

Sunday, May 19, 2019. Morning. How many times did we question why Jesus would do what he did, as represented in some of his interactions with the people. Whenever we feel that we know better than God, it is an opportunity for us to sit with our assumed superiority and allow over time grace to lead us to understand how God's wisdom is greater than our mere human wisdom.

Afternoon. How many times early in our faith life did we say, "Step aside, God, I am going to take care of this for you"? It takes time for us to mature to a point when we realize that it is all about our cooperating with what God wants us to do. It is all about us relying on God's grace rather than our own human strength to do what God calls us to do.

Evening. We celebrate the Epiphany in early January — the Magi seeing the baby Jesus. This is a huge epiphany, seeing baby Jesus and knowing that it is him. We also have smaller epiphanies in our everyday life — when we come to realize something.

Monday, May 20, 2109. Morning. Sometimes, and hopefully the majority of the times, we are quick to realize what has happened. However, there are also times of a delayed epiphany, when we do not know the reality of what has happened and to whom we are speaking. Such is the case for Cleopas and his friend.

Afternoon. They are standing before the risen Christ and yet they do not realize it. Let us reflect on their words that reveal their state of mind. "We were hoping that Jesus would be the one to redeem Israel." We hear the disappointment. Their hopes had been dashed. They fear that Jesus had not/would not redeem them.

Evening. They are standing before the risen Lord and they have heard that he is alive, but the epiphany has not yet taken place for them. They are not overwhelmed with the joy that Jesus is risen! Again, their words reveal their state of mind. "Some women from our group reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that Jesus is alive." They have the report, but they do not seem to believe it.

Tuesday, May 21, 2019. Morning. We all hear scripture read at mass: First Reading, Psalm, Second Reading and Gospel. Many of us read the Bible on our own. Some of us attend Bible Studies to further our understanding. Oh, to have had the experience of Cleopas and his friend — to have attended the greatest Bible Study of all time.

Afternoon. Listen to a description of the greatest Bible study of all time, given by Jesus himself. "Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scripture." Let us continue to read the Bible and attend Bible studies in the hope of coming to know something of what Jesus himself taught these two most fortunate men.

Evening. "Then beginning with Moses... Jesus interpreted to them what referred to him in all of scripture." What, we wonder, could Moses (a man who lived perhaps 3,500 years ago, and to whom Charlton Heston would bear a remarkable resemblance) have in common with Jesus? Although we cannot attend that Bible Study in which Jesus taught Cleopas, let us take some time to try to ponder.

Wednesday, May 22, 2019. Morning. As an infant, Moses was threatened by the decree of Pharaoh, in which all male infants were to be killed. As an infant, Jesus was threatened by the decree of King Herod, in which all male infants were to be killed...

Afternoon. Moses came out of Egypt. As an infant, Jesus was taken to Egypt and came back out of Egypt... Moses passed through the Red Sea. Jesus was baptized in the river Jordan...

Evening. Moses fasted forty days. Jesus fasted for forty days... Moses spent forty years in the wilderness. Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness. While in the wilderness, Moses and Jesus were each tempted and administered to by Angels.

Thursday, May 23, 2019. Morning. Moses went up Mount Sinai and received the Law (the Ten Commandments). Jesus similarly gave the new Law in his sermon on the ***Mount***, in which he further develops more than one of the ten commandments of Moses, by going to the root cause of the sin. "You have heard it said, thou shall not kill, but I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court."

Afternoon. Moses instituted Passover by leading his people to freedom from slavery through the use of the blood of a lamb without blemish. On a subsequent Passover, Jesus freed us from sin through the shedding of his own blood, he himself being the Lamb of God, without blemish. Would the above similarities have been some of the things that Jesus would have taught, "Beginning with Moses... Jesus interpreted what referred to him in scripture.

Evening. Continuing with the Emmaus resurrection event... Cleopas and his friend urge Jesus to, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." Our prayer life will have experiences in which Jesus seems a million miles away, and other times when he feels very present.

Friday, May 24, 2019. Morning. When we feel like Jesus is a million miles away, we can find ourselves like these two disciples longing for that feeling of Jesus' presence to remain with us. Sometimes our wish is granted, as it was for these two men.

Afternoon. "So Jesus stayed with them. And, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him." Finally, the epiphany occurs!

Evening. Finally they realize that this man is Jesus! The resurrected Jesus had been conversing with them for many hours, but only then do they realize that it is Jesus Himself who is with

them. Let us be open to grace so that we come to realize sooner rather than later the wonderful things that are already in our lives.

Saturday, May 25, 2019. Morning. It is in the breaking of the Bread that they realize it is Jesus. The Divine Presence in the Eucharist. It is in receiving Holy Communion that we receive Jesus. And hopefully our hearts will burn within us. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us..."

Afternoon. They are called to share the Good News, Jesus is risen! "They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them.... Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Evening. Let us see the Lucan Emmaus Resurrection Scene as a format of the Catholic Mass. The first part of the Mass is the Liturgy of the Word. We hear the scripture readings and hopefully our hearts burn within us, as did the hearts of the two men at Emmaus.