

St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN
The First Fifteen

The Spiritual Life and Evangelization Commission asked that all parish meetings begin with a program we are calling "The First Fifteen." We are asking all parish meetings to begin with a few minutes of faith sharing. One person in the group reads the reading provided below (which corresponds with this next week's weekend readings) and everyone is given an opportunity to reflect and share on the readings. The questions below are simply a way to stimulate your reflection. You can use them or anything that strikes you about the word of God.

Sunday, April 15, 2018

Luke 24: 35-48

The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread. While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, and know that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

Questions to Ponder:

This week's readings take place on Easter. Jesus has already appeared to the women at the tomb, to the two on the road to Emmaus and to Simon Peter. Jesus is establishing the reality of the Resurrection from the dead. He explains to them his mission in the light of the Old Testament prophecies and he empowers them with spreading the message to the entire world.

1. Do you feel that Jesus has empowered you with a mission to spread His message? How would you do this?
2. Why is it important for Jesus to teach the apostles about his fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies?
3. What other ways can we as Christians teach about Jesus' mission besides preaching them?

End with the "**Glory Be**" "**Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**"