

A Letter from Fr. Patrick Kizza

April 19, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Gospel of the journey to Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35) is a beautiful reminder that the Risen Lord walks with us even when we do not recognize Him. The two disciples were leaving Jerusalem discouraged and confused. They had hoped in Jesus, but the events of the cross had shattered their expectations. How often do we feel the same way in our daily lives? We experience disappointment—a failed plan, a broken relationship, or unanswered prayers—and we begin to walk away, thinking that God is no longer present. Yet, just like in the Gospel, Jesus draws near to us quietly, listening to our struggles and walking beside us, even when our eyes are blinded by sorrow or doubt.

In our everyday life, we can recognize this Emmaus experience. For example, when someone is going through a difficult time, losing a job, facing illness, or grieving a loved one, they may feel alone. But often, God sends people to accompany them: a friend who listens, a family member who offers support, or even a stranger who shows kindness. These moments are not coincidences; they are signs that Christ is walking with us. The turning point for the disciples came when Jesus broke the bread. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him. In the same way, we encounter Jesus most clearly in the Eucharist and in moments of love and service. What once seemed like an ordinary situation becomes a sacred encounter.

As we reflect on this Gospel, we also take a moment to express deep gratitude to the liturgy ministry and all the volunteers who organized Holy Week, Easter Sunday, and Divine Mercy Sunday so beautifully. Like the disciples who welcomed Jesus saying, “Stay with us,” you have helped create a space where Christ is welcomed, encountered, and recognized in the breaking of the bread. Your dedication allows our parish community to experience the presence of the Risen Lord in a meaningful way. May we all continue to invite Jesus into our daily journey, so that our hearts too may burn within us, and like the disciples, we may go out and share the Good News with joy.

-Fr. Patrick