7:51–8:1a Jn 6:30–35	Acts 8:1b–8 Jn 6:35–40	Acts 8:26–40 Jn 6:44–51	Acts 9:1–20 Jn 6:52–59	1 Pt 5:5b–14 Mk 16:15–20	Acts 2:14a, 36–41 1 Pt 2:20b–25 Jn 10:1–10

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

The Church is brokenhearted at the cry of pain rising from places devastated by war... We must never get used to war!... For this reason, in the name of human dignity and international law, I reiterate to those in positions of responsibility the frequent warning of...Pope Pius XII: “Nothing is lost with peace. Everything may be lost with war.”

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 18, 2025



St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

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Three Basic Rules

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

The Emmaus story is about two disciples walking seven miles from Jerusalem to a village called Emmaus and their encounter with Jesus, whom they did not recognize. The story is rich in both symbolism and meaning. In a nutshell, it teaches us three basic rules for the formation of Christian community: *Welcome the stranger. Break open the word. Celebrate the Eucharist.* When we are faithful to these practices, we are faithful to the promise of the kingdom in our midst. If we choose to ignore these basic rules, we should not be surprised that we seem to be struggling.

Three out of three rules set the baseline. We cannot congratulate ourselves if we follow one or two of them

well enough and ignore the third. We cannot pick and choose. It is the Lord who sets the parameters; our mission is only to respond positively in faith to what he directs us to do.

How are we doing? An honest appraisal probably suggests that improvement is needed. Each of our local communities, and indeed even the wider Church, sometimes struggles to form an Emmaus community of faith. We know we can do better. The good news is that we are not uninformed, and we know where we need to place the most effort. The Holy Spirit of God will show us how we need to apply this renewed effort. ●

Reflect

Where does my family and parish need improvement to form a genuinely faithful Emmaus community?



The two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

LUKE 24:35

Third Sunday of Easter (A) April 19, 2026

On most Sundays during the Easter season in Cycle A, our Gospel is taken from the Gospel of John. This week's Gospel, however, is taken from the Gospel of Luke. As in last week's Gospel, 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.

When we read today's Gospel, we may be surprised to learn that these friends 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. Cleopas and the other disciple walk with a person whom they believe to be a stranger; only later do they discover that the stranger is Jesus. We learn that the first community met and recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

We can imagine the feelings of the two disciples in today's reading. They are leaving their community in Jerusalem. Their friend Jesus has been crucified. Their hope is gone. They are trying to make sense of what has occurred, so that they can put the experience behind them.

In the next part of the story, we find a model for our Liturgy of the Eucharist. The disciples invite the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. During the meal in which they share in the breaking of the bread, the disciples' eyes are opened; they recognize the stranger as Jesus. In the Eucharist too we share in the breaking of the bread and discover Jesus in our midst. Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem to recount their experience to the other disciples, we too are sent from our Eucharistic gathering. Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others.

**Mass Schedule & Intentions
For the week of April 20, 2025**

Mon.	Apr. 20	7:00 AM	SJ	No Mass
Tues.	Apr. 21	7:00 AM	SJ	Molly A. Walz
Wed.	Apr. 22	5:30 PM	SA	Chris Neal
Thurs.	Apr. 23	5:30 PM	SB	Jesse Bunner
Fri.	Apr. 24	8:30 AM	SJ	Jim Hickey †
Sun.	Apr. 26	8:00 AM	SJ	Rain
Sun.	Apr. 26	9:30 AM	SA	People of the Parish
Sun.	Apr. 26	11:00 AM	SB	Adele Hassenstal †



David Pandorf April 21st
 Kristy Opela April 22nd
 Iris Anderson April 23rd
 Tristan Welch April 23rd
 Karla Pandorf April 26th
 Quinton Boeser April 26th

The holy land group will be visiting our parishes on April 26th on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Their mission is to support those families in the holy land. When the holy land group visits our parishes they will have hand carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. We kindly invite you to visit their display and to consider purchasing a piece of art from the holy land. In doing so you will help support the many families who depend on this form of art for their living. Your purchase will make a difference in the lives of many Christian families.

Ministry Schedule

Date: April 26	St John's	St Agnes	St Boniface
Time	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>
Hospitality	Rex & Kristie W.	Julie B.	Cade O. & Newt O.
Lector	Jon W.	Katie W.	Rod B.
Server	Leo W. & Gregory W.		Emmett P, & Quinton B.
EMHC	Steve & Cindy F.	Charles F. & Gary M.	John R. & Lana P.
	Music: Kelsey A.		<i>Communion to shut ins</i> Verla B.

St. John's
Our Gifts to God & Church
April 12, 2026
Total Collection: \$2714.00

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal the GOAL is MET!!!

CCD Wed, April 22
 PreK to 5th 3:40 PM
 6th -12th Supper 6:30 Johnston
 Class Begins 7:00 PM

Parish Council Sunday
 April 19th

April 29th is the last CCD class!
 Mass at 5:30 PM for all CCD kids
 and families. Followed by
 barbecue and games.

St. Agnes
Our Gifts to God & Church
April 12, 2026
Total Collection: \$806.00

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal the GOAL is MET!!!

Thrift Store
 Open April 24 9AM to 4PM
CCD Wed April 22
 Elementary 3:40 PM
 High School 7:30 PM

Parish Council Monday
 April 20th at 6 PM

St. Boniface
Our Gifts to God & Church
April 12, 2026
Total Collection: \$2418.00

Diocesan Appeal
Dollar Goal the GOAL is MET!!!

CCD Wed, April 22
 PreK to 2nd 4-5 PM
 Supper 6:10
 Class 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Parish Council Thursday
 April 23rd 6 PM

*Congratulation on your 1st
 Communion (St John's)
 Garrett Arensdorf -
 Bria Boeser -
 Corbin Walz*

Quote for Today
Venerable Fulton Sheen (1895-1979)
 "If you do not live what you believe, you
 will end up believing what you live."