

## Sunday Gospel Reflection--Luke 24:13-35

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When I was reading the gospel, I was really confused in the beginning and I asked myself "how can you come up with some answer to your questions Nazanin?" And then Bingo, remembered I can ask the writer about it, you know the Bible is the only book in history that you have access to the writer, through prayer. if you ask, he will answer. Such a good deal; you have the book with the key at all times.

Who are two of them? This refers to disciples, including the 11 and the rest of the people who are believers, it means everyone. We know one of the names, Cleopas, though Cleopas is never mentioned in any list of the apostles. Some theologians believe the two may be a man and his wife, since they invited Jesus to eat with them and this joint hospitality may be proof of it. They appear to be from the Emmaus since they asked the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. They had previously been with Jesus and know all about him and what happened to him in detail. They were sad and hopeless about salvation, wishing he was the real Messiah, talking to him and still did not recognize him! At the end of the road, they are changed and realize who they were talking to. Both come back to the Jerusalem to let everyone know, (including us in the 21 century.)

This made me think how many times I met Him in my life... at the food bank, someone alone at church, someone at my door or on social media who is crying out to be saved, and I did not recognized Him? How many times could I have had a revelation, with open eyes, to change my direction to better social and spiritual life.

Our congregation is very big on hospitality and helping all, including each other. We even have different committees for that, i.e., welcome & hospitality, food bank, women's & men's coffee, to name a few. I remember when I needed help for my parent's celebration of life, many people from my St. James family stood up and helped in any ways they could.

We all can see every time the restocking or distribution at our food bank happens and how humble and caring our volunteers are serving all with passion.

We are witnesses of the use of our building and grounds, financial helps, and many people who make it possible for us to welcome people no matter where we are (or they are in their) in our journey of faith.