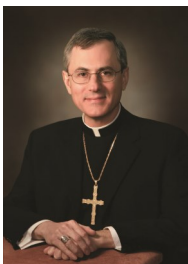


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**THIRD SUNDAY  
OF EASTER  
April 26, 2020**



Most Rev.  
Ronald Peter Fabbro, C.S.B.  
Bishop of London

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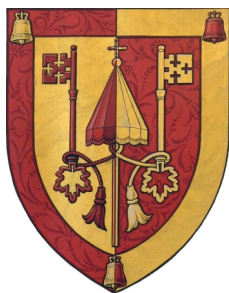
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## The Ingredients of the Christian Life

"Today's gospel is one of the great passages of the New Testament. It encapsulates in a little over 20 verses the whole Christian life. It is Easter Sunday as the passage opens. In Luke all the resurrection appearances take place in the vicinity of Jerusalem and on Easter Sunday.

It begins with two disciples on the road leaving Jerusalem. For Luke the focal point of Jesus' mission is Jerusalem – it was the goal to which all Jesus' public life was headed and from there the new community would bring his Message to the rest of the world.

All the ingredients of the Christian life are here:

- Running away from where Christ is to be found. We do it all the time.
- Meeting Jesus in the unexpected place or person or situation. How many times does this happen and we do not recognise him, or worse mistreat him?
- Finding the real meaning and identity of Jesus and his mission in having the Scriptures fully explained. Without the Scriptures we cannot claim to know Jesus. Yet how many Catholics go through life hardly ever opening a bible?
- Recognising Jesus in the breaking of bread, in our celebration of the Eucharist. The breaking and sharing of the bread indicates the essentially community dimension of that celebration, making it a real communion with all present.
- The central experience of Scripture and Liturgy draws us to participate in the work of proclaiming the message of Christ and sharing our experience of it with others that they may also share it.
- The importance of hospitality and kindness to the stranger. "I was hungry... and you did/did not feed..." Jesus is especially present and to be found and loved in the very least of my brothers and sisters.

The scene is also a model of the Eucharist:

Those walking together on the Road gather together and meet Jesus, first, in the Liturgy of the Word as the Scriptures are broken open and explained, and, second, in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, where what Jesus did for us through his suffering, death and resurrection is remembered with thanksgiving and the bread that is now his Body and the wine that is now his Blood, is shared among those who are the Members of that Body to strengthen their union and their commitment to continuing the work of Jesus."

*Excerpt from Living Space, Commentaries on the Daily Readings, 3rd Sunday of Easter; <https://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/ea031g/>*

## Mobile Giving at St. Peter's Cathedral

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1. Place your device in camera mode or open the QR Code Reader.
2. Hold your device over the full QR Code.
3. Your camera will scan the QR Code.



## The 41st Christian Commemoration of Shoah



During the Second World War, the Nazis murdered six million Jews and many others. Jews call this disaster the Shoah, “the annihilation” and commemorate it every year. In 1999, the National Assembly of Quebec officially recognized “Yom HaShoah” (Holocaust Memorial Day) and encouraged people to join in this commemoration, as did the Government of Canada in 2003.

Yom HaShoah 2020 is being observed on Tuesday April 21st, and the Christian Jewish Dialogue of Montreal invites Christians to commemorate the

Shoah on the following Sunday, April 26th. No “physical” religious gathering is possible in this exceptional year marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, but the CJDL have prepared a Commemorative Prayer which can easily be prayed at home. It is available both in the form of a [video](#) and a [text](#) which can be accessed by clicking on the underlined format.

In the Commemorative Prayer, Christians express their compassion for the immense suffering of both the victims and the survivors of the Holocaust. They also affirm their strong commitment to preventing and combating current anti-Semitism, as well as other forms of racism and intolerance. Christians affirm their commitment to building relationships of respect, esteem and solidarity not only between Christians and Jews, but also between all their fellow citizens, be they believers or not, especially when they are weakened, stigmatized or marginalized.

### Praying Together-Praying Apart

Amid self-isolation and physical distancing, many are experiencing a sense of loss; of gathering with the community, of physical and mental illness, of work and family life, of mourning the loss of loved ones. Liturgical Press has created a new resource, *Praying Together-Praying Apart*, designed to support us in our losses and provide us hope and comfort in our healing. Click [here](#) to access these powerful prayers.

### Catholic Education Week “Igniting Hope | Allumer la flamme de l'espérance”

Catholic Education Week 2020 begins on Sunday, May 3. Bishop Fabbro will be recording a message to students in English and French and a special Catholic Education Week Mass by Bishop Dabrowski will be posted online on Wednesday, May 6. More information will be in next week’s bulletin.

### Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ

The digital resources Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ, the Catholic School Religious Education program, are now available for home use. The website features videos, songs, bible stories, prayers, interactive activities and more. Click [here](#) to access these resources with Username: GIFGIC\_student99 and Password: Student99. (Note: Login will only work when using Internet Explorer/Edge).

Additional resources from the ACBO can be found [here](#).



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### COVID-19 Update from Bishop Fabbro

Bishop Fabbro announced further directives for the Diocese earlier this week. Please click [here](#) to read.



## *From the Desk of the Rector*

**God Is Always Present.** I recently wondered what would eventually replace the coronavirus pandemic as the lead story in the news. Unfortunately, we now know. The tragedy played out in Nova Scotia has gripped us all. Those in the Atlantic region now have to live through two life-altering events at the same time. I'm certain this challenges their courage and resilience. They are showing us what communities do in such circumstances. They reach out and come together even while keeping distances to let each other know they really care. In conversations this week I have chatted with those who, understandably, wonder where God is in all of these - the pandemic and the murders. Have you ever thought that? Is He there at all? Why would He allow such senseless pain? These questions are common. Sometimes, for different reasons, our sight gets clouded but that doesn't mean God is not present. He never allows us to walk alone. The disciples in this week's Gospel don't recognize Jesus in their midst as they walk along the road. They are taken up with their grief but gradually their eyes are open. It's easy to be faithful when all is going as we expect in our world. To remain people of prayer and reflection in times of crisis will only strengthen us and bring clarity to our sight. Listening quietly to God will allow us to hear Him. His voice and presence will bring calm and direction. May those who died be welcomed home by God and may those who mourn be surrounded by compassion, understanding and the presence of those who pray and care for them locally in Nova Scotia and across our country.

**It Is Still Easter.** We understand Easter is a season of celebration and joy. But how does that fit in for us who are struggling. As I mentioned above times are difficult right now. Our days are filled with struggles around illness, grief, fear, or uncertainty about the future? Marina McCoy reminds us it may seem less clear how the Easter story is our story. She suggests we acknowledge our feelings, pay attention, wonder, and pray. She reflects: "If I am feeling emptiness or grief, I can bring my sense of emptiness to God and, like Mary Magdalene, wait for God, paying attention to where I might find new life beyond the tomb. If I am feeling

fear and am shut inside my own room, I can bring those fears to God and know that God will enter right into that space with me. God can surprise me beyond the confines of my own understanding. If I am feeling doubt, I can express these doubts to God and, like Thomas, wonder how God invites me to touch the reality of the Resurrection. If I am feeling a desire for increased connection with God, I can let God walk with me, talk with me, and even "feed" me with the divine presence. I can let myself love God and let God love me in turn. Think about your own Easter experience. Where is there new life? Where is there wonder? Where do you see God's love made real?"

**Thank you.** Administrative Professional's Day was recently marked. Every day we celebrate the contribution our office staff makes to support parish life. RoseMary Cleary and Vianca Kmet are often the first contact with parishioners and visitors in person, on the phone or through email. While the office is closed during the pandemic they are working remotely and adjusting as needed to the requests that still need to be addressed. Thank you, Rose and Vianca for your service. We appreciate you.

**Stronger Together.** Continue to pray for those who are working these days under difficult circumstances so we can remain safe. Tell them regularly we appreciate what they are doing and risking. How are you handling the stress of these days? Are you eating well, connecting with family and friends, getting in a routine? That, of course, is easier said than done because there are always things we can't control. So, let's control the things we can. It appears Londoners are controlling physical distancing and staying home except for necessary trips. I'm finally doing what my parents always told me to do – wash my hands, thoroughly. It may seem like prison at times but those who are staying home are also making a huge and necessary contribution to the health and welfare of our community. Thanks to all those who are doing what will save lives. We are making a difference and we will come out of this more sensitive to others. We are stronger together.

*Fr. Jim Mockler*

***We remember in prayer*** all those who are sick, including Shari Houghton. We also pray for those who have died, including Theresa Diorio, mother of Charlina; Josephine Sansone; Luciano Tomasetig; Dr. Bob Langlois, former Pastoral Minister-St. Anne's, Tecumseh; the victims of the Nova Scotia tragedy; and comfort for those who mourn.

***We pray for those serving in pastoral ministry throughout our diocese:***

Rev. Matthew Kucharski; Deacon Dennis Kosokowsky;  
Rev. Christian Amogu; Rev. Peter Keller;  
Rev. Benjamin Huyge

## **READINGS - SUNDAY MAY 3, 2020**

### **First Reading - Acts 2.14a, 36b-41**

*God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

### **Psalm - Ps 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)**

*R. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

### **Second Reading - 1 Peter 2.20b-25**

*Now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.*

### **Gospel - John 10.1-10**

*I am the gate for the sheep.*

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