
Scripture Reflection

The love of Christ is not passive. It is living and breathing. That's why it is so important that we go to great lengths to share it with our brothers and sisters in need. In **Luke 24:13-27**, Jesus came to walk with two of His disciples on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus as they discussed His crucifixion. Although the two disciples did not recognize Jesus at the time, He recalled the scriptures and brought them assurance that His death and suffering were necessary: the ultimate act of love that the prophets had spoken of.

Similarly, this week's Gospel reminds us of the importance of the Eucharist, our devotion to the Lord and His will, and our duty as Catholics to proclaim the good news to all others. When Jesus later joined the two disciples at their table and broke bread with them, they were finally able to see Him and recognize His holiness.

And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning [within us] while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"

So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!"

Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24:30-35

In the same manner, we must *Reach out in Love* to those who seek the Bread of Life. It is only then that the world can know the Lord and His limitless love as we do. The *Annual Catholic Appeal* provides us an opportunity to do this as one Church, filling every heart with hope. By acting with Christ in our hearts, His grace and mercy will abound.

Please give to the *Appeal* <<date and place>> or visit aca.archstl.org to learn more about how the *Appeal* helps our brothers and sisters in need to overcome the obstacles they face. You can also Text-to-Give by texting "**ACA**" to **243725**.

Bulletin/Pulpit Announcement

God's grace lives in all of us, and so it is important that we share it with our brothers and sisters and fill their hearts. When Jesus arose from the tomb after being crucified, He chose to reach out to help His followers understand what had happened. In one of these instances, Jesus prevented the eyes of two disciples from seeing Him, but when He broke bread and reached out to them, they could see Him and fully understand the wonders of His boundless grace. In the same manner, we, as Catholics, must *Reach out in Love* to those who yearn for the Bread of Life.

This week, we are launching the *Annual Catholic Appeal* in our parish. The *Appeal* provides us an opportunity to allow the Lord to work through our hands as one Church, sharing His grace with those who need it most.

Please consider supporting the *Annual Catholic Appeal* this year. You can pick up your pledge card after Mass, make a gift online at aca.archstl.org or use Text-to-Give by texting "**ACA**" to **243725**.