

Third Sunday of Easter 2020

My beloved ones: The Gospel for today has always been one of my favorites, (Fr. Ruzicka says I have too many favorites. Too Bad! I'm writing this homily, not him!). Nonetheless, it is one of my favorites, because it reminds us that our God and Lord Jesus Christ, the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Three in One, will never, never fail us, will never, never desert us; never! Even in the midst of their despair and disappointment as they were walking away from Jerusalem and disobeying the Word of Jesus to remain there; He begins to walk with them, setting their hearts and fire with the Divine Word, which He is! But, God has always been faithful to all of His beloved children throughout the ages, and that is the message of all of the readings for this Sunday!

St. Peter explains how the Resurrection was the fulfillment of the solemn promises of God in the Old Testament that the Messiah would reign forever over God's people. He reminds us that Christ has conquered sin and death. The most terrible sin of all time- when mankind rejected the Savior and put Him to death, has been conquered by His death! The Resurrection is God definitive proof that our God is always faithful, that He can always be trusted, and we need doubt no more!

The Psalm for today reminds us of the same truth. David prays: "I have set the Lord ever before me; with Him at my right hand, I shall not be disturbed!" Even though the mighty waters may rage around me, I shall not be disturbed; such is the Divine promise to us!

In the second reading, also from St. Peter, he reminds us that our redemption is not "perishable;" it does not have an expiration date. It is wholly dependable, because God is always the same in His infinite Divine Love for us- not even the power of evil, plague, sin and death can destroy the work and love of God at work in His plan of salvation, (when the baby begins to cry, the mother's milk begins to flow!) St. Isaiah asks us the question: "Can a mother forget her child? Yes, even though a mother might forget her child, I will never forget you!", because God does not love like we love, nor think nor act like we think!

Finally, Jesus walks with us always, even when we walk away from Him- He is utterly patient with us, and continues always on the journey with us, even when we do not see Him or recognize His presence, even though we may not understand, even though we have hardened our hearts by un-belief or doubt; nonetheless, He remains with us. Do you want your heart to burn with in you once again, then invite Jesus to walk with you during this present trial- He most assuredly wants to do so! He has so much to say to you and to give you!