



## Peace, the Marker of Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**piritual writers tell us that a sure sign of life lived with faith in God is peace, the inner kind of peace that enables you to rest in it with no worry or anxiety. When the risen Lord appears in the midst of the disciples just back from Emmaus and says to them first off, “Peace be with you,” that’s the sort of peace he’s talking about and wishing for them.

Such peace doesn’t seem to be something easy to come by, something that simply plops into the lap of your soul. More than anything it seems to be the fruit of prayerfulness—sometimes praying the rosary or other traditional prayers and sometimes just simply sitting in the quiet, in the midst of love without having to say any words.

There is something about surrendering to God’s love

over the course of many lived days that eventually brings us to that sort of trusting peace.

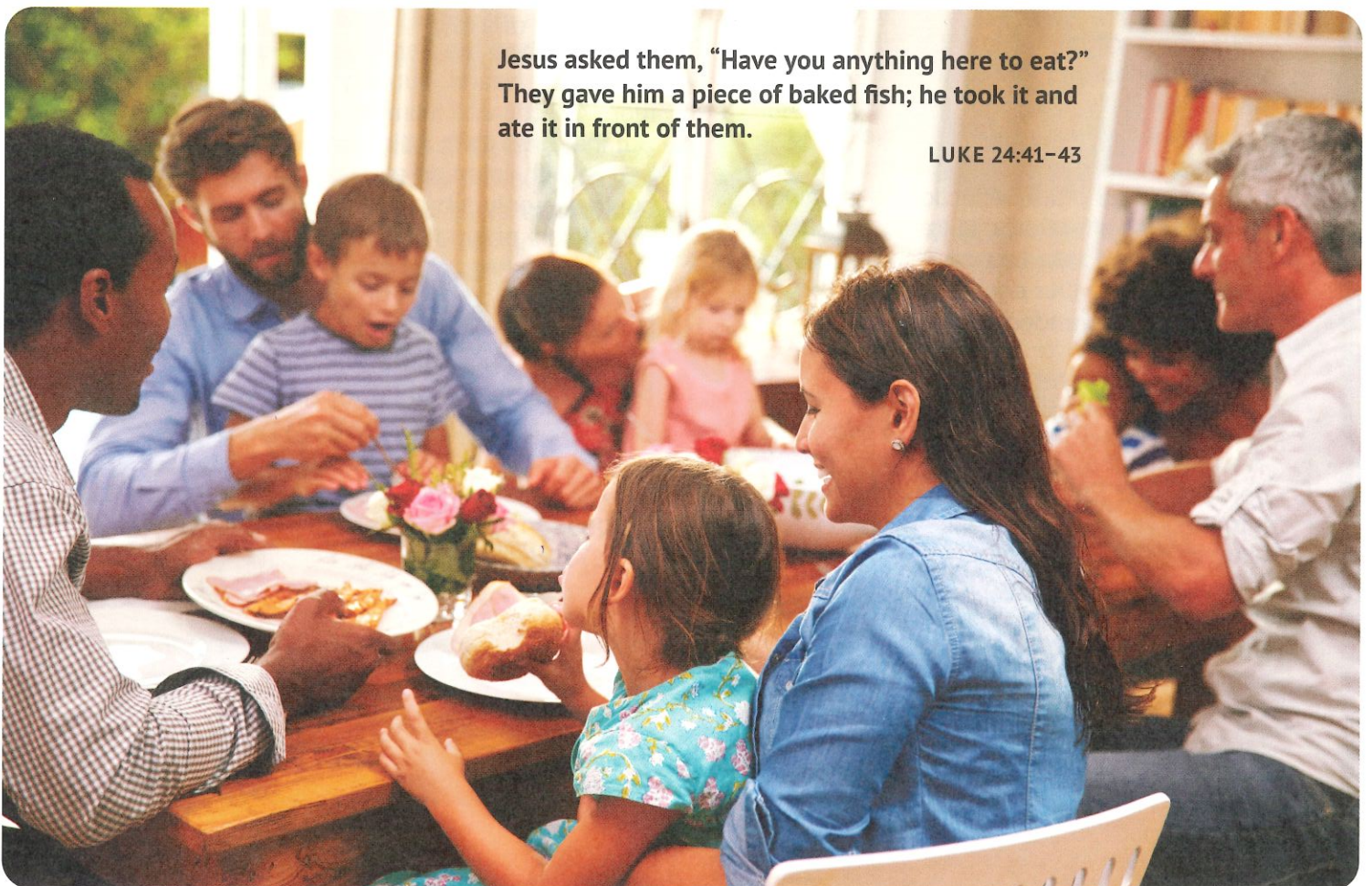
The thing about such peace is that only you know if it’s genuine. When you feel peace when life turns topsy-turvy, that’s God peace. When life is progressing smoothly, it’s not easy to know if that’s God’s peace or just a life without turbulence. But if you’re at peace when everything else around you is not, that’s when you know it’s the presence of God that has you all wrapped up in worry-free wonder. ●

### Reflect

***Have you ever felt at peace even when there is conflict or fear?***

Jesus asked them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

LUKE 24:41-43





# Saint Francis Village Catholic Chapel

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Father Ken Robinson, Chaplain

## REFLECTIONS

### Commentary on Sacred Scripture

The ministry of Jesus is composed of preaching, teaching, and healing. As we read or hear scripture, we encounter each of these various elements, underscoring the importance of Sacred Scripture for all who would be faithful disciples. These realities are not associated solely with the earthly ministry of Jesus; rather, Jesus commissioned his disciples to go out to all the world and to continue his ministry, and that certainly involves preaching, teaching, and healing. It is the role of the Church – that is, the hierarchy as well as all of the members of the Body of Christ – to proclaim the Good News. And we cannot proclaim what we do not know. Saint Jerome insists that ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ!

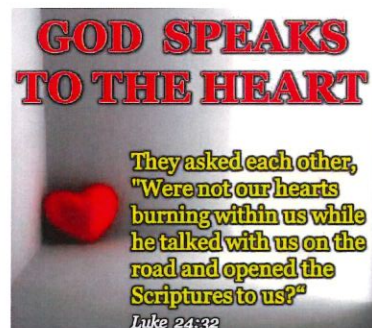
Thus, for Christians, it is vital that we hear and read scripture, that it become a vital part of our daily lives. It is not enough only to hear the Word proclaimed at weekend liturgies. It is really not even enough to confine our scriptural reflection to listening, more or less attentively, to the homily. Those are good starting points, but just starting points. Our encounters with Scripture are intended as spiritual nourishment.

In the Gospel of Luke, following the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to two of his disciples as they made their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They were lamenting the death of Jesus and wondering what to make of the reports that he has been raised up. Jesus walked with them although they did not recognize him. In this encounter we read that Jesus “opened the Scriptures” to them and as a result their hearts burned with divine love. They were so transformed that they retraced their steps

to Jerusalem to announce the Lord’s continuing presence in their midst. This ‘opening of the Scriptures’ did not mean merely that Jesus recited scripture or even that he merely explained the words to them. It is clear that the burning within which they experienced came from a deeper understanding, not merely of the words, but of the fundamental meaning of God’s plan in the world being revealed through Christ. That is the focal point of all scripture – it reveals God ever present in the world, creating, nourishing, chastising, and reconciling humanity so that we can participate more fully in this divine-human intimacy.

This Emmaus experience is not to be understood merely as an historical event in the life of Jesus and these two disciples. Rather, it is intended for each of us. Christ wants to open the Scriptures for each of us so that our hearts, burning within us, will be more directly and intimately attuned to God. But that calls forth action on our parts. It begins with listening and reading Scripture, but that is only a beginning. Scripture must be studied, prayed over, reflected upon so that we can hear God speaking, guiding, directing and consoling us on our spiritual journey. May your hearts burn with divine love as you encounter Christ in Sacred Scripture!

*From Father Ken*





## My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We enter the Third Week of the Easter Season informed by the readings this week that Jesus is our intercessor and our offering for our sins. Jesus has gloriously risen from the dead. Thanks be to God!

I came across an article about a religious sister in Brazil who is 115 years old. When questioned about her secrets to such a long life, Sister Inah said that, since she became a religious sister, she has faithfully prayed the rosary daily for all the people around the world. Sister Inah entered the monastery in 1927 at the age of 19. Looking back through life, she mused that she has lived through ten Popes and two World Wars. Her fellow sisters noted that she has always remained focused on others and never on herself.

Just a reminder, please do not light candles in the Chapel after 7:00PM. The votive candle stands are checked nightly and, for security purposes, must not burn after 8:00PM.

The Village requests that we not park Cars in the Golf Cart Parking Lot adjacent to the Chapel. This lot is restricted to Golf Cart parking only.

Remember that all attendees at Chapel services must be seated in the pews. For safety concerns, the air conditioning ducts cannot be used for seating. If you are not medically impaired, please refrain from sitting in the chairs at the back of the Chapel that are marked "Reserved."

The Next Step Walk for Life will be Saturday April 20th from 9:00AM until 11:00AM at Bailey Park in Burleson. The walk is approximately half a mile. Please consider Walking for Life or sponsoring someone who is participating in the Walk. Visit [NextStepHeroes.com/Walk](http://NextStepHeroes.com/Walk) for more information.

On April 21st, there will be a Collection Basket designated for the Good Shepherd Sunday Collection. All donations go toward the formation of future Priests in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

In closing, a religious Sister sent me an article that contained the definition: ***Mercy is when we love someone who needs it even if we feel they deserve it the least.*** She shared that *"It's easy to be kind to someone who appreciates our concern but, on the other hand, difficult to be kind and merciful to someone who rejects or is indifferent to our concerns or actions."* She suggested that, during this Easter Season, we do all we can to be merciful to others and share Christ's resurrection with all whom we come in contact.

May Christ's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

*God Give You Peace,  
Mike Pierson*



*Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognized him at the breaking of bread. Luke 24:35*

### Mass Intentions

April 14, 2024	Intention of all SFV Catholic Chapel Parishioners
April 15, 2024	Intention of Mary Ellen Schrock (Heart Surgery) By Donna Heimerman
April 16, 2024	Fr. Bob Strittmatter
April 17, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Jennifer Kemp By Tom & Ruth Kemp
April 18, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Mable Groh By Jim Groh
April 19, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Lorna Young By Trudie Hughes
April 20, 2024	Intention of all SFV Catholic Chapel Parishioners 5:00 PM Vigil Mass)



# Dear Padre,

## What is a “covenant,” and how are marriage and covenant related?

“Covenant” is the word the Church employs to define and describe the sacrament of matrimony. It is clearly based on the idea of “covenant” contained in Scripture. In contrast, society uses the related word “contract,” as in the “marriage contract.” However, these two words do not mean the same thing.

The meaning of “contract” is too limited to contain the full commitment of Christian marriage. When you sign a contract, you are legally bound only to its terms. You need not do more or less than what is stipulated in its wording. Warmth and concern for the well-being of one party for the other are not stipulated in a contract.

A covenant, on the other hand, is different. Although it may contain some aspects of contract, it establishes a personal relationship of closeness, affection, and warmth, and it locks the couple into a mutual commitment to each other’s well-being.

As God freely chose Israel from all the nations possible, so do two people choose each other from all other people. As God declared, “I will take you as my people, and I will be your God” (Exodus 6:7). In the same way, a husband and wife pledge total commitment to each other.

Christian marriage bears the same characteristics of covenant commitment—the personal relationship of caring, loyalty, intimacy, exclusivity, permanency, and, above all, love; hence the use of “covenant” to define Christian marriage. ●

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*



ANDRES SONNE / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### MONDAY

April 15  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 6:8–15  
Jn 6:22–29

### TUESDAY

April 16  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 7:51–8:1a  
Jn 6:30–35

### WEDNESDAY

April 17  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 8:1b–8  
Jn 6:35–40

### THURSDAY

April 18  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 8:26–40  
Jn 6:44–51

### FRIDAY

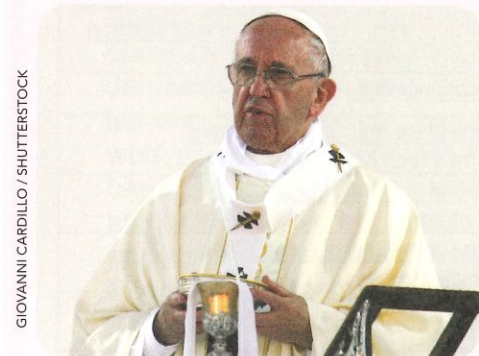
April 19  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 9:1–20  
Jn 6:52–59

### SATURDAY

April 20  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 9:31–42  
Jn 6:60–69

### SUNDAY

April 21  
*Fourth Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 4:8–12  
1 Jn 3:1–2  
Jn 10:11–18



GIOVANNI CARDILLO / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Eating, when we do so together, among family or friends, also becomes an expression of love, an expression of communion, of celebration. How often the Gospels present us with Jesus experiencing this convivial dimension! Even as the Risen One, with his disciples. To the point that the Eucharistic Banquet has become the emblematic sign of the Christian community.*

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 18, 2021