



## The Road to Emmaus

All the content below is for you to make your own, please do read through it, pick what would work best for your children and would best engage them.

Rest assured of our prayers for your family and you over this coming week!

Kathryn Beaven and Katharine Amaladoss

### *We gather*

In the Gospel , St Luke writes about how after the death of Jesus, the disciples were sad, lost and worried. Only a few days before Jesus had been greeted by crowds as he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and now he lay dead in a tomb. They start out on a journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus. As they walk they meet someone they do not recognise.

Sometimes we do not recognise people we know if they are wearing different clothes, changed their hair, or are wearing a hat. Try and think about a time when you were surprised by how somebody had changed or perhaps you remember an adult saying to you “Gosh you are so grown up now! You look different”.

As the disciples walk they start talking about all the things that have happened .Think about what they might have talked about and how they were feeling.

As you listen to the Gospel you will hear how it starts with the disciples feelings of loss and hurt but ends in Joy.

Before you listen to the Gospel take a moment to reflect on any times in the past week when you have not followed Jesus’ way and have been unkind, or not thoughtful of others in your family and say sorry.

### *We listen*

#### The Gospel

There are some choices about how to listen to the Gospel together.

- You can watch the video of Kathryn reading the story
- One person can read the whole story on the sheet or from your own bible or missal
- You can take turns reading bits of the story – depending on how many people are in your house to join in, maybe someone can be the narrator, someone Cleophas, someone the followers of Jesus and someone else Jesus .

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Before we listen to the Gospel -celebrate its message by singing Alleluia – this acclamation can be sung to the tune “*Twinkle Twinkle, little star* “ (From Katie Thompson ‘*The Liturgy of the Word with Children*’)

*Listen, listen to God’s Word*

*God is speaking, He is near.*

*Alleluia, sing his praise.*

*Alleluia, hearts we raise.*

*Fill us; fill us, with your love.*

*Alleluia, Risen Lord!*

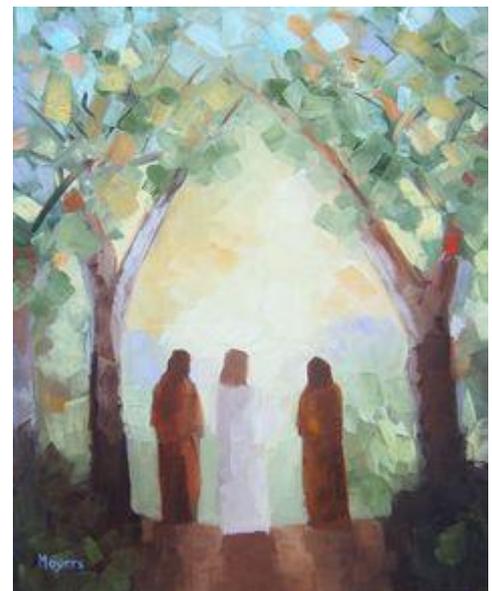
### **A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (24:13-35)**

On that same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a village named Emmaus, about eleven kilometres from Jerusalem, and they were talking to each other about all the things that had happened. As they talked and discussed, Jesus himself drew near and walked along with them; they saw him, but somehow did not recognize him. Jesus said to them, “What are you talking about to each other, as you walk along?”

They stood still, with sad faces. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who doesn't know the things that have been happening there these last few days?”

“What things?” he asked.

“The things that happened to Jesus of Nazareth,” they answered. “This man was a prophet and was considered by God and by all the people to be powerful in everything he said and did. Our chief priests and rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and he was crucified. And we had hoped that he would be the one who was going to set Israel free! Besides all that, this is now the third day since it happened. Some of the women of our group surprised us; they went at dawn to the tomb, but could not find his body. They came back saying they had seen a vision of angels who told them that he is alive. Some of our group went to the tomb and found it exactly as the women had said, but they did not see him.”



Then Jesus said to them, “How foolish you are how slow you are to believe everything the prophets said! Was it not necessary for the Messiah to suffer these things and then to enter his

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glory?" And Jesus explained to them what was said about himself in all the Scriptures, beginning with the books of Moses and the writings of all the prophets.

As they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther; but they held him back, saying, "Stay with us; the day is almost over and it is getting dark."

So he went in to stay with them. He sat down to eat with them, took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke the bread and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, "Wasn't it like a fire burning in us when he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"



They got up at once and went back to Jerusalem, where they found the eleven disciples gathered together with the others and saying, "The Lord is risen indeed! He has appeared to Simon!"

The two then explained to them what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized the Lord when he broke the bread.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

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## ***We reflect***

***Talk together about the story. What did you hear? Is there a particular bit that you liked, that confused you, or that you want to know more about? See if you can talk together about all these different bits.***

***The disciples are confused because the women have just come back from Jesus' tomb saying that it is empty.***

***Why was Jesus' tomb empty?***

***The two disciples meet another man along the road and they walk with him. Who do you think this was? But did the disciples recognise him?***

***The man explains the Scriptures to the disciples so that they can understand that Jesus is risen from the dead. Do the disciples recognise him now?***

***Finally the disciples persuade the man to come and eat with them. What happens at the meal?***

***The man takes the bread, blesses it, breaks it and shares it with the disciples. Suddenly they realise who it is. Why do you think the disciples recognise Jesus now?***

***Can you think of another time that Jesus broke, blessed and shared the bread?***

- ***Use the footprint path described by Kathryn in the video to take a walk with Jesus as you do imagine the conversation:***

***What questions would you ask Jesus?***

***What would Jesus say to you?***

***As you gather at the end of the walk in your garden or a comfy place in your house share some food- give thanks for the food you are sharing and for Jesus Risen.***

- ***End this time by praying :***

***For our Church ,Parish Community and family that even in these difficult times we may be united in love and faith .....Lord in your mercy/ Hear our Prayer***

***For ourselves that we may follow in the footsteps of the Risen Christ bringing Joy to others...***

***Lord in your mercy/ Hear our Prayer***

***Loving Father, open our eyes to your love in the world and help us to be like your disciples walking in the footsteps of Christ***

***We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.***



## *We go forth*

*The following are some activities you can try at home to respond to the Gospel:*

- Write a grace prayer to be said before a meal you share as a family- thank God for those who have grown, gathered and cooked the food. (This idea comes from CAFOD <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>)
- Make a poster for your fridge door like below – choose an action you will do and colour in each time you do it on the footstep.



- A 'Emmaus' worksheet to print can be found at: <http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/worksheets/a-easter-03.PDF>
- Watch the a film version of the story for children by the Bible Trust called "The Seriously Surprising Story": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBZi6QZK0VU>
- Listen to 'We journey and grow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ' (Nicola Morreale, St Mary's Mission Statement song). Listen to the words of the song and think about what you can do as you journey with Jesus.