



From The Desk Of

Father Maddaloni

Strange, isn't it? Those disciples on the road to Emmaus walked along for miles with the very Jesus they had been following before the Passion, and yet, they failed to recognize him. It is not the first time that happened. Jesus's close disciple and good friend, Mary Magdalene, also failed to recognize him outside his tomb. How could people who loved Jesus and sincerely tried to follow him have failed to recognize him when they looked into his face?

Although I am amazed by this, I ask myself how often I have done *the exact same thing* – how often I have failed to recognize Jesus when he was standing right in front of me. I am sure I am not alone in that failure.

It is easy in our busy lives to forget that "...what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for [the Son of Man]" MATTHEW 25:45. It is easy to forget that we are baptized into Christ – we live in him as he lives in us. Do we see the suffering Christ as we look into the faces of those who suffer? Do we see the merciful Christ as we look into the faces of those who show us kindness? Do we recognize Christ in ourselves? Do we allow others to recognize Christ in us?

Do we see Christ in the ups and downs and plateaus of our lives?

Those disciples on the road were good men, but in their own suffering, caught up in their worries, preoccupied, they failed to recognize Jesus right there with them. Even so, they were open to the Word of God as they journeyed along. By opening their hearts to the Word, they became readier to recognize Christ who walked with them. Finally, they recognized him fully in the breaking of the bread.

May our journeys with Christ be as fruitful.

First Holy Communion

It is the season when many of our young people are making their first Holy Communion at special Masses here at St. Rosalie's. The first is this weekend, Saturday, April 29. We will have two more First Communion Masses on May 6 (at 10:30 and 1:00) and one in Spanish on May 13 (10:30). Please pray for these children that this be the start of a lifelong commitment to the Eucharist and the beginning of a deepening of each child's personal relationship with Christ.

Altar Servers

We are in need of altar servers! Quite a few young people (in grades four to six) in our religious instruction program and at Our Lady of the Hamptons have expressed an interest in participating in this important ministry. I have sent an email to the parents of every child who expressed an interest in my most recent class visits, but I have heard from very few. If you know a young person in fourth grade or in a higher grade who has already made his/her first Communion or will make it this year and who would like to be an altar server, please contact me, Father Maddaloni, at frsmaddaloni@optonline.net or call me at the Parish Center at 631-728-9461 ext. 24 and let me know.

Retrouvaille

"Marriages may be made in heaven, but they sure take a lot of work on earth." Retrouvaille is a Christian ministry. Retrouvaille weekends are designed to help married couples who are facing marital difficulties. Couples can get information at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or at 1-800-470-2230.