



ST PAULS MEDIA **pastoral ministry**  
**AMBUHAY**  
**MISSALETTE**



Celebrates the 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines (1521-2021)

Year 34 No. 58

Third Sunday of Easter (B) — White

April 18, 2021

When I was younger, I was always fascinated by stories about paranormal activity. I remember making a fool of myself by reading such stories in the wee hours, times considered as “patay na oras,” and would only sleep when the sun was up and about, for I was already too scared of the dark. I, then, longed for the light to see me again that I might be absolved of my fears and absurdity.

Today, Luke narrates another Easter appearance. From the various narratives about the resurrected Jesus, a pattern comes to light. It seems that the one appearing to the apostles and disciples – from Mary Magdalene to the two disciples on their way to Emmaus, to Peter and John while on a fishing boat – is the same person. Though perhaps, the resurrected Jesus looks differently in the multiple accounts, for he is not easily recognizable.

Shockingly, the resurrected Jesus appears to have a different kind of body. He seems to have one that can pass through closed doors, one that can appear or disappear at one’s whim, etc. Such body may have been different from the regular human body but not totally spiritual since Jesus also shows that you can touch him and that he can feel hunger (he probably smelt the mouth-watering baked fish!). What’s most perturbingly peculiar, however, is that, although Jesus



appears to have a different body, he has somehow opted to retain his crucifixion wounds.

Strange.

In what world would a sane person, who perhaps wants to show off, decide to keep, probably the ugliest and most shameful marks of his persona? But Jesus does not want to show off. Is he trying to be

easily identified? But he may still be identified as the Rabbi and friend his apostles and disciples so loved by just regaining his former body, isn’t it? So why retain the wounds?

I think Jesus wants to tell us that after the glory of our resurrection on the last day, the same person/persons remain. A lot can change after the resurrection. But fundamentally, our selves remain: the selves shaped by stories, memories, conversations, encounters, experiences, some of them glorious, but more importantly, the painful, fearful, and shameful ones. For in those moments of suffering, we were able to bring out our genuine selves and care for what or who truly mattered. The difference, however, is that even as we remember our pain and shame in suffering, we grow and go, not sad and resentful, but joyful and hopeful. For in Jesus’ Resurrection, we become the best version of ourselves. One with God and his family, we see the good, even in the worst experience we had in life. In Jesus’ Resurrection, the Lord has let his light shine upon us (Ps 4), fully and lovingly.

Now that I’m older, I’m no longer fond of petty ghost stories. But as I face the reality and dread of modern human existence and relationships, I take to heart the Easter message of the resurrected Christ, that I may become “witness to these things” (Lk 24:48).

**PASTORAL CATECHESIS FOR THE YEAR OF *MISSIO AD GENTES***

*Communicating Faith through Catechesis*

Fr. James H. Kroeger, MM

Given the large and rapidly expanding population of the Philippines [43 million (1975), 75.8 million (2000), 110 million (2020)], catechesis for Catholics remains a basic area of Church renewal. The catechetical ministry has shown considerable growth in vision, publications, institutes, and personnel. The Episcopal Commission on Catechesis and Catholic Education (ECCCE) has published several works and sponsored a variety of national workshops and congresses.

Significant publications include: National Catechetical Directory for the Philippines (1982-1985), Filipino Family Growing in the Faith (1983), The Catechists’ Basic Formation Program (1992), Catholic Faith Catechism (1989-1993), Catechism for Filipino Catholics (1997) [Tagalog translation

Katesismo para sa mga Pilipinong Katoliko (2000)], and the New Catechetical Directory of the Philippines (2008). ECCCE used to publish a helpful quarterly catechetical review, *Docete*.

Significant catechetical congresses have been sponsored by ECCCE, beginning with the celebration of the National Catechetical Year (1990). Diocesan catechetical institutes have been established in major cities (e.g. Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Manila, Naga, Vigan, etc.). Many other national centers which prepare women and men for their vocation as catechists (e.g. Mother of Life Center, Metro Manila, established in 1967) continue their decades of service. Despite heroic efforts, the local Church is underprepared to meet the vast catechetical needs, especially in the area of adult catechesis. Ask yourself: What can I do to assist in the communication of the faith to the next generation?

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

(Ps 66 [65]:1–2)

*(Recited when there is no opening song.)*

**Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.**

### Greeting

*(The sign of the cross is made here.)*

**P** — Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**All** — **And with your spirit.**

### Introduction

*(These [or similar words] may be used to address the assembly.)*

**P** — The risen Christ appears to the two of his disciples certifying that he is truly alive. Then he gives them the mission to witness to what God has done to his people through his death and Resurrection: In the Risen Savior, God reconciles the whole world to himself.

We share this mission of the apostles. Through our confident faith, lively hope, and life-giving love, we witness to people around us that Jesus is truly alive and is present in our day-to-day life.

### Penitential Act

**P** — Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries. *(Pause)*

**All** — **I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, *(strike your breast)* through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

**P** — May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**All** — **Amen.**

**P** — Lord, have mercy.

**All** — **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** — Christ, have mercy.

**All** — **Christ, have mercy.**

**P** — Lord, have mercy.

**All** — **Lord, have mercy.**

### Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Collect

**P** — Let us pray. *(Pause)*

May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**All** — **Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD



### First Reading

(Acts 3:13–15, 17–19) *(Sit)*

*In the name of the apostles, Peter declares to the crowd that the ministry and the death of Jesus were according to God's plan of salvation. Because Jesus was obedient to the Father, God raised him up and made him the source of our salvation.*

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

PETER said to the people: "The God of Abraham, the God of

Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence when he had decided to release him. You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses. Now I know, brothers, that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did; but God has thus brought to fulfillment what he had announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer. Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away."

— The word of the Lord.

**All** — **Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm (Ps 4)

**R** — **Lord, let your face shine on us.**

*A. Tuazon*

Prayerful



**1.** When I call, answer me, O my just God,/ you who relieve me when I am in distress;/ have pity on me, and hear my prayer. **(R)**

**2.** Know that the LORD does wonders for his faithful one;/ the LORD will hear me when I call upon him. **(R)**

**3.** O LORD, let the light of your countenance shine upon us!/ You put gladness into my heart. **(R)**

**4.** As soon as I lie down, I fall peacefully asleep,/ for you alone, O LORD,/ bring security to my dwelling. **(R)**

### Second Reading (1 Jn 2:1–5a)

*John stirs confidence in the hearts of sinners. God the Father is ready to forgive us because in the risen Christ, we have a powerful intercessor before God's throne.*

## A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

MY CHILDREN, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments. Those who say, "I know him," but do not keep his commandments are liars, and the truth is not in them. But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him.

— The word of the Lord.  
**All — Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia** (Cf. Lk 24:32) (*Stand*)

**All — Alleluia, alleluia. Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn while you speak to us. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel** (Lk 24:35–48)

**P** — A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
**All — Glory to you, O Lord.**

THE TWO DISCIPLES recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

He said to them, "These are

my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

— The Gospel of the Lord.  
**All — Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Homily** (*Sit*)

**Profession of Faith** (*Stand*)

*(Instead of the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed, especially during Lent and Easter Time, the baptismal Symbol of the Roman Church, known as the Apostles' Creed, may be used.)*

**All — I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**P** — In the breaking of the bread, Christ Jesus makes himself known to us as our life and resurrection. He sends us to be witnesses to his name. Through him, we present our petition to the Father:

**R — Lord, listen to your people.**

**C** — May your Church be a beacon of light helping people in darkness to come to know Jesus as the Way, the Truth, and the Life. We pray: **(R)**

**C** — May all leaders, by governing with fidelity those entrusted to their care, build nations in peace, brotherhood, and respect for human dignity. We pray: **(R)**

**C** — May all consecrated men and women proclaim your resurrection through their lives, their prayer, and their service to others. We pray: **(R)**

**C** — Bless our labor that it may sustain our life on earth and enhance our human dignity. Ease our burden, make our faith strong, and inspire us to put our trust in you. We pray: **(R)**

**C** — Welcome into eternal life our deceased brothers and sisters so that they may truly see the light of your countenance. We pray: **(R)**

**C** — Let us pray for the urgent concerns of our community and our personal intentions (*pause*). We pray: **(R)**

**P** — God our Father, you restored us to yourself through the resurrection of Christ your Son. Hear the prayers of your people and strengthen us in giving witness to our Easter faith.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All — Amen.**



**Presentation of the Gifts** (*Stand*)

**P** — Pray, brethren...

**All — May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

**Prayer over the Offerings**

**P** — Receive, O Lord, we pray, these offerings of your exultant Church, and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness, grant also that the gifts we bring may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.

Through Christ our Lord.  
All — Amen.

## Preface II of Easter

P — The Lord be with you.  
All — **And with your spirit.**

P — Lift up your hearts.  
All — **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P — Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All — **It is right and just.**

P — It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, at all times to acclaim you, O Lord, but in this time above all to laud you yet more gloriously, when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

Through him the children of light rise to eternal life and the halls of the heavenly Kingdom are thrown open to the faithful; for his Death is our ransom from death, and in his rising the life of all has risen.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in your praise and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts, sing together the unending hymn of your glory, as they acclaim:  
All — **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. (Kneel)**

## Acclamation (Stand)

All — **Save us, Savior of the world, for by your cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

## THE COMMUNION RITE

### The Lord's Prayer

All — **Our Father...**

P — Deliver us, Lord...

All — **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.**

### Invitation to Peace

Invitation to Communion  
(Kneel)

P — Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed



JOURNEYS  
OF FAITH

**OBERAMMERGAU 2022**

*A Passion Play that happens only every 10 years*

## MAY DEPARTURES

**Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein & Switzerland (May 12 - 24, 2022)**  
with Fr. Alex Thomas

**MARIAN JOURNEY (May 13 - Jun 1, 2022)**  
Portugal, Spain, France, Germany & Italy  
with Fr. Arvin Soriano

**CENTRAL EUROPE (May 15 - 28, 2022)**  
Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg & Germany  
with Fr. Jun Sescon

**BALKANS (May 15 - 30, 2022)**  
Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia Hercegovina  
with Fr. Jerome "Jigs" Rosalinda

**OBERAMMERGAU DEPARTURES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER.**

**WE ALSO OFFER HOLY LAND, MARIAN, EASTERN EUROPE, BALKANS, GREECE AND TURKEY, MEXICO TOURS & PILGRIMAGES.**

Call us at (+632) 8929-0144 or (+632) 8929-0155  
+63917-5616440 (Globe) & +63999-9935580 (Smart)  
join@journeys.com.ph | www.journeys.com.ph



are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All — **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

## Communion Antiphon

(Lk 24:46-47)

**The Christ had to suffer and on the third day rise from the dead; in his name repentance and remission of sins must be preached to all the nations, alleluia.**

## Prayer after Communion

(Stand)

P — Let us pray. (Pause)

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord, and grant, we pray, that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries may attain in their flesh the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.

Through Christ our Lord.

All — Amen.

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

P — The Lord be with you.  
All — **And with your spirit.**

## Solemn Blessing

P — Bow down for the blessing.  
(Pause)

May God, who by the

Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son was pleased to confer on you the gift of redemption and of adoption, give you gladness by his blessing.

All — Amen.

P — May he, by whose redeeming work you have received the gift of everlasting freedom, make you heirs to an eternal inheritance.

All — Amen.

P — And may you, who have already risen with Christ in Baptism through faith, by living in a right manner on this earth, be united with him in the homeland of heaven.

All — Amen.

P — And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, (†) and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All — Amen.

## Dismissal

P — Go in peace glorifying the Lord by your life.

All — **Thanks be to God.**

**DO YOU WANT TO  
SUBSCRIBE TO SAMBUHAY DIGITAL  
MISSALETTE?**

For inquiries and orders:

FB: Sambuhay Misalette  
GMAIL: Sambuhay@stpauls.ph  
TEL.: (02) 8895-9701