

# TRINITY NEWS

WEEK 17.  
April 23, 2023

*T*hey recognized him by the breaking of the bread!

Three weeks already separate us from the founding event of our Faith: The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We have entered the time of interiorization. Like the first disciples, we must remember the events that have taken place and ponder their meaning from the scriptures and in prayer.

The Resurrection of Jesus took everyone by surprise (even if he had announced it several times to his disciples). Indeed, most of the people were left with the news of his execution by the Roman authorities at the request of the religious leaders of the people of Israel. The disappointment of the disciples, who expected the coming of a political Messiah, was at its height. This explains the dejection of the two men whom Jesus joins on the road to Emmaus.

Jesus joins them and begins by questioning them in order to allow them to bring their own testimony and to lead them to the knowledge of his own manifestation. This pedagogy of Jesus helps the disciples to reinterpret recent events in a new way in the light of the Holy Scriptures and to open them to the burning testimony of his presence. He breaks bread as at the Last Supper and immediately their eyes are opened to a gaze inspired by faith: It is not with the eyes that we discover the Risen One, but by meditating on the Scriptures and by sharing the bread.

We discover that the testimony of the Scripture has now become inseparable from that of the post-Paschal community. Jesus truly fulfilled and unveiled all that was contained in the prophetic announcements and the events of the history of the people of Israel. We have a beautiful illustration of this in the account of the Acts of the Apostles which relates to us the preaching of Peter on the day of Pentecost. His teaching takes on above all the aspect of testimony. He gives it surrounded by the eleven other Apostles. This collegiality is essential. There can be no discrepancy in the teaching of the Church.

From now on, it is the very life of the baptized which manifests the veracity of the testimony which they bear today to the risen Christ. Their life must become a new book of the Acts of the Apostles in order to show that the love of God continues to work for the salvation of the world. The motion of the people of God continues after more than four thousand years of history. The cross of Golgotha and the empty tomb in the nearby garden constitute the pivot. By his resurrection, Jesus has accomplished the salvation of all who will believe in him. We are the messengers of this call to faith. May the Spirit of God empower us for such mission and preaching!

**Psalm 116:10-17**

***Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.***

I believed, and therefore will I speak; but I was sore troubled: \* I said in my haste, All men are liars. What reward shall I give unto the LORD \* for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?

***Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.***

I will receive the cup of salvation, \* and call upon the Name of the LORD. I will pay my vows now in the presence of all his people: \* right dear in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

***Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.***

Behold, O LORD, how that I am thy servant; \* I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid; thou hast broken my bonds in sunder. I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, \* and will call upon the Name of the LORD.

***Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.***

I will pay my vows unto the LORD, in the sight of all his people, \* in the courts of the LORD's house; even in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD.

***Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.***

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**SAINTS:**

**Mellitus, first Bishop at St Paul's, Archbishop of Canterbury, 24 April.** Mellitus was a Roman abbot and sent to England by the Pope, Gregory the Great, to undergird the work of Augustine, who consecrated him Bishop of the East Saxons with his see at London and his first church that of St Paul. After some local setbacks and having to reside in northern France, he and his fellow bishops were recalled to England, but Mellitus was unable to return to London. He was made archbishop in the year 619 and died on this day in the year 624. He was buried close to Augustine in the Church of Ss Peter & Paul in Canterbury.

**Peter Chanel, Missionary in the South Pacific, 28 April.** Peter Chanel was born at Cras in France in 1803 and after ordination, joined the Marist missionary congregation in 1831. In 1836 he was sent to the islands of the South Pacific to preach the faith. Peter and his companions brought healing medicines as well as the gospel and were much loved and respected. On the island of Futuna in the Fiji group, where Peter was living, the chief's son asked for baptism, which so infuriated his father that he dispatched a group of warriors with explicit orders to murder Peter. They attacked him with clubs, axes and knives and he died on this day in the year 1841. Within a year, the whole island was Christian and Peter became revered throughout the Pacific Islands and Australasia as its protomartyr.