

# From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Easter, 2018. In last Sunday's gospel, while the disciples were still discussing Jesus revealing himself to the two on the road to Emmaus, and then in the "breaking of the bread," Jesus appeared and standing with the disciples he said: "*Peace be with you.*" JOHN 24:36 Not only does He, the Resurrected Christ, come to wish *The Peace that will not end*, but He also teaches us to be so lovingly human in the fact that He is hungry, He is not a ghost, He is **really alive**, and we too can be alive in our new Life one day in a share in His Resurrection!



We spoke about our family story in the context of Jesus' story. It takes the disciples and us a period of time to recognize Jesus. Their eyes as our eyes are opened in the breaking of the bread. "*You are witnesses of these things.*" JOHN 24:48 This exclamation indicates that we as the eleven are invited to witness to Him. The disciples were eyewitnesses of His death and Resurrection. We too are His witnesses today in the world. We are in fact the hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

These Sunday gospels highlight the Eucharist! As the Easter Season unfolds, we enter into a greater understanding of what the Eucharist means to each and every one of us, at Mass and how our lives are changed by this very celebration. Our openness leads us to our participation in the celebration, and ultimately how we integrate this gift into our own lives and therefore become the Eucharist for one another. In a very real way in today's gospel, Jesus as the Good Shepherd following the last two Sunday gospels – shows how beautifully Our Lord cares for us.

He is The Good Shepherd giving us the *Panis Angelicus*, **The Heavenly Bread**, the **Gift of Life**. What more can be said! We are so blessed by Our God. Relish this gift! Don't be afraid to let the Good Shepherd lead you home through the healing and loving power of the Bread of Life He gives us. Let us say "Amen," "Yes Lord, I believe," and let this heavenly gift transform us to be a Holy People, a people of faith hope and love. And so, as Christ proclaims and invites us; let us say together: "Peace Be With you."

## In and Around the Parish

### Earth Day Initiative

Thanks again to the Committee for the Common Good and for their great organization for Earth Day this weekend. What a beautiful part of our call to be good stewards of our earth, which we integrate into our stewardship of the gifts our God has given us.

### First Holy Communion

We prepare now for First Holy Communions starting on April 21, and continuing on April 28 and May 5. Please congratulate all our young people on this great reception of this sacrament!

*Continued Blessings of Easter Joy!*  
*Father Ed, Pastor*