



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 6, 2008

YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE PATHS OF LIFE;
YOU WILL FILL ME WITH JOY IN YOUR PRESENCE.

—Acts 2:28



ON THE ROAD

One central metaphor employed to describe the Christian life is a journey. In today's second reading, Peter addresses the early Christian community: "*Conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning*" (1 Peter 1:17). When we think of a journey, we normally think of some kind of movement from point A to point B. The Christian journey, begun in the waters of baptism (point A) has as its ultimate destination eternal life with God in heaven (point B). Unfortunately we find ourselves on all kinds of detours along the way. Because of sin, we make foolish turns and sometimes seem unable to detect the presence of the Lord. Today's story of the two disciples on their way to Emmaus illustrates for us the fact that, even when we are dejected or on one of our many detours, the Lord is there, walking right beside us. Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING

All members of the liturgy committee are encouraged to attend a meeting on Monday, April 14 in the Rectory meeting room.

HEALTH FAIR

On Sunday, April 27th we will have our third annual health fair sponsored by St. Mary Medical Center, Long Beach State University and our own Parish Nursing Ministry. There will be medical professionals here to provide screenings for diabetes, blood pressure and cholesterol. You are welcome to stop by between the hours of 8:00a.m. and 3:00p.m. for health screenings and information on other services that our community can provide to you.

REST IN PEACE

Last Monday, March 31, **Mrs. Lillian Wythe** passed away at the age of 102. Lillian had been a parishioner of St. Matthew's Church for the past 56 years. We thank God for her presence in our community and her faithful service to our Monday morning group. Lillian's funeral Mass will take place this Tuesday, April 8th at 10:00a.m.

A.C.C.W.

5th Annual Spring Mass — Tuesday, April 8th
Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels 525 W. Temple, L.A.
Crowning of Mary at 9:50 a.m. followed by Mass at 10:00a.m.

ENTRY

*How else but through a broken heart may
the Lord Christ enter in?* —Oscar Wilde

CONGRATULATIONS...

to RCIA candidates Rosie de la Rocha and her daughters, Reyna and Karla Medina who will be in an RCIA ceremony of welcoming at the 10:30 a.m. Mass this weekend. All three have already been baptized and are preparing for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. We congratulate them and promise our prayerful support in their journey of faith.

A GOOD CAUSE... GET ON THE BUS

Get On The Bus brings children and their caregivers from throughout the State of California to visit their mothers and fathers in prison. An annual event, on the Friday before Mother's Day and the weekend before Father's Day, **Get On The Bus** offers free transportation for the children and their caregivers to the prison, provides travel bags for the children, comfort care bags for the caregivers, a photo of each child with his or her parent, and meals for the day (breakfast, snacks on the bus, a special lunch at the prison with their parent and dinner on the way home), all at no cost to the children's family. On the bus trip home, following a four hour visit, each child receives a teddy bear with a letter from their parent and post-event counseling. Why is this ministry needed? Many caregivers are unable to make the drive due to distance or expense. **Get On The Bus** offers a priceless opportunity—a mother's touch, a father's hug, a family photo, a private conversation and a connection with hope and healing. For more information about this organization, please contact our Peace and Justice Representatives through the Parish office.

...REFLECTIONS...

The readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter are listed below along with two questions to prompt you to relate the Word of God to your life.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a 36-41

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:20b-25

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

1) The readings after Easter focus on Peter—and quite a different Peter this is after the resurrection. What changes do you notice?

2) In the Gospel, Jesus describes himself as the good shepherd. How can we detect good shepherds in our church, work, and daily lives and how are they different from thieves and robbers?