

*Third Sunday of Easter*  
*April 23, 2023*

- **From the Archives of Msgr. John J. Gilchrist April 21, 1996**

It is difficult to imagine the various emotions that engulfed the apostles and disciples during the days between Palm Sunday and the feast of Pentecost. First, there was the exaltation that they must have felt when they marched into Jerusalem in triumph on Palm Sunday. What a sight that must have been! Here was their Rabbi, Teacher, Companion, Friend being hailed as a king...and they were associates. Just as quickly came the feelings of dejection when "Jesus realizing that they would seize Him and make Him king, passed from their midst." He could have had anything He wanted, and He rejected it all.

Although Jesus had spoken on various occasions about His resurrection from the dead, the apostles and the others who heard did not understand – and who could blame them for that? When the women came back from the tomb and told the apostles that the tomb of Jesus was empty and that He had risen from the dead.

Today's gospel tells us that later that same day, Jesus came upon two of the disciples as they walked toward Emmaus. Joining them as they traveled along, He inquired as to the discussion that they were having. These men probably wondered at the ignorance of their companion who did not know of all the events that had occurred in Jerusalem during the past week – after all, Jesus was "the news of the day." Jesus slowly began to link the prophesies to all that had happened during the previous week. So enthralled were the disciples with the "traveling companion" that when He seemed to be continuing on after they reached Emmaus, they pleaded with Him to stay on and share their lodgings. He agreed to do so. During

the course of the evening meal, Jesus took bread and said the blessing and offered it to them – "and their eyes were open and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight.

How patient Jesus had always been with these apostles and disciples and after His resurrection He still remained so. These were the chosen band of people who would carry on His work. They and those who would come after them through all the ages of the world were to become the "Christophers" – the "Christ-bearers" to a world that would often be hostile and alien to the message of Jesus Christ.

We are the disciples today. We will experience all the emotions that the apostles, disciples, and even the Blessed Virgin Mary experienced. We will have our "ups and downs," but Jesus calls us to remain faithful to Him – to be His "Christ-bearers" in a society that had strayed so far from what he taught. Jesus told the apostles and all His followers that their future would not be easy. He would tell us the same thing. Ultimately, their decision to follow Him was their own – as is ours.

**复活期第三主日 (4/23/2023)**

- 摘自 *John J. Gilchrist 蒙席案卷, 1996年4月21日*

从苦难主日（圣枝主日）到五旬节很难想象宗徒们和门徒们高低起伏的心境。首先他们在圣枝主日那天兴高采烈地与耶稣一道荣进耶路撒冷。那是多么难忘的一天啊！他们跟那位被欢呼称作王的耶稣关系是那么亲近，他是他们的拉比，老师，同行者，朋友等等。但当耶稣被逮捕，戏弄为王，从他们面前经过时，他们变得很沮丧。他本可以拥有他所想要的一切，但他均拒绝了。

耶稣在不同的场合谈到他要从死者中复活，但听他讲这话的宗徒和群众却搞不明白是什么意思 – 他们迟钝的心当受谴责吗？那位从耶稣坟墓中跑回来的妇女也告诉宗徒们：耶稣的墓空了，他从死者中复活了！

今天的福音告诉我们就在同一天的晚些时候，耶稣走进俩位前去厄玛乌村庄的门徒，加入他们的行列，并询问他们正在讨论的话题。这两个门徒可能对这个新加入他们的同行者的孤陋寡闻感到诧异：他竟不知道前一周发生在耶路撒冷众人皆知的事件 – 有关耶稣的轰动事件。耶稣逐渐地把先知的的话跟前一周发生的事联系起来解释给他们听。俩位门徒对“同行者”的话如此着迷，当他们抵达厄玛乌后，这位同行者似乎要继续前行，他们请求他留下，跟他们一起住下。他同意了。晚餐时耶稣拿起饼，祝福了，掰开，递给他们 – 【他们的眼睛开了，认出耶稣；但耶稣却由他们面前隐没了。】

耶稣总是对他的使徒和门徒们那么有耐心，即使他复活后还是如此。他们是被拣选的人要传承耶稣的使命。他们和后来的追随者在历史的长河中成为“基督徒” – 基督的使者。这个世界却经常会对耶稣的信息产生敌对和排斥。

我们是耶稣今天的门徒。我们会经历当年使徒，门徒们和圣母玛利亚所经历的喜乐，沮丧和挫折。不论我们处在怎样的状态中，耶稣召叫我们在这个与他的教导背道而驰的社会里做他忠信的“基督使者”。耶稣曾告诉他的宗徒和追随者们他们的未来不易。他也对我们说同样的话。当年的宗徒和门徒选择跟随他，今天的我们也选择跟随他。