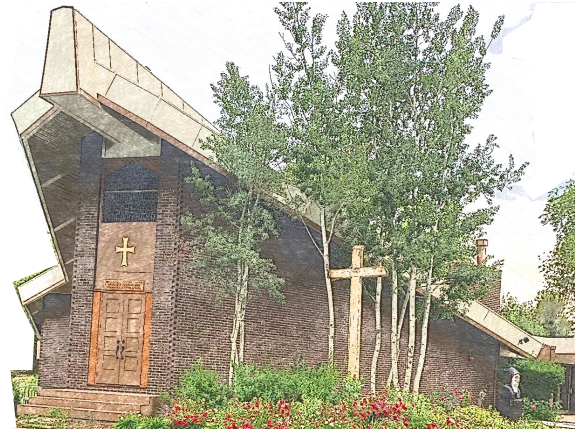


St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church

2301 Wadsworth Boulevard,
Lakewood, CO 80214

Website: www.strafkadenver.org

Email: StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com



April 14, 2024 3rd Sunday of the Resurrection

Schedule of Masses & Services

Sunday Mass 11:00 AM

Tuesday-Thursday Mass 6:00 PM

Friday Mass during Lent 5:50 PM followed by
Stations of the Cross

Saturday Mass 11:30 AM

Holy Days on Weekdays 6:30 PM

Confession: Tuesday-Thursday 5:00 – 5:45 PM

**Please call the office to alert us of any
Pastoral Care needs**

(Hospital, Homebound, Etc.)

Office Hours

9:30 am-3:30 pm, Wednesday & Friday
720-833-0354

StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com

Rev. El-Badaoui Habib, Parochial Administrator

Linda Craven, Office & Business Manager

*Philip Kyburz, Grand Knight,
St. Rafka Council of the Knights of Columbus*

Linda Craven, Religious Education
lhalpincraven@gmail.com

Contact the office to register in the Parish

Spiritual Message from a Commentary from OPUS DEI

Luke 24: 13-25 The Road to Emmaus

Saint Luke recounts that, on the Sunday of the Resurrection two disciples of Jesus were going from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They were weighed down with worries, since they had heard about the angel's announcement that Jesus was alive (v. 22ff), but still had doubts about the resurrection. So immersed were they in their own sadness that they were unable to recognize the risen Jesus in the person walking alongside them.

The narrative says the Emmaus was about 60 estadia (7 miles) from Jerusalem. Experts still debate the exact location of this village, but tradition often identifies it with Emmaus Nicopolis, which is about 160 estadia (18 miles) from Jerusalem, a figure that is also found in many manuscripts of Luke's gospel. In any case, the two disciples had a long walk ahead of them that day. And leaving Jerusalem was like leaving behind their faith in Jesus. But the Risen One comes to meet them in order to transform their hearts.

With great tact, Jesus helps them to talk about their worries in order to dissipate them. Saint Josemaria loved to contemplate this scene, applying it to his daily life: "there, without

DAILY READINGS

Sunday, April 14

**3rd Sunday of the Glorious
Resurrection**

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Job 42:1-6, 12

2 Tm 2:8-13

Lk 24:13-25

Monday, April 15

Pope St. Soter, M

Book of Offering Page 327

1 Pt 2:18-25

Lk 24:44-49

Tuesday, April 16

St. Bernadette Soubirous

Book of Offering Page 445 or 336

Phil 4:10-18; Lk 18:9-14 or

1 Pt 3:1-12; Jn 6:28-34

Wednesday, April 17

Pope St. Agapitus

Book of Offering Page 346

1 Pt 3:13-22

Jn 6:34-40

Thursday, April 18

St. Thais the Penitent

Book of Offering Page 356

1 Pt 4:1-11

Jn 6:41-47

Friday, April 19

St. Timon the Deacon

Book of Offering Page 366

1 Pt 4:12-19

Jn 6:48-59

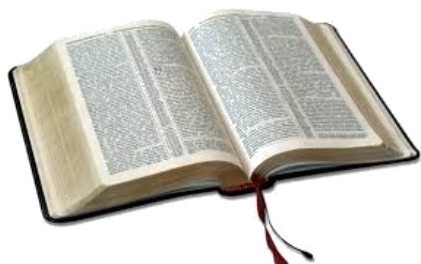
Saturday, April 20

St. Nathanael the Hermit

Book of Offering Page 376

1 Pt 5:1-14

Jn 6:60-71



The Walk to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-25)

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him."

²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!"

Spiritual Message (continued)

any fuss, Jesus appeared to them, and walks with them, his conversation helping to alleviate their tiredness. I can well imagine the scene, just as dusk was falling. A gentle breeze was blowing. All around were fields ripe with wheat, and venerable olive trees, their branches shimmering in the soft glowing light.

"Jesus joins them as they go along their way. Lord, how great you are, in everything! But you move me even more when you come down to our level, to follow us and to seek us in the hustle and bustle of each day. Lord, grant us a childlike spirit, pure eyes and a clear head so that we may recognize you when you come without any outward sign of your glory."

The Crucified and Risen Lord comes to meet us on our daily path, to restore joy to our heart when we need it. "The road to Emmaus thus becomes a symbol of our journey of faith: the Scriptures and the Eucharist are the indispensable elements for encountering the Lord. We too often go to Sunday Mass with our worries,

NEWS & EVENTS

This week at St. Rafka Church

Sun 14	Mon 15	Tues 16	Wed 17	Thurs 18	Fri 19	Sat 20	Sun 21
3rd Sunday of the Resurrection 11:00am Religious Education 10-10:50 am	<i>No Mass</i> <i>Pope St. Soter, M</i>	<i>No Mass</i> <i>St. Bernadette Soubirous</i>	<i>No Mass</i> <i>Pope St. Agapitus</i>	<i>No Mass</i> <i>St. Thais the Penitent</i>	<i>Mass 6:30 pm</i> <i>St. Timon the Deacon</i>	<i>Mass 11:30 am</i> <i>St. Nathanael the Hermit</i>	4th Sunday of the Resurrection 11:00am Religious Education 10-10:50 am
<p>The deadline to receive events and articles for the bulletin is Wednesday at 12:00 PM Submit them to the Parish Office at StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com</p>							

St. Bernadette of Lourdes (born January 7, 1844, Lourdes, France—died April 16, 1879, Nevers; canonized December 8, 1933; **feast day April 16**, but sometimes February 18 in France. French saint whose visions led to the founding of the Marian Shrine of Lourdes.

Frail in health, Bernadette was the eldest of nine children from a poverty-stricken family; her father was a miller. She contracted cholera in the epidemic of 1854 and suffered from asthma and other ailments throughout her life. Between February 11 and July 16, 1858, at the age of 14, she had a series of visions of the Virgin Mary in the nearby Massabielle grotto. Mary revealed her identity with the words “I am the Immaculate Conception” and, among other messages and affirmations, told Bernadette that a chapel should be built there. Bernadette steadfastly defended the genuineness of these visions despite strong opposition from her parents, the local clergy, and civil authorities, and she faithfully transmitted Mary’s messages.

To escape public attention, she became a boarder in the local school run by the Sisters of Charity of Nevers. In 1866 she was granted admission into the novitiate in the motherhouse at Nevers. There she completed her religious instruction and passed her remaining years in prayer and seclusion, happy and loved for her kindness, holiness, and wit, despite almost constant sickness and pain. She died in agony, willingly accepting her great sufferings in faithful fulfillment of her “Lady’s” request for penance.

She was canonized by Pope Pius XI, who authenticated her visions and the veneration of Mary as Our Lady of Lourdes. Celebration of her feast is optional in the Roman calendar, though Lourdes is a major pilgrimage center for those seeking healing. The chapel of the St. Gildard convent, Nevers, contains her body which is incorrupt.





St. Rafka Parish Mission Statement

Faith, hope, and love, reinforcing our family values, promoted through heritage and prayer for the glory of God, the edification of the Holy Church and the salvation of the world.

Spiritual Message (continued)

difficulties and disappointments.... Life sometimes wounds us and we go away feeling sad, towards our 'Emmaus,' turning our backs on God's plan. We distance ourselves from God. But the Liturgy of the Word welcomes us: Jesus explains the Scriptures to us and rekindles in our hearts the warmth of faith and hope, and in Communion he gives us strength. The Word of God, the Eucharist. Read a passage of the Gospel every day. Remember it well: read a passage from the Gospel every day, and on Sundays go to Communion, to receive Jesus. This is what happened to the disciples of Emmaus: they received the Word; they shared the breaking of bread and from feeling sad and defeated they became joyful. Dear brothers and sisters, the Word of God and the Eucharist always fill us with joy."

Benedict XVI said in a general audience, citing words of Saint Jerome: "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.' It is therefore important that every Christian live in contact and in personal dialogue with the Word of God given to us in Sacred Scripture ... The privileged place for reading and listening to the Word of God is the liturgy, in which, celebrating the Word and making Christ's Body present in the Sacrament, we actualize the Word in our lives and make it present among us."

