

## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

April 15, 2018

The Third Sunday of Easter

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19 + 1 John 2:1-5a + Luke 24:35-48



Reflection by: **Sister Ann Marie Rimmer, OP**

### Sometimes It Takes Time

I have a friend who was not exactly enamored with her son's chosen fiancée. Perhaps like many mothers the fiancée didn't seem good enough for her son. Thirty years later, she told me her daughter-in-law was absolutely the right person for her son and was beloved by the family. It took time. Once she "got it," the mother-in-law talked of her goodness to everyone.

So too with the story of the Emmaus encounter. They didn't get it at first. They were confused and disappointed. He had promised so much; they were so inspired and then he died an ignominious death. True, some of the disciples said Jesus appeared to them. But really, could that have happened? Perhaps it was a ghost.

Gradually their eyes were opened. They saw and they believed. He said to them, "It is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness for sin would be preached in his name. You are now witnesses of these things."

In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter, who denied Jesus, was now proclaiming his belief in the Risen Lord. It took him time to get the message.

So, too, with us. We have studied Scripture, reflected on homilies and been men and women of prayer and yet, sometimes, it takes a while to believe with the deep faith to be true witnesses of the message of Christ. Forgive one another. Be at peace. Spread peace. Perhaps we need a real encounter with the Risen Lord.

Is now the time?