

KEY VERSE

'Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus.'
(Luke 14. 31)

FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

23rd April 2017

He is Risen! The Road to Emmaus



THE PARISH OF CHALFONT ST PETER
Encounter God, Encourage Others, Engage our World
Charity Number: 1146043



www.CSP-Parish.org.uk



**CHALFONT
ST. PETER
PARISH CHURCHES**

KNOW WHAT:

- Two days after Jesus died, two of his followers were walking the 7 mile journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus
- Jesus joined them, but they thought he was a stranger. He asked what they were discussing.
- They were talking about recent events: Jesus had died, was said to be alive again and had appeared to Mary.
- The stranger (Jesus) explained from the Scriptures that the Messiah had to suffer and die.
- When they reached their home, the followers invited the stranger to eat with them. As the stranger broke bread they recognised that he was Jesus. Jesus then disappeared.

SO WHAT:

- Jesus made himself known to the two men. How do we recognise him today?

NOW WHAT:

- Let us meet Jesus as we read the Bible, pray, sing Christian songs and talk with other believers.

JIM'S JOTTINGS:

Unexpected encounters

Sometimes you meet people in places you would never have thought to see them. In my years as a schoolteacher (which I loved) I really valued getting away from school and pupils in the holidays and having a complete break. So I was somewhat surprised one Spring Bank Holiday, when I had climbed Snowdon in glorious weather and was taking in the breath-taking scenery, to hear two voices behind me yelling out: 'Hello, Mr King'. I was, of course, delighted (!) to encounter two of my not too delightful pupils, and even more delighted to point them to a route down the mountain that I was definitely not planning to take.

For Jesus' disciples the first Easter seemed initially like a complete disaster. The man they had followed and pinned their hopes on had been arrested by the Jewish and Roman authorities, given a mockery of a trial, beaten and cruelly put to death. There was no doubt that he was dead and their hopes had died with him. So on Sunday afternoon, as two of Jesus' disciples made their way from Jerusalem to a nearby village called Emmaus, all they could talk about was their utter despair. A stranger walked alongside and joined in their conversation, asking why they were perturbed. They explained and he, in turn, explained that the suffering Jesus had gone through had been foretold in the Scriptures. They were encouraged and invited him into their home to share their supper. As he broke bread they suddenly realised that it was Jesus and that he really was alive risen from death.

Theirs was one of many encounters different people had with Jesus who had beaten death and was alive again. The evidence was irrefutable. The message spread throughout the world that God had come on a rescue mission to save his people. The world changed at that moment. We too are changed as we encounter Jesus in our daily lives, living in us and guiding us in all we do.