

EXPLORING THE SUNDAY GOSPEL AT HOME

SHARING BREAD

EXPLORING NEXT SUNDAY'S THEME

Reflecting on the Gospel

The journey to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13-25)

The key to the story about the journey to Emmaus concerns the way in which the two travellers eventually recognised Jesus for who he is. Jesus was recognised in one of the very ordinary events of life, sharing bread. But at the same time Jesus gave this ordinary event extraordinary significance by those characteristic four actions seen at the feeding of the five thousand and at the last supper. Jesus took the bread, blessed, broke it and gave it to them.

Our image to stimulate reflection on this passage is *sharing bread*, a sacramental act now so central to the Christian tradition.

Gospel passage (Luke 24: 28-31)

As they came near the village to which they were going,
he walked ahead as if he were going on.

But they urged him strongly, saying,
'Stay with us, because it is almost evening
and the day is now nearly over.'

So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them,
he took bread, blessed and broke it,
and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognised him.

Gospel prayer

Risen Lord,
you made yourself known to the disciples
on the way to Emmaus.
Come among us now
and make yourself know to us
in the breaking of bread;
for you are our God,
now and for ever.
Amen.

ENGAGING WITH THE THEME AT HOME

Reflecting and meditating

Reflect on Luke's account of what took place on the journey to Emmaus and then around the table:

- what details in the passage catch your attention?
- what big ideas does the passage spark in your mind?
- what most touches your heart in the passage?
- what most stretches your mind and makes you think in the passage?

Thinking and talking

- what do you make of Jesus' way of getting into conversation with the two travellers whom he met on the road?
- what do you make of the account those two travellers gave of what had taken place?
- what did Jesus bring to the conversation?
- what is so distinctive about Jesus' actions at the table?
- what does this narrative say for us today?

Using your Bible

The encounter between Jesus and the disciples in Luke 24: 13-25 is distinctive to Luke's Gospel. Compare this narrative with two other key narratives in Luke:

- Luke 9: 12-17, especially v. 16
- Luke 22: 14-20, especially v. 19

Explore key ideas from the Old Testament that resonate with this Emmaus narrative:

- Isaiah 53: 1-12

Exploring online

- look up images and paintings of the road to Emmaus
- find out how far Emmaus is from Jerusalem on a Bible map
- find out about making bread in Jesus' time
- explore ways of baking bread at home

Drawing on experience

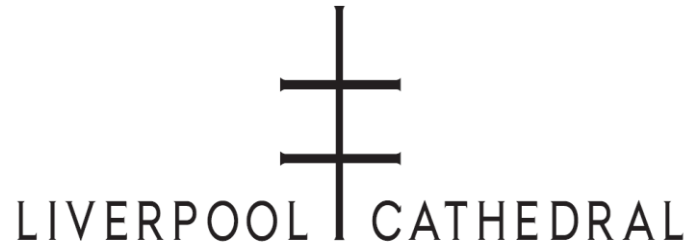
- what are your experiences of sharing bread?
- have you special memories of sharing bread?
- what is your image of Jesus sharing bread?

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A) SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2020

Creating and making

- bake a loaf of bread while reflecting on the Emmaus narrative
- make a model of Jesus in the house at Emmaus
- make a collage setting side-by-side images of sharing bread in everyday life and in different forms of Christian communion
- create a reflection, a poem, or a prayer on the road to Emmaus

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A) SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2020



EXPLORING THE SUNDAY GOSPEL AT HOME

Each week we are inviting people in their homes to look forward to those Sunday services that follow the Revised Common Lectionary Gospel readings. We employ the SIFT approach (Sensing, Intuition, Feeling, and Thinking) to encourage reflection on the Sunday Gospel. We are suggesting a variety of ways in which people of all ages, and households working together, may engage with the Gospel reading and celebrate that engagement with shared activities.

Our invitation then is for you to share your reflections, prayers and photos of your creative work with the Cathedral by emailing them to Nelson.Pike@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk

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