

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 26th April 2020

Third Sunday of Easter (A) Psalter Week 3

The Parish of the Holy Trinity,
Stroud Green



with
Holy Innocents, Hornsey

Seeking to know and serve God and our local community

The Lord who walks with us (Luke 24:13-35)

St. Luke's account of what happened to the disciples on the road to Emmaus (today's gospel reading) speaks powerfully to us about faith in Jesus Christ in difficult times. The two disciples were downcast because they were struggling to make sense of the fact that their hopes and expectations in Jesus seemed to have been dashed by the reality of his crucifixion. We, in these uncertain times, are struggling to come to terms with a pandemic which can bring death and which, at present, we cannot properly control. What those disciples needed - and what they were given by the stranger who walked by their side - was a new and different understanding of things together with the knowledge that Jesus was with them all the while, even though they didn't realise it at first.



As they walked towards Emmaus Jesus spoke to them about how the scriptures were fulfilled in him, and gave them these new insights. His presence took them out of themselves and helped them realise that even in the face of adversity and defeat God has a plan, and he is faithful to his promises. Reflecting on their encounter they realised their hearts burned within them, and they wanted Jesus to stay with them. He did - physically - for a while; but he also left them and us a lasting sign of his continuing presence in the Breaking of Bread.

Sadly, we cannot at present meet to share the Eucharist. But it is important to remember that Jesus also comes to us (as he did to those disciples on the road to Emmaus) through the scriptures. This is why it is important that we read them especially on Sundays, either together at 11.30 am online via Zoom or on our own. Through them we are also fed and nourished at the table of God's word, and assured that even though we might not always recognise him, Jesus always accompanies us in our journey through life.

Tuesday Easter Groups at 8.00 pm

Throughout Easter, the Sunday and weekday Masses always contain readings from the Acts of the Apostles. Acts is effectively St. Luke's continuation of his Gospel, starting with an account of Jesus' Ascension and ending with St. Paul preaching in Rome. Each Tuesday evening at 8.00 pm during the Easter season we will take a section of the book and, using Zoom, spend 40 minutes looking at some of the main points in it - discussing what they might say to us today.

Six sessions are planned as follows:

Ascension and Pentecost	Acts 1:1 to 2:41	28 th April
The life of the early church	Acts 2:42 to 5:42	5 th May
Stephen and Saul	Acts 6:1 to 9:31	12 th May
Peter and Paul	Acts 9:32 to 15:40	19 th May
Paul's Missionary Journeys	Acts 16:1 to 20:38	26 th May
The road to Rome	Acts 21:1 to the end	2 nd June

You will need to email Fr. Patrick for a Zoom meeting ID and password if you do not already have it.

Sunday Zoom Service at 11.30 am - Readings, Prayers and a chance to catch up

To take part you will need to have downloaded the *Zoom* App from the internet onto your computer or smart phone, and to open it and click 'Join meeting' at 11.30 am. You will also need to have the meeting code and password available from Fr. Patrick at the phone number or email below.