

Homily for Children
For St Marie's school Mass at St Vincent's
20th April 2022

Well what a fantastic story that is. The two friends of Jesus were 'down in the dumps' because their very close friend Jesus had died on the Cross a few days previously and they were very sad like we might be if someone we love had passed away.

But as they walked the seven mile journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus a stranger joined them on the road. It was none other than Jesus Himself but they didn't recognise who he was at the time. Maybe they hadn't seen Him for quite a long time in person. Actually Jesus sensed that they were miserable and wanted to know why. They were glad he asked them because in sharing their pain it really made them feel a lot better.

What about us. Do we ever tell Jesus in our prayers when we feel upset and 'out of sorts' over something and believe he's going to take away the source of our sadness just like he did to his two friends on the road to Emmaus.

If there's something bothering you right now tell Jesus about it and I assure you you'll feel a lot better this evening.

When Jesus got to where his friends lived it was evening. Since it was late Jesus made as if to continue on his journey but they were so taken in with Him that they asked him to stay for tea. That was the best move they ever made.

Because while they were at table when Jesus shared out the bread with them to their amazement they recognised for the first time since he joined them on the road that it was actually Jesus but at that instant he vanished from their sight. Wow! They couldn't believe their eyes that it was really Jesus. But

even from listening to him on the road earlier they sensed there was something special about Him.

When we come to Mass it's the same Jesus who is with us in the form of bread and wine that joined these two men on the road to Emmaus. We don't need to see Him in the flesh. When we receive him in Holy Communion we can have a chat with Him how we feel and what we want from Him.

Like the two disciples we'll want to tell others that Jesus is real and since he's risen from the dead he's there for everyone. In the Mass during the Easter Season which goes on for fifty days we sing; 'alleluia alleluia give thanks to the Risen Lord, give praise to his name'. Let us mean those words and not let up on singing them.