

Ghostbusters

3rd Sunday of Easter

Luke 24:35-48

We continue to celebrate the Risen Lord in a special way.
We celebrate Him everyday, of course, but, 'tis the season.

The Lord is risen, risen from the dead, victorious over death,
which means that *nothing* can hinder God
from communicating His love to us.

In other words, Jesus is Lord, Jesus reigns, Jesus is present in

- all that may feel like death
- all that feels like it is dying in us

The mystery of the Resurrection is

- our mystery now
 - our reality now
- if we so desire.

It is, of course, mystery-ous.

It was for the disciples to whom Jesus appeared.

“They thought that they were seeing a ghost.” (v. 37)

This incident follows Jesus' appearance
to the two disciples on their way to Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem.

Why they went to Emmaus, we do not know.

The disciples are in disarray and disbelief:

perhaps they needed a breather—or food.

In their state, Jesus comes to them.

How awesome: God comes to us when

everything seems to be falling apart and we think we are unreachable.

The two disciples do not recognize Jesus until he breaks bread with them.

Hmm: in accepting His intimacy, we come to recognize Jesus.

The two rush to the others and, as they are sharing the incident,
Jesus comes.

He communicates peace, and yet, neither do *they* recognize Him.

Jesus invites them to touch him: “Touch me.” (v. 39)

Here again, intimacy opens the eyes: they were “incredulous for joy”. (v. 41)

They do not recognize Jesus initially

because, with Jesus, there is more than meets the eye.

Just like us, the Apostles needed faith to recognize Jesus.
They were not making use of the gift of faith.
Consequently, the transfiguration of Jesus' body,
instead of being a new, awesome discovery,
veiled the reality of His presence.

Our journey is analogous.
There is more than meets the eye, but we do not make use of the gift of faith.
And so, we do things like conclude that, because

- we do not see the Risen Lord *and*
- some things feel like they are dying

God, Christ is far.

Au contraire.

Because He is risen, He is closer to us than we are to ourselves.
Touch Him now, in faith and in hope and in hope.
All we must do is *want* it.
It is that simple.

And what does Jesus do in response to

- our wanting
- the thirst of our heart?

He sends the promise of the Father (v. 49)

And what is this promise?

The Holy Spirit—who will never leave, because He is *the* Promise.

Let us be filled with new life, and know that we are never alone...