

# Catholic Church of the Presentation - Montana

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## The moment of recognition

In his book 'Can you drink the cup,' Henri Nouwen says it was necessary that the easy 'yes' of the disciples of Jesus be accompanied by many other difficult 'yesses' until their cups were completely empty.

Pope Francis declared the third Sunday of Easter will be celebrated as **Sunday of the Word of God** and the story of the two disciples headed to Emmaus is used as the logo of this day. The story of the two disciples written by St. Luke, brings to mind Joseph and Mary who earlier on lost the young boy Jesus but later found him in the temple. Studying these two stories side by side, we can see the characters moving away from Jerusalem (the place of worship). We too are some miles away from our churches but not too far for Jesus to catch up with us. God likes to hear us tell Him our stories as if we were alone on the pilgrimage of life.

Sometimes we are frustrated due to our unrealistic expectations. There is a cup of joy and a cup of sorrow. We cannot choose joy and shun sorrow. We need Jesus to give us the insight to see this mystery otherwise our hearts are slow to grasping the truths of God's kingdom.

Luke mentions the name of one of the disciples (Cleopas). Some scripture scholars argue that the two disciples were a man and his wife. Going back to the Old Testament using a technique called typology, similarities can be seen according to the manner in which the eyes of Adam and Eve were opened and those of Cleopas and his companion. When Adam and Eve ate of the fruits from the forbidden tree they knew 'evil'. At the breaking of bread (fruits of the new tree), the eyes of the two disciples recognized the Saviour. They have a new understanding and can now make meaning out of the death of Jesus. Moments of recognition come to us when we allow God whisper to our burning hearts.

Dear friends in Christ, though our hearts are burning right now as we yearn to have back our lives, let us allow the Lord to open the scriptures to us every day and keep our eyes focused on the heavenly Jerusalem.

Have a blessed Sunday and week ahead.

Fr Sam Madza SMA

## Participating in Holy Mass during Lock down

- **On Radio** 576AM and on DSTV Audio Channel 870 Live Streaming: [www.radioveritas.co.za](http://www.radioveritas.co.za)
- **Jesuit Institute** Live Video Streaming [www.jesuitinstitute.org.za/masses](http://www.jesuitinstitute.org.za/masses)
- **The Vatican – Pope Francis** : You Tube : Shalom World [www.shalomtvlive/vatican](http://www.shalomtvlive/vatican) or [www.vaticannews.va/en.htm](http://www.vaticannews.va/en.htm)
- Daily Mass Crusade is a **parish whatsapp group**. We send out a daily link to a **Youtube** broadcast mass of the day. To join this group send a message to Richard : 0765398365

The accompanying reflection **The courage to believe** is extracted from the back page the **Southern Cross** our weekly Catholic Newspaper for this weekend. This weekly feature is beautifully written by Nicholas King SJ provides is easy to read.

Please see the invitation to view the view the Southern Cross FREE on their website. This will give us insight into all the excellent information that is available in this publication. Perhaps this is a very good time to subscribe to a weekly delivery to you via the internet. It is a wonderful way to be kept informed and up to date on Church matters.

## Let us pray this week especially for:

- All in our country who are inflicted with Covid -19. May they soon be returned to full health.
- Our medical professionals who are called upon to care for the sick and suffering during this time of disaster. May they continue to receive strength and support needed to keep going.
- All who are lonely or living in fear with grave uncertainty. May we be moved to reach out to them and spread the Light of Christ to give them hope.
- Our Holy Father Pope Francis, our Bishops and Priests that the Holy Spirit may guide them as they provide direction to the people of our Church at this time.
- The elected leadership of our country that they may be guided by Christian values of truth and and justice as they carry out their awesome tasks and responsibilities.

## Welcoming table publications during lock down

- Free download copies of the **Living Faith** are temporarily available during the lockdown. Go to [www.livingfaith.com](http://www.livingfaith.com) to register. It is possible to subscribe to this excellent booklet on line as well.
- A pdf format of the **Upper room** booklet for April/ May is also temporarily available free of charge. Please contact Richard on 0765398365 to arrange for this to be sent to you.

**Parish Bank Account for regular pledges and EFT :** Bank: Standard Bank, Montana Kolonnade Beneficiary: THE CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION  
Account number: 013157108 Reference : Allocated Pledge number or anonymous if preferred.