

## LOCKDOWN DAY 34 REFLECTION – 29 APRIL 2020

My dear family and friends of False Bay Diocese,

Scripture Reading: Luke 24: 13-35 (Walk to Emmaus) Hymn: *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord*

Let us continue reflecting on the **magnificent** reading of the walk to Emmaus. When we get back to teaching Confirmation, I would want this to be a central text of our teaching. Why did the disciples not **recognise** Jesus? They spent time with him, saw him, heard him, yet they did not **recognise** him.

Today, I invite us to reflect on the the **journey** of the two disciples who left **Jerusalem**. The other disciples stay **locked** in the Upper Room. They were afraid. These two choose to leave **Jerusalem**, to **journey** away from **Jerusalem**. They are leaving the **centre** where they **found** God to **go to a little** village, their own **little** reality. They are leaving on the evening of the Resurrection. **Jerusalem** was the centre of the **new reality**, the risen Jesus in whom we find **relationship** with God. We ask ourselves today, in our situation of **isolation**, of lock down, whether we are tempted to leave **Jerusalem**, the **real reality** of God and rather go to a **little village** of our **little** mind, **little reality**.

The discussion of the disciples was about their own views, their own understanding, their own interpretation, as incorrect as they were. What is our **honest** view of God, our understanding, our rules? Jesus joins us in our confusion, on our journey and does not interrupt as he did not interrupt the disciples. Jesus **listens** to what we have to say, even though, at times, like the disciples, we are so slow to believe, to recognise him.

Jesus then confronts the disciples and us today, asking whether we have not rejected the **reality of God** by holding on to our views, our understanding of **reality**? Why do we not recognise Jesus? For the disciples, what they believed in was gone.

Jesus **opens** their minds. Jesus **opens** their eyes and ours, blinded by our own view. Jesus wipes away our tears. Let us, like the two disciples, **urge** Jesus to **stay** with us in the darkness. In meeting Jesus, their **hope** is kindled again. As the Covid 19 pandemic is keeping us home and we live with so much that is cancelled, remember that **devotion** is not cancelled, **hope** is not cancelled.

As Jesus opens our minds and eyes this morning, **hope** is kindled again, our hearts burn within us. Let us return to Jerusalem and allow Jesus to walk with us, to transform us. Let us allow the **reality** of the resurrection of Jesus, amidst so much difficulty and despair, to fill us with silent peace, indescribable, heavenly joy.

Other things that are not **cancelled** are **conversations** and **relationships**. Today, please reach out to any member of ANSOC, of ASF, of AWF, of AYF, of AYSA.

**Let us pray:** We pray that when we feel discouraged, we will cling to the **hope** of the Risen Christ given to the whole world. We pray, with **hope** for an end to the pain of violence in our communities. We pray for the sick, that they may experience the presence of the Risen Christ with them.

I am, Because we are, Because God is, Opening hearts to heal God's world.

iNkosi mayibe nani. The Lord be with you. Mag die Here met u wees.