

In this world I cannot see the most high Son of God with my own eyes, except for his most holy Body and Blood.

St. Francis of Assisi

October 2022

Through the Eyes of Faith

“When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now.” – St. Teresa of Calcutta

“Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you - for you alone? He burns with desire to come into your heart.” – St Therese of Lisieux

“If we really loved the good God, we would make it our joy and happiness to come and spend a few moments to adore Him, and ask Him for the grace of forgiveness; and we would regard those moments as the happiest of our lives.” – St. John Vianney.

“God is as really present in the consecrated Host as He is in the glory of heaven.” – St Paschal Baylon.

“The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white Host.” – Archbishop Fulton Sheen

“Lord God, if I truly appreciated the majestic humility of the Eucharist...it would change my life forever.” – Mother Angelica



For information on Adoration, please contact Fr. Mirek: (845) 331-0846 or visit our webpage at:

<https://www.immaculateconceptionkingston.com/adoration-chapel-1>

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Peace and Joy to all. This is the second installment of a Eucharistic greeting card if you will. It is a thank you, and an invitation as well as a challenge to all faithful Catholics. Hopefully it will inspire you to more fully appreciate Jesus' gift of the Holy Eucharist and inspire a deeper understanding of the mystery of Jesus' institution of the Blessed Sacrament, that is, his real presence. It can also be a useful guide to adoring and worshipping Jesus, our Eucharistic Savior.

Last month we discussed one aspect of Pope St John Paul II's papal encyclical "On the Eucharist" which is available free on the Vatican website. In his conclusion, the Pope said "Each day my faith has been able to recognize in the consecrated bread and wine the divine Wayfarer who joined the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus and opened their eyes to the light and their hearts to new hope (cf. LK 24:13-35)". The account in Luke of the road to Emmaus is in a very real way the first Catholic Holy Mass. At first Jesus (the divine Wayfarer or stranger) opened the scripture (at that time ONLY the Old Testament) and explained to them how Jesus himself was present in all of the scripture.

Then at the end of the journey, Jesus is recognized as the same Jesus they knew in the breaking of the bread. After this, Jesus disappears. The disciples wondered how they could not recognize Jesus except in the breaking of the bread. Isn't this what we experience at every holy Mass? First, the liturgy of the Word, followed by the liturgy of the Eucharist. The bread was and is all that was visible. It was and is seen as bread, but it was and is actually Jesus' body, blood, soul and divinity. It was and is the same Jesus that lived, sacrificed his life for our sins and was resurrected to free us from eternal death. All actually present in the bread that he blessed and broke just as the priest does today. The bread in the monstrance in the adoration chapel is this bread, this Eucharist that Jesus promised us at the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. When you are in the chapel you will notice (in the photo above) that the Word of God is open. Take the time to read it and ask yourself what is Jesus teaching you about Himself and His love for you in scripture. I hope this card will make the presence of Lord in the Eucharist more "real" and may your time spent with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament bring you peace, consolation and joy. Pax et Bonum

Father Robert Presutti, LC Meditation on Luke 24:13-35

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his Body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the Eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Petition: Lord Jesus, walk by my side. Open up my person to the meaning of Scripture and the events of life. Make my heart burn within me with your words.

1. It Is Over: These two disciples had been badly shaken by the events of the last few days. They had courageously left home and family to follow the Lord. They had listened to his words, witnessed his miracles, and even generously gone out and preached in his name. They had expected Jesus to be the longed-for Messiah. And it was precisely at the moment Jesus referred to as "his hour", when he was accomplishing his greatest work, that these disciples broke with Jesus. What went wrong?

2. Intrusion by an Innocent Bystander: The two disciples are so centered on their own woes and wounds that they do not recognize who walks alongside them. Feeling sorry for ourselves does not help us go to God, but only immerses us further in our own impotence. What breaks through this situation? An unexpected question that destroys the incorrect assumptions of these two malcontents and invites them to look more deeply at their own situation. Reflection on the obvious, on the real events of our life (and not our own broken, limited plans and hopes) is what begins to open the door to a reborn hope. What are you talking about? Why? Did you fail to grasp something?

3. Sharing Our Bread with a Stranger: Christ is the shepherd that seeks out these two stray sheep. As always, he masterfully and gently enlightens their consciences and leads them to the truth. Listening to Christ prepares these two disciples to recognize him when he takes, breaks, blesses and gives them "bread"—the same actions of the Last Supper. After recognizing Our Lord in the "breaking of the bread", their entire dispositions change. Even their way of assessing events and situations changes. They had stopped for the evening, but after experiencing the Lord, they raced out in the middle of the night to share their experience with the others.

Conversation with Christ: Lord Jesus, teach me detachment from self, and acceptance of your glorious plan. Walk always by my side, and help me realize that as long as I am in conversation with You, even without my realizing it, there is always hope and salvation.

Resolution: I will let God break my own limited plans and expectations. I will talk to Christ about what goals he wants me to set for my life, impossible though they may seem.