# Third Sunday of Easter — April 18, 2021

## From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Many people read the Bible. Many more listen to it being read Sunday after Sunday. But often times it leaves little impression on their minds, and brings about little or no effect in their hearts. Something more is needed than the mere reading of the word of God or listening to it. Something from the Lord is needed, a light from above, a gift of the Holy Spirit, the charism to grasp the value of that particular reading for one's life. Only God can give this gift.

How often Jesus had foretold to the chosen twelve that he would die and rise again! When he drove out the buyers and sellers from the Temple, he told them the cryptic words: "Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19). He was referring to himself, the true Temple of the Lord. After the Transfiguration, he told the three companions to say nothing of the vision till the Son of man was risen from the dead. In three consecutive instances he gave them a clear prophecy of his death and resurrection, but in each case, it is mentioned that they either resisted his words or did not understand what he meant. Resurrection from the dead was something totally unheard of, so new as to be unbelievable. Their minds were dull.

Now the disciples are forced to admit the reality of his resurrection. He stands before them. He bids them come near and touch him. They feel his wounded hands and side. He even ate as he did before. He gave them all the proofs available for a reasonable man to accept the fact that he was truly alive again, although he had beyond a doubt died on the cross and was buried. They still did not know what to make of it, so he turned to their sacred books, especially the psalms and the prophets, and "opened their minds. Their minds had been closed. They needed light to see the meaning of the inspired word of God.

It is a fact today that the Bible is coming again into its own. Many more people are reading the word of God than before, and many more are listening attentively to the readings of the new liturgy in the Eucharistic celebrations. Yet, what is needed is the light from above, the charism to grasp the significance for one's personal life and needs, for those in one's care. The word of God is a living word. As the document on revelation of Vatican II tells us: "In the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven meets his children with great love and speak with them". (Article 21). And again, it is said that these sacred books "make the voice of the Holy Spirit resound in the words of the prophets and apostles". Thus "the force and power in the word of God is so great that it remains the support and energy of the Church, the food of the soul, the pure and lasting source of the spiritual life. But we must beg the Lord to open our minds so that we understand. It is the light from above that is needed.

***Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion***

***Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.***

## Mass Intentions for the Week

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| **Tues.** | **April 20** | **11:00AM** |
| Jaime Gomez † | | David & Linda Rossi |
| **Wed.** | **April 21** | **11:00AM** |
| Fr. Leo's Ordination Anniversary | | |
| **Thur.** | **April 22** | **11:00AM** |
| Rita Scheflo (healing) | | Olivia Austria Edwardes |
| **Fri.** | **April 23** | **11:00AM** |
| Special Intentions | | |
| **Sat.** | **April 24** | **4:30PM** |
| Christina Quiapo | | Mom & Dad |
| **Sun.** | **April 25** | **9:00AM** |
| Barcemia Lauder † | | Jenny |
| **Port Costa** | | **11:00AM** |
| People of the Parish | | |

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