



St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Community

Reflections with Fr. Mark

April 17, 2020



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Dear Parishioners,

Yesterday, today and tomorrow we are exercising the “new normal.” The terms of social distancing and “safer at home” are becoming part of the lexicon of every language. Our cultural, national, ecclesial and familial practices have and will continue to be impinged. But, one phrase that we hear thrown around these days especially on the television is: “We are in this together!” This is a moment of solidarity.

Our story in the gospel today as the Apostles encounter the Risen Lord and recognize Him is a story of solidarity. Our early Church that would soon be persecuted, as was Jesus Christ, would need to show signs of solidarity, especially with the persecuted. We know from the early days there were martyrs whose blood and sacrifice would become the seed for the growth of the Christian faith. It is from these fore parents in our faith that we gain strength to live out our own and continue the journey.

In the moments of serenity each day I find myself surrendering to God. In the moments of frustration, I find myself enduring a type of persecution as our Churches remain closed. As each one of us offers up this suffering united in prayer we become a sign. Our network of spiritual unity becomes the Holy Presence of God and a powerful force of new life. The Church is alive and resurrected in these times by our renewed solidarity in prayer. Like the early Church and those first Apostles: *We live because He lives in us. And, we live in Him! We **ARE** the Body of Christ.*

Please join us as we celebrate Mass for you and with you in spirit and solidarity of prayer. This Sunday’s Mass recording will be available on the parish website and through the e-bulletin on Sunday morning.

May His force be with you!

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>