



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 31, 2023

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Christ has Risen, He has Risen indeed!

The Road to Emmaus is a powerful account of what happened when two disciples met the Risen Lord for the first time. It was a process that involved observation, education, and transformation.

When the two disciples encountered Jesus, we are told that “their eyes were kept from recognizing him”. They considered him to be a stranger. This was not a chance meeting because Jesus was looking for these disciples. He observed their sadness and wanted to change it to joy. They experienced the goodness of the Lord.

Jesus then begins to educate them in the truth. He states, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared.” As they continued on the road, Jesus began to teach these confused disciples. We are told that “he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.” They discovered what was true.

Finally, as they approach the village of Emmaus, the disciples ask Jesus to stay with them since it is almost evening. When they were at the table, “he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them”. We are told that at this moment their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus. They could see the beauty of the Lord.

It is my hope and prayer that during this Easter Season, the Risen Lord Jesus will help you to experience what is good and true and beautiful. May he open your hearts and give you the grace to proclaim the good news that he has Risen indeed!

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
Bishop of St. Catharines