

LORD, YOU WILL SHOW US THE PATH OF LIFE...

We have arrived at the third Sunday of Easter, and we find this beautiful story presented by Saint Luke in the Gospel: the disciples or pilgrims of Emmaus.

And how can we not recognize ourselves in them?

These disciples had already heard the good news that the tomb was empty, that Jesus had risen, and that death did not have the final word. That the power of God is greater than the darkness of the tomb; however, they lacked the strength to believe and the hope to trust. They lived full of themselves, of their own opinions, and although they knew the Scriptures, they did not fully understand them.

And even more difficult to believe, they could not perceive the presence of Jesus walking with them.

If we humbly acknowledge these similarities between these disciples and ourselves, we will recognize that we too are walking along, failing to accept the good news. Our gaze is fixed on the bad news that abounds today.

We don't recognize Jesus' presence on our path. We think that because things haven't turned out favorably or as we expected, God has forgotten us; we think God is absent.

But this Sunday, Jesus invites us to take a step in faith. He invites us to recognize him in his word as the nourishment for our lives, but also in the breaking of the bread, which is the Eucharist.

Christ has the power to transform our lives, just as he transformed the lives of these disciples.

He will transform our sadness into joy, our discouragement into hope, our lament into gladness.

The encounter with Jesus will ignite our hearts. And this fire will impel us to bear witness to him.

May our heavenly mother, the ever-Virgin Mary, obtain this blessing for us. Amen.