



Third Sunday of EASTER

19 April 2026 | Sunday



Their eyes were opened

On most Sundays during the Easter season in Cycle A, our Gospel is taken from the Gospel of John. This week's Gospel, however, is taken from the Gospel of Luke. As in last week's Gospel, today's Gospel shows us how the first community of disciples came to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In these stories we gain insight into how the community of the Church came to be formed.

When we read today's Gospel, we may be surprised to learn that these friends of Jesus could walk and converse with him at some length yet not recognize him. Again we discover that the risen Jesus is not always easily recognized. Cleopas and the other disciple walk with a person whom they believe to be a stranger; only later do they discover that the stranger is Jesus. We learn that the first community met and recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

We can imagine the feelings of the two disciples in today's reading. They are leaving their community in Jerusalem. Their friend Jesus has been crucified. Their hope is gone. They are trying to make sense of what has occurred, so that they can put the experience behind them.

Jesus himself approaches the two men, but they take him for a stranger. Jesus asks them what they are discussing. He invites them to share their experience and interpretation of the events surrounding his crucifixion and death. When the two disciples have done so, Jesus offers his own interpretation of his crucifixion and resurrection, citing Jewish Scripture. In that encounter we find the model for our Liturgy of the Word what we do each time we gather as a community for the Eucharist.

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .

Monday, April 20

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Irene Brito

Tuesday, April 21

St. Anselm of Canterbury

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Olinda Mastroianni

Wednesday, April 22

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Sr. Virginia Nelson CSJ

Thursday, April 23

St. George & St. Adalbert

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Gloria Sheridan

Friday, April 24

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Paolo Tofani

Saturday, April 25

St. Mark the Evangelist

4:30 p.m.

† Cristina & Quindino Mucciaroni,
Marlon Roldan

Sunday, April 26

4th Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. ♦ People of the parish

11:00 a.m. † Domenic Garisto

5:00 p.m. † Sylvia Phillips

We reflect upon our life experiences and interpret them in light of Scripture. We gather together to break open the Word of God.

In the next part of the story, we find a model for our Liturgy of the Eucharist. The disciples invite the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. During the meal in which they share in the breaking of the bread, the disciples' eyes are opened; they recognize the stranger as Jesus. In the Eucharist too we share in the breaking of the bread and discover Jesus in our midst. Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem to recount their experience to the other disciples, we too are sent from our Eucharistic gathering. Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others.



MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP!

Sunday Collection April 12 - \$6,760

Prayer Intention for the Month of April:

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We welcome candidates for their First Holy Communion they will celebrate this special sacrament, **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**, Saturday, April 18 at 11:00 am Kindly make our candidates and their guests to feel welcome! We pray that God will bless them richly.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We warmly welcome students from **public schools and older candidates** who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion. They will celebrate this special sacrament on Saturday, April 18 at 4:30 p.m. Kindly help make our candidates and their families feel welcome as they share in this important moment of faith. Let us keep them in our prayers, asking God to bless them abundantly.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER A Wedding is a Day....A Marriage is a Lifetime CEE Niagara Community

In-person Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: **2026 Dates:** May 1-2-3 or October 2-3-4, 2026 Location: Jericho House, 10845 Rathfon Rd, Port Colborne, ON L3K 5V4 To Register: please visit <https://ceecanada.ca/niagara-stcatharines/>. Contact: Celine or Marc at ceeniagara@gmail.com or call Céline (289-241-4390) or Marc (289-407-9164)



VIRTUAL CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS:

The CEE Weekend is best experienced as an In-Person Weekend. However, if you and your fiancé/e are separated by distance, please consider attending one of our virtual CEE Weekends. To register, please visit: <https://ceecanada.ca/> and choose 'Online Option: Virtual Weekends' on the 'Find Locations' page. The registrar for virtual Engaged Encounter Weekends is Ginette Charbonneau — ceecanada@gmail.com For more information about Catholic Engaged Encounter please visit: <https://ceecanada.ca/>



BINGO! BINGO! BINGO!

Please come out and support St. Thomas More Bingo **May 20**. Delta Monte Carlo Bingo Hall 4735 Drummond Rd.

Your support is greatly appreciated!
THANK YOU!



CONFIRMATION

Bishop Gerard Bergie will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to eligible candidates **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**, Saturday, May 2 at 11:00 am **LORETTO**, Saturday, May 2 at 2:00 pm Please pray for our young candidates the Spirit will fill them with His gifts and make them credible witnesses of Christ in the world



HOLY HOUR to PRAY for VOCATIONS: The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. It is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. On Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 3:00pm, at the Cathedral (3 Lyman Street, St. Catharines), join with your diocesan family, under the leadership of Bishop Bergie, to pray for vocations to the priesthood, especially from and for our diocese, for vocations to the diaconate and for vocations to religious life. May the Lord touch the hearts of many young men and women to consecrate themselves completely and exclusively to Christ and the service of His holy people. May the Lord bless all married and single persons in their vocations.



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Will be holding a Mother's Day Basket Sale after all Masses on April 25-26 and May 2-3 to support our council's initiatives, including graduation scholarships for students in our feeder schools. Tickets are 3 for \$5 or 10 for \$10. The draw will take place on Sunday, May 3rd after the 5 p.m. Mass. Thank you for your generous support.

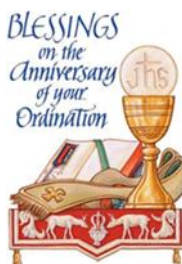
CONGRATULATIONS

Santana & Zeena Gomes, who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. May God bless them for their faithful witness to the power of marriage in our society.



CONGRATULATIONS

Father Mathew on your 37th Anniversary of Ordination on April 19. Wherever the Spirit calls you in the church, may you always strive to do the will of the Father and bring more souls to Christ God bless you for being our Priest.



"Prayer ought to carry over into our words, our thoughts, and our actions. We must strive to reflect on whatever we ask or promise..." St. Marguerite Bourgeours