



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Wednesday 26th April 2023
Term 2 Week 1

P.O. Box 2027
Ballarat East VIC 3354
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Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Term 2 (9 weeks)

Mon 24th April - Fri 23rd June

Thursday 27th April

10.30am or 6pm at
St Alipius Church

Compulsory First Eucharist
parent information session

Friday 28th April

9.30am Mass at St Alipius

Mon 1st-Fri 5th May

Book Fair in Library
8.30-8.50am & 3-4pm

Tuesday 2nd May

9.30am School Alive Tour

Friday 5th May

12.40pm 6MM Assembly

Monday 8th May

All children to be in winter
uniform from today

Wednesday 10th May

9.30am School Alive Tour

Friday 12th May

Mothers' Day celebration

Tuesday 16th May

Division AFL

Friday 19th May

12.40pm 3GW Assembly

Wednesday 24th May

Division Netball

Friday 26th May

Years 3-6 SFX Athletics
Carnival at Llanberris

12.40pm 1EM Assembly

Monday 29th May

Regional Cross Country at
Warrnambool

Friday 2nd June

12.40pm F TW Assembly

Division Soccer

Friday 9th June

Student free day

Friday 16th June

12.40pm 2EH Assembly

6pm Sat 17th and 10.30am

Sun 18th June at St Alipius

Year 4 First Eucharist

Mon 19, Tue 20 & Wed 21

June Yrs 4/5/6 Golf Clinics

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

Welcome to term 2! I hope that you were able to enjoy some time over the Easter break to rest and recharge the batteries. As always seems to be the way, we have a busy term ahead as our children learn, work and grow together at school.

This term marks the second half of first Semester. This means that you will receive written reports at the end of term when we are at the half way point of the year. With only 9 weeks of learning this term, I am sure that the weeks will fly by. Please remember to keep up with school life through one or all of our main communication platforms. Of course, our weekly newsletter is our main form of communication but through Facebook, Seesaw and PAM you can also keep abreast of what is happening around the school.

As we prepare to settle in to school life again, I wish all families a very happy second term. May our time together be rich in the values of mercy and may we continue to support each other along the way.

Welcome back!



Mark Hogbin.

ANZAC Day

Yesterday was **ANZAC Day**. ANZAC Day goes beyond the anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli in 1915. It is the day on which we remember Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The spirit of Anzac, with its human qualities of courage, mateship, and sacrifice, continues to have meaning and relevance for our sense of national identity.



Anzac Day Prayer

Lord our God,

*Boundless provider, source of peace that the world cannot give,
Kindly hear our constant prayer for those who bore witness to your own fidelity
by giving their lives for those they loved.*

*Resurrect them in our true homeland and perfect that peace for which they
longed and died.*

Amen

St. Francis Xavier Primary School is a Child Safe School called to action through Gospel values and Mercy tradition. Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.

Term 3 (10 weeks)

Mon 10th July - Fri 15th Sept

Friday 14th July

9.30am Mass in Gym

12.40pm 4BW Assembly

Friday 21st July

12.40pm 1MM Assembly

Fri 28th July school closure

Friday 4th August

12.40pm 5OH Assembly

Friday 11th August

12.40pm F LH Assembly

Friday 18th August

12.40pm 6ZA Assembly

Friday 25th August

Book Week celebrations

Friday 1st September

Fathers' Day celebration

Thursday 7th September

6pm at St Alipius

Year 3 Confirmation

Friday 8th September

12.40pm 1JS Assembly

Term 4 (12 weeks)

Mon 2nd Oct - Wed 20th Dec

Friday 6th October

9.30am Mass at St Alipius

Friday 13th October

12.40pm 5JF Assembly

Friday 20th October

Grandparents' Day

Friday 27th October

12.40pm 2CJ Assembly

Friday 3rd November

12.40pm F MM Assembly

Friday 10th November

12.40pm 4CP Assembly

Friday 17th November

12.40pm 3NM Assembly

Friday 24th November

12.40pm F GJ Assembly

Friday 1st December

12.40pm 2GH Assembly

Monday 18th December

9.30am Mass in the Gym

School Closure Days Please note that in Term 2 we have set aside two days as a School Closure Days for Staff Professional Development:

- Monday 24 April – Structured Literacy
- Friday 9 June – ReLate (wellbeing program)

School Uniform The reason for our school uniform is to ensure that our children are identified as students who belong to the community of St. Francis Xavier. This is something to feel proud of, therefore we ask that all children wear our uniform with a sense of pride. If some students choose to ignore aspects of the uniform policy, this causes resentment and disharmony for other students and families. For this reason we ask all parents to help monitor your child's interpretation of the school uniform so that there is a strong level of equality and fairness in the management of our uniform protocols.

- Full winter uniform may be worn from Day 1 of Term 2.
- For the first 2 weeks of Term 2 we will be in a transition phase for Uniform. Children are permitted to be in either Summer or Winter Uniform.
- From **Monday 8th May** (Week 3) all children are expected to be in Winter Uniform.

Car Park – Traffic Movement I wish to remind everyone at the start of this new term that the management of traffic flow at the beginning and end of the day is always a concern. We are fortunate that there is very little non-school traffic in the mix at these times. If the road signage and markings are adhered to with a good level of patience a safe environment can be maintained. We remind drivers to pull off to the left around the trees where the buses travel and U-turn to return down Fortune Street rather than cross directly across the traffic. (This is illegal!).

Our staff carpark is not to be used as a pathway to either drop your children at school or pick them up. Car spaces are limited and the onsite carpark is for staff cars only. Many thanks for your assistance with these matters.

Welcome to our new Staff members

It is our delight to welcome the following new staff members to the team at St. Francis Xavier school:

Ms. Kerrie McTigue – Finance Officer

Ms. Anita Houlihan – Administration Officer

Ms. Laura Stevens – Learning Support Officer

Ms. Nicole Arnell – Learning Support Officer

We hope that you enjoy working at our school as much as we do!



Lost Property There is a quite a lot of clothing in the Lost Property area left over from last term. Any items remaining at the end of this week will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.

Sibling Enrolments 2024 If you have a child to enrol in Foundation in 2024 at St. Francis Xavier, please ensure that you lodge their information on the Catholic Education website as soon as possible. This information will secure a place for your child but without it we cannot guarantee that places will be available.

<https://dobcel.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/enrolments-application-form/>

Please find at the end of this newsletter: Parish Bulletin.

Religious Education News

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday April 23, 2023 Third Sunday of Easter (Year A) Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

On that same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a village named Emmaus, about eleven kilometres from Jerusalem, and they were talking to each other about all the things that had happened. As they talked and discussed, Jesus himself drew near and walked along with them; they saw him, but somehow did not recognize him. Jesus said to them, "What are you talking about to each other, as you walk along?"

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They stood still, with sad faces. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who doesn't know the things that have been happening there these last few days?"

"What things?" he asked.

"The things that happened to Jesus of Nazareth," they answered. "This man was a prophet and was considered by God and by all the people to be powerful in everything he said and did. Our chief priests and rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and he was crucified. And we had hoped that he would be the one who was going to set Israel free! Besides all that, this is now the third day since it happened. Some of the women of our group surprised us; they went at dawn to the tomb, but could not find his body. They came back saying they had seen a vision of angels who told them that he is alive. Some of our group went to the tomb and found it exactly as the women had said, but they did not see him."

Then Jesus said to them, "How foolish you are, how slow you are to believe everything the prophets said! Was it not necessary for the Messiah to suffer these things and then to enter his glory?" And Jesus explained to them what was said about himself in all the Scriptures, beginning with the books of Moses and the writings of all the prophets.

As they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther; but they held him back, saying, "Stay with us; the day is almost over and it is getting dark." So he went in to stay with them. He sat down to eat with them, took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke the bread and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, "Wasn't it like a fire burning in us when he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

They got up at once and went back to Jerusalem, where they found the eleven disciples gathered together with the others and saying, "The Lord is risen indeed! He has appeared to Simon!"

The two then explained to them what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized the Lord when he broke the bread. *(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation)*

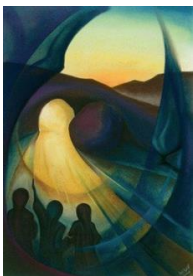
Gospel reflection: We are all made in the image of God and Jesus is in each and every person, but often we forget this. We do not take the time to recognise how important and special each person is. It doesn't matter how different we are to someone else, whether someone is tall or short, has brown skin or white skin, is rich or poor, quiet or loud, Jesus is in us all. In the story, after the meal the disciples rushed back to tell people what had happened.

Our eyes can be opened just like the disciples in this story. If we take the time to get to know others, to share food with them, perhaps we will come to see Christ in these people, our brothers and sisters, who are all part of God's family around the world.

Let us by our actions, show that we believe that Jesus is risen and is always with us.

Our Challenge: If Christ is in each of us, how do you think we should treat each other?

(Adapted from Cafod website)



School Easter Mass.

A warm invitation is extended to all our families, friends and parish members who would like to join us in celebrating our start of Term Two Whole School Easter Mass.

Time: 9.30am

Date: Friday April 28, 2023

Venue: St Alipius Parish



Parish and Sacramental News

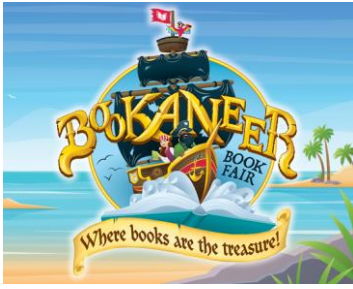
REMINDER: Year 4 parents and those who have a child wanting to make their Sacrament of First Eucharist don't forget there is a compulsory parent information session at either 10.30am or 6pm on Thursday April 27 at St Alipius Church.

For any queries please contact Cathy or Natalie in the parish office on (03)53326611



Christine Meneely, **Religious Education Leader**

Curriculum News



Book Fair: We are very excited to announce that the Book Fair is taking place this year! Our Book Fair will begin on Monday 1st May and conclude on Friday 5th May 2023. The Book Fair provides children with the opportunity to explore literature and select books of interest. The Book Fair is a great way to celebrate reading within our community with hundreds of fun, engaging and affordable books for the children to discover. Prior to the Book Fair, classes will be given the opportunity to view the selected books and write a wish list.

Book Fair dates: Monday 1st May- Friday 5th May

Shopping hours: 8:30am- 8:50 am & 3:00pm- 4:00pm

Special activities: Maze activity, Word Find, Story writing, Colouring activity, Guessing Game.

Location: Our school LIBRARY



Jane Clark, **Deputy Principal – Learning Enhancement**

Wellbeing News

In the lead up to the Easter holidays, nearly every parent I spoke to mentioned how much they were looking forward to having their children at home, to more relaxed mornings and two weeks without having to pack the dreaded lunchboxes!

School time is the time children adopt habits that will last a lifetime, so it's important to help your child gain the habit of a healthy diet. Good nutrition protects the physical health of your child, keeps them motivated and able to concentrate. Higher levels of sustained concentration mean that kids can more readily retain information and therefore learn.

A healthy breakfast is a great start to the day, but children can be fussy and it can be stressful in the morning rush. At my place there is no time for poached eggs on toast when we are all scrambling to get out the door! Keeping a supply of wholegrain cereals, milk, fruit, yoghurt, baked beans, bread and cheese (for example) can be handy for a quick and nutritious breakfast or snack (my boys tend to supplement these with a healthy amount of milo.....)

Now the dreaded lunchbox! Families are busy so prep what you can the night before- maybe keep some veggie sticks from dinner or put some leftovers into a container. Older children can make their own lunches if they are given some support in what to include. Remember lunchboxes don't need to be instagramable (is that a word?)- just a sandwich or wrap, fruit/vegies, a snack and don't forget the water bottle!

As easy as it is, try and resist the temptation of filling your child's lunchbox full of processed food- if there is no other choice your children are more likely to eat the healthy food you've packed!

If you need some inspiration, there are lots of great nutrition sites online - check out some of the ideas on the Nutrition Australia website [Healthy Lunchbox Ideas](#)

Kind regards, Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

I hope everyone had a wonderful quarter time break as Term 2 is set to be a busy one in regards to school sports events. Over the next couple of weeks we will be conducting tryouts for Football, Netball and Soccer for the Eureka Division events starting in Week 4. These will be open to Year 5 and 6 students. Information will be circulated to classrooms soon.

Term 2 2023 Sports Dates

- Week 4 - Tuesday May 16th - Division AFL
- Week 5 - Wednesday May 24th - Division Netball
- Week 5 - Friday May 26th - Year 3 - 6 Athletics Carnival - Llanberris
- Week 6 - Monday May 29th - Regional Cross Country @ Warrnambool
- Week 6 - Friday Jun 2nd - Division Soccer
- Week 9 - Mon Jun 19, Tues Jun 20 & Wed Jun 21 - Golf Clinics (Yr 4/5/6)

SFX Football Jumpers, Singlets & Netball dresses/bibs

If you have any SFX Football jumpers, singlets or netball dresses/bibs at home could you please return them to either Mr Down or Mr Carroll.



Have a wonderful week.

Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**



▶ **SS PETER & PAULS**
701 FISKEN ST
BUNINYONG 3357



▶ **ST ALIPIUS**
82 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350



▶ **PARISH OFFICE**
84 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350
PH 5332 6611
OPEN TUE – FRI
10.00 AM – 1.00 PM

23 April 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

Lord, you will show us the path of life

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Mon, Tues & Thurs (No Mass)

Wed 9:30 AM

Fri 9:30AM

Saturday 9.30 AM, 6.00 PM

Sunday 9.00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

10.30 AM (2nd & 4th)

Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2nd & 4th)

10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

No counting this week

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

THE COMBINED
COMMUNITIES OF ST ALIPIUS
PARISH REACH OUT IN THE
SPIRIT OF FAITH, HOPE,
LOVE, AND ACCEPTANCE, AS
GOD CALLS US TO IN THE
GOSPELS.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed: Fr. Bob
Maguire

Anniversaries:

Unwell: Mary Hall, Peter
McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan,
Carole Simmons, Madeline
Ballinger, Pat Murray

*Our parish is committed to the
safety, well-being, and dignity of
all children and vulnerable adults.*

*We acknowledge this land's
traditional owners and custodians
and pay our respects to Elders
past, present, and emerging.*



St Alipius
Parish Community

Parish Priest
Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Sacramental and Parish
Coordinator
Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant
Natalie Shannon

Parish Pastoral Council
Chair
David Morrison

Finance Officer
TBA

Finance Chair
Paul O'Beirne

Child Safety Officer
Emily Clarke

Liturgy Coordinator
Fr Jorge
www.sapliturgy.net.au

Funeral Ministry
Carmel Flynn
stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who came together on Saturday evening to help Fr. Jorge celebrate his 25th anniversary of ordination. It was lovely to see so many of Fr. Jorge's fellow priests join him to celebrate Mass and we are grateful that the Filipino community shared their talents with us in their choir. The dinner which followed in the hall was a joyful occasion, with plenty of food and conversation for the many who attended. Fr. Jorge came away very happy on the evening and is most grateful for the care shown by everyone. This weekend Fr. Jorge is with his family in the Philippines, but will be back with us next weekend.



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

Collection basket - \$1,315

Presbytery and priest support

Envelopes, credit cards and direct debits - \$308.20

Parish – buildings, office, administration, grounds maintenance

RAFFLE

Thank you to everyone who brought raffle tickets in our Easter raffle. We raised \$472.00. This money will go towards the seminarians who Fr Jorge is sponsoring. Congratulations to our winners Fran Britt and Maureen Mason.

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Please note that the parish office will be closed this Tuesday, April 25th (Anzac Day) and Wednesday April 26th due to Nat attending a workshop. Sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause.

FATHER BARRY

We thank Fr. Barry for joining us for masses this weekend in the absence of Fr. Jorge. Fr. Barry we always love to have you join us for Mass.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Presbytery
April 27th 6:30 PM

Information sessions – First Eucharist
St Alipius Church
April 27th 10:30 AM or 6:00 PM

Parish Finance Committee Meeting
Presbytery
May 2nd 5:30 PM

LITURGY ROSTER

The Liturgy Roster for May – July 2023 is currently being prepared. We ask all who are currently involved to check their emails for instructions to complete your availability. People can also complete their details on the paper version available in the Church foyer and return them to the Presbytery. It would be appreciated if all responses could please be completed by Thursday, 27th April.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer 2023, prepared by the Christians of Taiwan, on the theme "I have heard about your faith", was celebrated in 170 countries worldwide, with services in 189 Victorian townships. The Ballarat organisers of the WDOP are grateful to all those who attended the afternoon service at Ss. Peter and Paul's for their donations. The WDOP services raised \$2,500 which will support the Australian project which assists immigrant brides in Taiwan.

DIOCESAN NEWS

The latest copy of the Diocesan News magazine is available in the foyer of our churches. Remember to take one home with you for some good reading. Please take extra copies if you know of someone at home who may appreciate the chance to catch up on what is happening in the diocese.

ANZAC DAY

We remember and pray for all those who served and lost their lives during times of conflict, especially members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. May they rest in peace.

BAPTISMS

Matilda Hope Vojvodic

Child of Marinko Vojvodic and Michelle Djordjevic

The church gives faith to your children through Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.

Pope Francis

FAITH RUNS DEEP EVENT

The Unearthed event is organised by the team from Olive Tree Media who are collaborating with numerous churches from the region of Ballarat to host a free event which will help uncover stories of faith in the Australian context. Media presenter Karl Faase and country music star Colin Buchanan will appear at this event and there will be an interview with artist Bindi Cole Chocka who is featured in the series, sharing part of her journey of life and faith. The Unearthed event will be on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 7.00pm at the Ballarat Civic Hall. For more information and to book your free ticket go to Olive the Tree Media website

www.olivetreemedia.com.au/unearthedballarat/ or email churches@olivetreemedia.com.au

PASTORAL FORMATION DAY

PREPARING AND CELEBRATING THE

SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

What do Catholics believe about Sacraments of Healing? How do Catholics celebrate reconciliation and forgiveness? How do priests, deacons and lay ministers care for the sick? What is Viaticum and how is Communion ministered to the sick? These questions and more will be investigated by the ACU Centre for Liturgy team during a pastoral formation day called, "Be not afraid: preparing and celebrating sacraments of healing." Open to the public, this formation day is for pastoral care workers, clergy, hospital chaplains, lay ministers, parishioners and all those who care for the sick and will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at the Glowrey Room, St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat, 3 Lyons Street South from 9.30am – 5.00pm (registration from 9.00am). Cost is \$20.00 and registration (including lunch) is essential at

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pastoral-formation-day-in-ballarat/>. For more information phone 02-9701 4751. All are welcome.

ACRATH ONLINE NATIONAL GATHERING

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) invites you to join their national gathering (online) on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 "Hearts stirred to action - The Call of the Human face of trafficking." Details of the event available at <https://acrath.org.au/hearts-stirred-to-action/will>

PROJECT COMPASSION THANK YOU



Thank you for supporting Project Compassion 2023. Through the generosity of parishes across Australia during Project Compassion,

together we have helped build a movement to create lasting change for our global community. Being part of the second largest humanitarian organisation in the world and most importantly with your support, Caritas Australia already has partners on the ground who are ready to reach out to those most in need. Together, your parish has helped make a difference now, and *For All Future Generations*. Please feel free to leave your Project Compassion donations on a collection plate or drop them into the parish during office hours.

PARISH PROTOCOLS

As a parish, we are committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment to encourage everyone to be involved and share their talents. We have several protocols in place to enable this and share some of these here to raise awareness. Please remember that anything that happens in our parish reflects all those who call our parish home and therefore any event that is organised must be authorised through the parish office. Such authorisation is also required in regard to items for the weekly notice sheet and notices put up in the church foyers. We ask that people do not advertise or share material that relates to the church without first speaking to Fr Jorge or a member of the parish administration team. If you wish to have something said at weekend masses, this must be approved by Fr Jorge in the week prior to mass. We ask that people respect these protocols as they are designed to ensure that our parish is inclusive, and we encourage you to call the parish office if you have any questions or concerns.

Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

Third Sunday of Easter: Luke 24:13–35

Extraordinary things can happen if we open ourselves to the presence of a stranger on life's journey. That seems to be a key element in today's gospel passage from the well-known and well-loved Emmaus story. Imagine two dejected disciples (Cleopas and an unnamed disciple) on Easter Day, on the road back from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus, a few kilometres away. On their journey, they encounter Jesus who has been raised. At first, they fail to recognise him. Their sadness at his violent death has blinded them to the significance of the women's account of the empty tomb. It has blinded them to what is happening before their very eyes.

Jesus engages them in conversation and holds up a metaphorical mirror to their experience of loss and grief. Their hearts "burn" within them as he reveals to them the meaning of his death and resurrection in the light of their sacred scriptures. Yet still they fail to recognise the one whom they have described as "a prophet mighty in deed and word." They urge him to share a meal with them despite his seeming reluctance and their eyes are

opened: they recognise him in the blessing and breaking of the bread. He disappears from their midst. They cannot contain the joy they have experienced in realising that Jesus is alive and once more present to them, though in a new and transformative way.

*Opening our hearts is
always possible*

Cleopas and partner go straight back to Jerusalem to share this good news with the other disciples. Now all the assembled disciples experience powerfully the presence of the risen Jesus in their midst. They too pass over the women's story. It is the appearance to Peter of the resurrected Jesus that is the ground of their new faith. As the story continues beyond today's reading, we learn that the male disciples will also share a meal with him and he will open their minds to understand the scriptures. Everything will fall into place. The fear that has paralysed them will fall away. They will not only understand Jesus' death and resurrection in the light of the scriptures. They will be "clothed



with power from on high" to exercise their role as witnesses to this great mystery.

Extraordinary things can happen to those hospitable enough to "break bread" with "strangers" in whom they do not immediately recognise God's presence. If we open our hearts to those who have sought a welcome on our shores and are still awaiting a path to permanency, we might come to participate more deeply in the joy of the resurrection. Opening our hearts is always possible even if extreme weather events make opening our homes increasingly difficult for some. In these times, many of us know the experience of reverse ministry where refugee friends, though "strangers" in our lands, show us what it means to be "of God".

THIS WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 2:14,22–33
1 PETER 1:17–21
LUKE 24:13–35

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 2:14,36–41
1 PETER 2:20–25
LUKE 24:13–35