

## INTRODUCTION

Happy Easter to all! We are now in the Octave of Easter. Jesus is risen, and full of gratitude from our hearts, we carry all our experiences from the Easter Encounter, the journey we have walked through the Holy Week and look once again to Jesus contemplating his Resurrection in a more deeper way. He has given us New Life and in order to continue living this experience from now on, we look to Him and learn from Him the joy of living this new Resurrected life as the Apostles experienced after the Resurrection. **(Colossians 3:1-3)** *Since you have been raised up to be with Christ, you must look for the things that are above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.* <sup>2</sup> *Let your thoughts be on things above, not on the things that are on the earth,* <sup>3</sup> *because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God.*

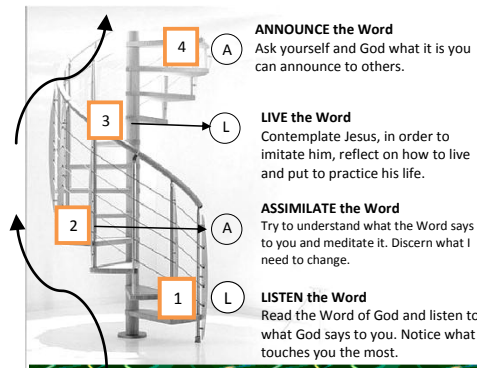
This week, let us encounter Jesus alive and risen and re-read with Him the history he has forged in us in order to be truly His disciples today. Let us look with his same eyes all what we have seen and heard from Him. **(cf.1 John 1:1-2)** And like the disciples going to Emmaus, experience a new perspective of what Jesus did to them. **(Luke 24:32-33)** *Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?* <sup>33</sup> *They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem.*

## PRAYING WITH THE WORD

- "For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." **St. Jerome**
- And let them remember that prayer should accompany the reading of Sacred

Scripture, so that God and man may talk together; for "we speak to Him when we pray; we hear Him when we read the divine saying." **St. Ambrose** **(Dei Verbum #25 Vatican II document)**

## DYNAMISM OF THE WORD



## MONDAY in the Octave of Easter

**There, they will see me.**

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. <sup>4</sup> The guards were so shaken by fear of him that they were like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, <sup>7</sup> then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is going ahead of you to Galilee; that is where you will see him." Look! I have told you.' <sup>8</sup> Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and

ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> And suddenly, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings,' he said. And the women came up to him and, clasping his feet, they did him homage. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; there they will see me.'

**(Matthew 28:1-10)**

## TUESDAY in the Octave of Easter

**I have seen the Lord**

<sup>11</sup> But Mary was standing outside near the tomb, weeping. Then, as she wept, she stooped to look inside, <sup>12</sup> and saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head, the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They said, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' 'They have taken my Lord away,' she replied, 'and I don't know where they have put him.' <sup>14</sup> As she said this she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not realise that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and remove him.' <sup>16</sup> Jesus said, 'Mary!' She turned round then and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbuni!' -- which means Master. <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, 'Do not cling to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to the brothers, and tell them: I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' <sup>18</sup> So Mary of Magdala told the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord,' and that he had said these things to her.

**(John 20:11-18)**

## WEDNESDAY in the Octave of Easter

**Did not our hearts burn within us?**

<sup>13</sup> Now that very same day, two of them were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking together about all that had happened. <sup>15</sup> And it happened that as they were talking together and discussing it, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were prevented from recognising him. <sup>17</sup> He said to them, 'What are all these things that you are discussing as you walk along?' They stopped, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' <sup>19</sup> He asked, 'What things?' They answered, 'All about Jesus of Nazareth, who showed himself a prophet powerful in action and speech before God and the whole people; <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. <sup>21</sup> Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have now gone by since it all happened; <sup>22</sup> and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they could not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.' <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe all that the prophets have said! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer

before entering into his glory?' <sup>27</sup> Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. <sup>28</sup> When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; <sup>29</sup> but they pressed him to stay with them saying, 'It is nearly evening, and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. <sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' <sup>33</sup> They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, <sup>34</sup> who said to them, 'The Lord has indeed risen and has appeared to Simon.' <sup>35</sup> Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread. **(Luke 24:13-35)**

**THURSDAY in the Octave of Easter**

**This is what I meant while I was still with you.**

<sup>35</sup> Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread. <sup>36</sup> They were still talking about all this when he himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' <sup>37</sup> In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup> But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts stirring in your hearts?' <sup>39</sup> See by my hands and my feet that it is I

myself. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' <sup>40</sup> And as he said this he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup> Their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, as they were dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' <sup>42</sup> And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, <sup>43</sup> which he took and ate before their eyes. <sup>44</sup> Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, was destined to be fulfilled.' <sup>45</sup> He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, 'So it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses to this. **(Luke 24:35-48)**

**FRIDAY in the Octave of Easter**

**When you were young... when you grow old.**

<sup>15</sup> When they had eaten, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' <sup>17</sup> Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was hurt that he asked him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.' <sup>18</sup> In all

truth I tell you, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.' <sup>19</sup> In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.' **(John 21:15-19)**

**SATURDAY in the Octave of Easter**

**Proclaim the gospel to all creation.**

<sup>9</sup> Having risen in the morning on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary of Magdala from whom he had cast out seven devils. <sup>10</sup> She then went to those who had been his companions, and who were mourning and in tears, and told them. <sup>11</sup> But they did not believe her when they heard her say that he was alive and that she had seen him. <sup>12</sup> After this, he showed himself under another form to two of them as they were on their way into the country. <sup>13</sup> These went back and told the others, who did not believe them either. <sup>14</sup> Lastly, he showed himself to the Eleven themselves while they were at table. He reproached them for their incredulity and obstinacy, because they had refused to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the gospel to all creation. **(Mark 16:9-15)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER READINGS**

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

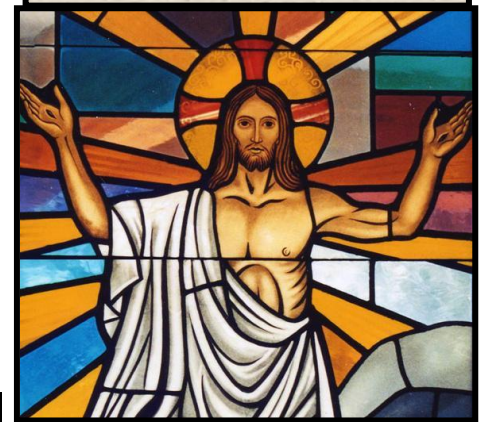
**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 118  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Colossians 3:1-4  
**Gospel:** John 20:1-9

**Verbum Dei**  
**GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER**

***“When you were young... when you grow old...” (John 21:18)***

April 6-12, 2015

**General Theme:** “I’m with you until the end”  
**General Objective:**  
 To contemplate how Jesus resurrected teaches His Apostles to re-read their own processes as a foundation and method to form and accompany others.



**Objective of the week:**

To re-read the history forged with Jesus.