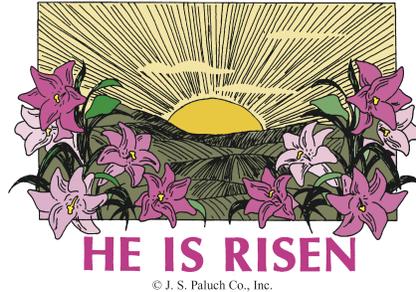




St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Community

Reflections with Fr. Mark

April 16, 2020



Dear Parishioners,

One of the most normal and special events throughout our day is eating and drinking. We may particularly enjoy gathering with family or friends to share a meal at home, out to a restaurant, or celebrating a special occasion or holiday. The act of sharing in a meal is a very intimate and real act of relating to one another. It is in the intimate way that, as Catholics, we gather around our community table to celebrate the Eucharist that we encounter Jesus Christ in a physical and spiritual way. Perhaps this is what we are missing most in our time of staying at home.

The Apostles encounter the Resurrected Jesus in the gospel reading for today. They think they are seeing a ghost. Jesus demonstrates that he is not a ghost by eating some food. It was surely an intimate moment of faith as Jesus continues to instruct his disbelieving or, at least, doubting disciples. But Jesus used the act of eating to prove a point for them and help them to grow.

As we lack our physical gathering each Sunday and our ability to physically receive the Eucharist, we are indeed being spiritually connected in communion with one another as we pray together and perhaps keep each other in mind as we gather around the family table. We are a community apart but spiritually bound by the powerful grace of the moment of giving thanks wherever we find ourselves.

When you gather for a meal today, consciously think of your St. Luke community of faith and say a prayer of thanks for what you have. Recommit yourselves to being faithful to one another and renew your baptismal promises. We are an Easter people and we respond to the Resurrected Lord by rising from our self-pity and entombed spirituality into the new life offered through Him. May our journey be as fruitful as God intends. He stands in our midst. Do we recognize Him?

Continue the journey with an attitude of gratitude and a pledge to be renewed and changed because you dared to walk from your tomb into the hope and promise of new life.

Happy Easter! He is Risen! Alleluia!

Fr. Mark

Watch Mass from St. Luke at Home: The recordings are available on our Parish website, www.stluketemplecity.org, and sent through our e-communications. The services will remain posted so you may view at your convenience.

Please visit our Parish Website for continued COVID-19 information related to parish activities and previous e-communications: <https://stluketemplecity.org/covid-19>