

Week 4

This week we began our fourth week of this unique experience. However, this week also presents us with the greatest day on the Church's calendar, the great celebration of Easter. This Sunday, in fact every Sunday, calls us to remember the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. Right now, we may not feel like celebrating and most certainly we have had more joyous Easters, yet it is still proper that we celebrate.

When we read Luke's Gospel about events that happened on the first Easter Sunday, we see that not all His disciples were happy. Many of them were at a great loss. Even when the women and the Apostles went out to see the empty tomb, they did not know what to think or believe. They questioned what they saw, or rather what they did not see, and they went back to the upper room to hide. As we follow Luke's account, we find ourselves on Easter Sunday Afternoon, walking to the road to Emmaus with two of the disciples. The two are extremely upset and discouraged, they truly believed that Jesus was the Messiah, but now they do not know what to think. As they walked and talked, they did not realize that they were joined on their walk by a stranger. When the stranger asked them what they were talking about, they became more upset and told the stranger what happened to Jesus and how they were hoping He was the Messiah. After that the stranger began to explain everything in the Scriptures that concerned the Messiah, and how He would have to undergo the events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday so humanity could be saved. Later, in the evening they arrived at their destination, and the two asked the stranger to join them, so He did. When they were at table, the stranger took bread, broke it and with that the two recognized Him and they knew that He was the Risen Lord. Their gloom and discouragement turned to joy, and they celebrated over seeing Jesus

During this time of Crisis, we too should be looking toward Jesus, we too should let our hearts be on fire when we contemplate all that God has done for us through Jesus Christ. While we all have been touched by the Virus, and we may know people who are suffering with it or worse, we must not lose heart and our faith in Jesus. For our brothers and sisters that have been called back to their heavenly home, let rejoice with them as they see God face to face, join loved ones who have gone on before them. For them this is the best Easter ever. What we do every time we gather in faith they now gather in certainty. Turn over all your sad feelings to God, let Him take them from you and rejoice with your family and friends (even if it is through social distancing) on this the greatest day and season of all. Hopefully, we will be able to be together in our beautiful Church to celebrate the Mysteries of our Faith.

God bless you always and Happy Easter

Fr. Mike