

DAY 20: WEDNESDAY OF EASTER WEEK - Low Week

Opening Prayer

Holy Spirit, as families adjust to everyone being home
as businesses and schools close,

we ask that you guide people in their new realities.

Give spouses grace for each other.

Prompt worn-out parents to speak words

of kindness and encouragement to their children.

Help children find creative ways to experience

the beauty of all you have created and continue learning.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (From: <https://www.worldvision.org/prayers>)

Scripture Readings: Acts 3:1-10; Psalm 105:1-9; Luke 24:13-35

Reflection: Peter and his fellow disciples have been strengthened by the Resurrection of Christ and are now going about preaching his message and curing the people in his name. Today we see them run into conflict with the Jewish authorities for doing the very things that the authorities had crucified Jesus for. The disciples are aware of this and yet they continue without fear. Peter's healing of the crippled man at the gate called Beautiful is an acknowledgement of the newfound faith Peter has in our Resurrected Lord. It is significant this happened at the gate called Beautiful, as if Jesus wants to restore the beauty of the creation through the healing of this crippled man. Another important aspect of this healing is that Peter, looking straight at the man, called upon the name of Jesus Christ for healing. There is no powerful name than the Name of Jesus Christ for healing! The gospel text is the familiar story of Christ's appearance to two of his followers on the road to Emmaus. They only recognise him at the breaking of bread because they had not believed all that he had told them while he was still alive. The breaking of the bread is also a reminder to them of the importance Christ placed on his institution of the Eucharist and of the necessity of doing this in his memory. When they did realise that it was the Lord, their hearts burned with joy. When did our hearts last burn with joy in the presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist? In a time we cannot receive in person anymore, we need to receive communion spiritually, i.e. placing ourselves in that context of the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and spiritually receive the Body and Blood of Christ. We are called to have faith like Peter and the disciples and to openly proclaim our faith in Christ, our Risen Lord!

Concluding Prayer

Dear Lord,

three things I pray:

to see you more clearly

love you more dearly

and follow you more nearly day by day. Amen

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all for ever. Amen