

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR-B. 2024.

BEHIND THE CLOSED DOORS THE RISEN LORD COMES:

The gospel shows the apostles and other disciples locked in the upper room, obvious being scared of the Jews after what happened to master. The Jews must have been looking for them despite the stories going round about Resurrection which the Jews categorically refuted. It is in such an environment that the Risen Lord appeared to them behind the closed doors and offered them what they needed the most **peace and joy**.

After Resurrection Jesus appeared to individuals and groups in different times and in all the cases he instructed them **to go and tell the others that he is risen**. He knew very well they were **Broken apart and scattered** by his **suffering, crucifixion and violent shameful death**. He is trying to reweave them together around the truth of his resurrection. It was a big blow to them and we see some even going back to their homes after feeling that they have **hit the wall, disappointed, discouraged and their dream scattered by his death**, these two apostles on the road to Emmaus were possibly returning home. We are all discouraged **and disappointed in different situations and we end up in giving up** and this is normal as human beings but the Risen Lord will always intercept us on our different Emmaus of our heart and take us back.

His appearance recounted into today's gospel signifies his **peace, presence, and purpose**. He gave them what they mostly need at that time his peace. They were in **turmoil, confusion and guilt** after leaving him at the hour of need at the garden of Gethsmene. They had **abandoned and betrayed him despite** the promise **to be with**

him.They we're sorry but couldn't turn the clock back.Jesus knew their repentance that is the reason why he told them **peace be with you** sign of **forgiveness** hence the **fear turned to joy.**

This is the message of Jesus to us in our time and especially when we are fearful of life,sickness,working conditions,plannings of our future life,when we are discouraged,when we have lost a loved one,we are fired from our job,discouraged in our faith,and feel that he is no longer walking with us.We feel like turning to our former life,behold he is telling you now **peace be with you.He will always look for us and journey with us and feed us with the tools we need in this journey.**Regardless of **what we might have done,our bad past life,whatever horrible things we might have done,our repentance** will bring us **new life of healing,forgiveness and peace.**We will become new creation,people of Resurrection.

Jesus doesn't look at our **weakness,limitations and short comings but rather he is concerned with our potentiality and what we can become.**He will always be with us when we **pray together,read the scriptures,and will always ask whether we have anything to eat!** He gives us Eucharist.He is with us just as he was with his apostles and in that upper room.the risen Lord is present and at work in all **present in this church and other praying communities,each with his/her own story,**He wants to build his earthly church on us all.

We all have that locked upper and lower room in our hearts,Let's throw the door open to our Lord that he may enter in our life and bring us **PEACE.**