

FROM FR. DEO

April 19, 2026



Christ on our “Emmaus Road”

Last Sunday, I attended the first Children’s Liturgy and was inspired to see 15 children, along with several parish volunteers, engage the Gospel in a way that truly spoke to them. I am grateful for what the Holy Spirit is doing in our community and for all who make it possible. I encourage parents and grandparents to bring their children to Mass and the Children’s Liturgy of the Word—because their participation is a beautiful way to share the light of our faith with the next generation.

At that liturgy, a touching moment captured both my attention and the heart of Easter reflected in this Sunday’s Gospel. When asked what they remembered about Easter, one child said, “The priest said that Jesus has risen... and Deacon Greg fell during Communion, and many rushed to help him—I hope he is okay.” In that response, I saw a child fully present at the 9:00 a.m. Mass, recognizing both the Resurrection and the love of the community. It reminds us that we encounter the risen Lord not only in the Word and Eucharist, but also in acts of care and compassion. We thank Deacon Greg for his service and pray for his continued recovery.

This Sunday invites us to walk alongside the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They are leaving Jerusalem discouraged and confused, and their hopes are shaken by the events of Good Friday. As they walk, Jesus Himself draws near—yet they do not recognize Him. As He explains the Scriptures, their hearts begin to burn within them, and in the breaking of the bread, their eyes are opened. They recognize Him at last--and then everything changes! What began as a journey away from hope becomes a mission going forward to joy—they return immediately to share the good news: the Lord is truly risen!

This is our story, too. Jesus meets us on our own “Emmaus Road”—in the ordinary moments of life and in the places we retreat when life feels overwhelming. We carry hopes for healing, security, and peace in our families. Yet the risen Lord walks with us always—speaking in the Word, revealing Himself in the Eucharist, and remaining with us, even when we fail to recognize Him. Let us ask for the grace to recognize Him more clearly in our lives—in prayer, in the sacraments, and in one another.

In parish news, you are warmly invited to join us on Saturday, April 25, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass for the Anointing of the Sick. If you or a loved one are experiencing illness, aging, or any burden, we encourage you to come and receive God’s grace. Then, looking ahead, we are bringing the venerated icon of the Black Madonna back to our church, as a gesture of welcome, unity, and respect for cultural faith expression. We will celebrate her at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on August 23. A procession preceding the Mass will carry the painting into the sanctuary.

I will be traveling to Rwanda from May 4 to May 28 to visit my family. This time will allow me to reconnect, pray, rest, and renew. During my absence, Fr. Leo and Fr. Dan will take care of all administrative and pastoral needs. Please keep me and my family in your prayers and be assured of mine for you. I will miss you, but I look forward to returning renewed as we continue our journey of faith together.

God is good all the time... All the time God is good!

Fr. Deo