They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, “The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”

- Lk 24:33-34

Third Sunday of Easter
Most of us are familiar with Pope Francis’ comment that today the church needs to be a field hospital. What’s implied here?

First, that right now the church is not a field hospital, or at least not much of one. Too many churches of all denominations see the world more as an opponent to be fought than as a battlefield strewn with wounded persons to whom they are called to minister. The churches today, in the words of Pope Francis, have often reversed an image in the Book of Revelation where Jesus stands outside the door knocking, trying to come in, to a situation where Jesus is knocking on the door from inside the church, trying to get out.

So how might our churches, our ecclesial communities, become field hospitals?

In a wonderfully provocative article in a recent issue of America Magazine, Czech spiritual writer, Tomas Halik, suggests that for our ecclesial communities to become “field hospitals” they must assume three roles: A Diagnostic one – wherein they identify the signs of the times; a Preventive one – wherein they create an immune system in a world within which malignant viruses of fear, hatred, populism, and nationalism are tearing communities apart; and a Convalescent one – wherein they help the world overcome the traumas of the past through forgiveness.

How, concretely, might each of these be envisaged?

Our churches need to be diagnostic; they need to name the present moment in a prophetic way. But that calls for a courage that, right now, seems lacking, derailed by fear and ideology. Liberals and conservatives diagnose the present moment in radically different ways, not because the facts aren’t the same for both, but because each of them is seeing things through its own ideology. As well, at the end of the day, both camps seem too frightened to look at the hard issues square on, both afraid of what they might see.

To name just one issue that both seem afraid to look at with unblinking eyes: our rapidly emptying churches and the fact that so many of our own children are no longer going to church or identifying with a church. Conservatives simplisticly blame secularism, without ever really being willing to openly debate the various critiques of the churches coming from almost every part of society. Liberals, for their part, tend to simplisticly blame conservative rigidity without really being open to courageously look at some of places within secularity where faith in a transcendent God and an incarnate Christ run antithetical to some of the cultural ethos and ideologies within secularity. Both sides, as is evident from their excessive defensiveness, seem afraid to look at all the issues.

What must we do preventatively to turn our churches into field hospitals? The image Halik proposes here is rich but is intelligible only within an understanding of the Body of Christ and an acceptance of the deep connection we have with each other inside the family of humanity. We are all one, one living organism, parts of a single body, so that, as with any living body, what any one part does, for disease or health, affects every other part. And the health of a body is contingent upon its immune system, upon those enzymes that roam throughout the body and kill off cancerous cells. Today our world is beset with cancerous cells of bitterness, hatred, lying, self-protecting fear, and tribalism of every kind. Our world is mortally ill; suffering from a cancer that’s destroying community.

Hence our ecclesial communities must become places that generate the healthy enzymes that are needed to kill off those cancer cells. We must create an immune system robust enough to do this. And for that to happen, we must first, ourselves, stop being part of the cancer of hatred, lying, fear, opposition, and tribalism. Too often, we ourselves are the cancerous cells. The single biggest religious challenge facing us as ecclesial communities today is that of creating an immune system that’s healthy and vigorous enough to help kill off the cancerous cells of hatred, fear, lying, and tribalism that float freely throughout the world.

Finally, our convalescent role: Our ecclesial communities need to help the world come to a deeper reconciliation vis-a-vis the traumas of the past. Happily, this is one of our strengths. Our churches are sanctuaries of forgiveness. In the words of Cardinal Francis George: “In society everything is permitted, but nothing is forgiven; in the church much is prohibited, but everything is forgiven.” But where we need to be more proactive as sanctuaries of forgiveness today is in relation to a number of salient “traumas of the past”: In brief, a deeper forgiveness, healing, and atonement still needs to take place as a result of our world’s history with colonization, slavery, the status of women, the torture and disappearance of peoples, the mistreatment of refugees, the perennial support of unjust regimes, and the atonement owed to mother earth herself.

Our churches must lead this effort.

Our ecclesial communities as field hospitals can be the Galilee of today.
Hope is the main impulse of life. —Ilia Delio, OSF [1]

Because we are so quickly led to despair, most of us cannot endure suffering for long without some sliver of hope or meaning. However, it is worth asking ourselves about where our hope lies. My friend and colleague Cynthia Bourgeault makes a powerful distinction between what she calls ordinary hope, “tied to outcome . . . . an optimistic feeling . . . because we sense that things will get better in the future” and mystical hope “that is a complete reversal of our usual way of looking at things. Beneath the ‘upbeat’ kind of hope that parts the seas and pulls rabbits out of hats, this other hope weaves its way as a quiet, even ironic counterpoint.” She writes,

We might make the following observations about this other kind of hope, which we will call mystical hope. In contrast to our usual notions of hope:

1. Mystical hope is not tied to a good outcome, to the future. It lives a life of its own, seemingly without reference to external circumstances and conditions.
2. It has something to do with presence—not a future good outcome, but the immediate experience of being met, held in communion, by something intimately at hand.
3. It bears fruit within us at the psychological level in the sensations of strength, joy, and satisfaction: an “unbearable lightness of being.” But mysteriously, rather than deriving these gifts from outward expectations being met, it seems to produce them from within.

[It] is all too easy to understate and miss that hope is not intended to be an extraordinary infusion, but an abiding state of being. We lose sight of the invitation—and in fact, our responsibility, as stewards of creation—to develop a conscious and permanent connection to this wellspring. We miss the call to become a vessel, to become a chalice into which this divine energy can pour; a lamp through which it can shine.

We ourselves are not the source of that hope; we do not manufacture it. But the source dwells deeply within us and flows to us with an unstinting abundance, so much so that in fact it might be more accurate to say we dwell within it.

The good news is that this deeper current does exist and you actually can find it. . . . For me the journey to the source of hope is ultimately a theological journey: up and over the mountain to the sources of hope in the headwaters of the Christian Mystery. This journey to the wellsprings of hope is not something that will change your life in the short range, in the externals. Rather, it is something that will change your innermost way of seeing. From there, inevitably, the externals will rearrange.

The journey to the wellsprings of hope is really a journey toward the center, toward the innermost ground of our being where we meet and are met by God.

References:

Adapted from Cynthia Bourgeault, Mystical Hope: Trusting in the Mercy of God (Cowley Publications: 2001), 3, 5, 9-10, 17, 20, 42.

Image credit: Wheat Field With Crows (detail), Vincent van Gogh, 1890, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
OLD ST. PAT'S

Through the gift of technology, experience our Masses live as they happen, or watch them any time by visiting oldstpats.org/livestream

We look forward to coming together again this Sunday, April 26 at 10 am for Mass with Fr. Ed Shea and the Old St. Pat's Music Ministry.

LET'S STAY CONNECTED VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

If you are joining us on Livestream, whether it's during the live broadcast or any time after via the archives, please share a photo or video on social media using the hashtags #WeAreOSP and #StillTogether

The Livestream experience continues to be enriched by your creativity and participation each week and we love receiving and sharing your stories and photos.

ONLINE RESOURCES PAGE

Please visit oldstpats.org/onlineresources for ways to stay connected to the OSP community during this time of social distancing, as well as other resources for faith sharing during this time.

We have recently included a page on "Positive Living during COVID-19" where we are adding helpful articles weekly that assist in coming to terms with feelings of grief and isolation at this time.

THIS WEEK IN THE OSP COMMUNITY...

To stay in the loop on all things OSP, please sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletter at bit.ly/ospenewsletter

Receive upcoming Livestream links, presider reflections, new OSP podcast episodes, prayers and articles, community updates, and more right to your inbox!

GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Greater Chicago Food Depository is looking for volunteers aged 18 - 60 to help with the huge need for food that this pandemic has brought on. You can sign up as an individual and credit the Old St. Pat's programs with your hours when you are onsite. Register at the website: chicagosfoodbank.org

Thanks for sharing and caring, Mary Beth, Jim and Beth
#GivingTuesdayNow is a new global day of giving and unity that will take place on May 5, 2020 as an emergency response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19.

All funds contributed will support the OSP COVID-19 Relief Fund and will be used primarily to help people with nourishment needs, like grocery delivery and grocery store gift cards. At a time when we are all experiencing the pandemic, generosity is what brings people of all races, faiths, and political views together across the globe.

Even as we practice physical distancing, we can remain connected through kindness and generosity even without physical proximity. Although we are physically separate, we can still come together to provide the financial, emotional, and social supports that nurture our families and communities.

If you would like to give before May 5, please visit bit.ly/givetoosp and select "COVID-19 Relief" from the drop-down menu.
**CONTEMPLATIVE COMMUNITY**

During this time of social distancing, participating in a small faith community online is a helpful resource to stay connected and enhance your prayer life. You can learn all about it at [www.contemplativecommunity.org](http://www.contemplativecommunity.org).

Chapels are hosted by trained leaders Monday – Thursday and Saturday of each week. There is no fee and you can participate when you are able. We connect together in our online chapel through the video conferencing platform, Zoom. In order to participate in any of the online chapels, you will need to register by going to contemplativecommunity.org and completing a simple registration form. Once you have registered, an email will be sent to you with the URL and all the info you will need for participating in any of the chapels throughout the week.

The chapel experience is less than one hour long and takes place in two parts. The first half of our time is spent together in silent prayer/meditation. To see, hear and join with others throughout our community can be a profoundly connecting, expansive and intimate experience. The second half of the chapel time is reserved for reflecting on a short reading and then some simple faith sharing.

**Chapel Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Host</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>6am</td>
<td>John Blumberg &amp; Julia Pryce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>7am</td>
<td>Ed Shurna &amp; Ellen Wiggins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Al Gustafson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>8pm</td>
<td>Marci Madaly &amp; Ed Siderewicz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Marybeth Coleman &amp; Eileen O’Shea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturdays</td>
<td>7am</td>
<td>Kate DeVries &amp; Ellen Wiggins</td>
</tr>
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**Text to Give**

Text "Give" to (312) 535-0118 or scan the QR code using your phone camera, then follow the prompts to make a secure gift.

**As you shop for essentials online, be sure to log into smile.amazon.com and select Old St. Pat's as your beneficiary.**

**GIVING TO OSP**

*Thank you for your wonderful generosity!*  

Over the past six weeks, as we’ve sheltered in place and worshiped and prayed together virtually, we also adjusted our ways of being Church to one another and our broader community. We’ve held livestream mass, offered prayerful podcasts, virtual spiritual direction and pastoral counseling, meal delivery, handwritten notes, and virtual rosary groups, Beloved circles, young adult gatherings, family liturgy and online education, Men’s group, and more.

You and your support make this good work possible! On average 20% of our Sunday collection, which funds this important work, is contributed through the Sunday basket. While we aren’t able to pass the basket right now, we hope you will support our Sunday Collection by making an online gift via the livestream by clicking the donate button or by texting GIVE to 312/535-0118.

Thank you!

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[Visit us at oldstpats.org](http://www.oldstpats.org)
CURRENTS | Awakening to the Flow of Spirit in Our Lives

Join us for Currents, our weekly Old St. Pat’s podcast series, as we explore the deeper movements of Spirit in our lives.

Each episode features members and friends of the Old St. Pat’s community giving voice to their lived experience of faith and spirituality. Whether sharing an insight, pondering a question, or offering a prayerful reflection, Currents speaks to our Spirit-led search for meaning and purpose.

Our third episode titled “Inner Chapel” is now streaming. Director of Ministries, Keara Ette, interviews Becky Eldridge, author of the book “The Inner Chapel.”

We are also always streaming several Sunday homilies that are available at any time for listening and sharing with friends and family.

The OSP Podcast is hosted by Kate Anderson with music by Mark Scozzafave.

MARCH BAPTISMS

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

~ Matthew 28: 19-20

Eleanor Suzanne Ignarski
Steven and Laura Ignarski
Ariana Belle Gregolunas
Michael and Amanda Gregolunas
Andrew Marc Kaplan
Marc and Kelene Kaplan
Fiona Carolyn Koopman
Peter and Olivia Koopman
Aveleen Austin Kane
Patrick and Melanie Kane
Raiya Hope Dellota
Thomas and Melissa Dellota
Penelope Rose Ellis
Conor and Emily Ellis
Ender James Alkin
Sinan Alkin and Joanna Cornwell
Edward Patrick Mitchell
James and Emily Mitchell
John Owen Smith
John and Kristin Smith
Brandon Conaty DaPisa
Jason and Molly DaPisa
Beau Baker Vesecky
James and Lela Vesecky
WIN A ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO SPOTIFY!
Crossroads Runners Invites You to Join Us In Staying Active During the Quarantine!

WORK-OUT FROM HOME CHALLENGE (WOFH)

We have started a Work-Out From Home Challenge (WOFH) and thought a little incentive would help. This is for everyone whether you plan to run the marathon or would just like some motivation to stay active.

Help fill our social media feeds with positivity. If you don’t already follow Crossroads Runners on Social Media, please do so on our new accounts below.

Post a photo of staying active (running, walking, biking, etc) while social distancing. Please include an inspirational message with your post, tag us and include #ospworkoutfromhomechallenge.

Instagram: @CrossroadsRunners
Facebook.com/OSPcrossroadsrunners
Twitter: @CrossroadsRunn1

Post your photo by Thursday, April 30 for a chance to win a one year subscription to Spotify! That’s a lot of playlists for your long runs or walks! Don’t forget to tag us and include #ospworkoutfromhomechallenge

WE STILL HAVE A SPOT FOR YOU TO JOIN OUR MARATHON TEAM!

Did you have plans to run another marathon this spring that has been postponed? Have you been putting off running a marathon until ‘next year’? With social distancing, why not use the time to start training and check off that “I always wanted to run a marathon” bucket list item. This is your year to run the Chicago Marathon and help the OSP North Lawndale Initiative and other social outreach programs that the Crossroads Team supports.

WIN AN APPLE WATCH!

All runners who register to run the 2020 marathon with Crossroads runners before Friday, May 15 will be entered to win an Apple Watch! Participants who have already registered will be automatically entered.

The benefits of being part of our team include a professional training coach, team camaraderie, pre-marathon gathering with gear check and post party near the start/finish line and much more!

In the fall runners will flock to the streets of Chicago to take part in a journey of endurance, dedication and heart. We’d love to have you join our team and we will be there to help cheer you every step of the way.

For more information please contact crossroadsrunners@oldstpats.org.
And it happened that, while [Jesus] was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. - Lk 24:30-31

### Sunday, April 26, 2020

**Readings:** Acts 2:14-22, 23-33/ Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 (11a)/ Mt 17:1-21/Lk 24:13-35

**Mass Remembrances:**
- 8:00 am  Nancy Stiff (†)
-           Maureen Plain (†)
- 9:30 am  Jack Gocke (†)
-            Audrey Limor (†)
-            Howie Burgh & Fred Hartman (†)
- 11:15 am  Joseph Shevlin (†)
-            John “Jack” O’Leary (†)
-            Frank & Helen Piwowar (†)
- 5:00 pm  Dorothy Jordan (†)

- Book of Patrick: John R. Berendes, Clayton C. Coleman, Evelyn & Bart Brizzolara, Regina Ziegler, Charles Moskop, Infant Thomas O’Connor, Joseph Kissane, Mary and Edward McKiernan, James Papajohn, Patrick Callahan, Catherine “Kay” Gibbons, Ramon Perez, John E. and Nora McGing

### Monday, April 27, 2020

**Readings:** Acts 6:8-15/ Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/ Jn 6:22-29

- Book of Patrick: Elyse Anne Gelderman-Pelosa, Danaher Family, Edward W. McCaskey, Mr. and Mrs. John J. Green, Casey Ryan Lynch, Kathleen Kopitke, Gene Lesniak, Norah Morley, Brett Innocenti

### Tuesday, April 28, 2020

**Readings:** Acts 7:51—8:11/ Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/ Jn 6:30-35


### Wednesday, April 29, 2020

**Readings:** Acts 8:1b-8/ Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/ Jn 6:35-40

- Mass Remembrances: Danny Maloney (†)


### Thursday, April 30, 2020

**Readings:** Acts 8:26-40/ Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/ Jn 6:44-51

- Mass Remembrances: Linda Pirkl (†)

(†) = Deceased

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### Women and Men of Faith

#### Saint Louis Mary Grignon de Montfort

**Saint of the Day for April 27**

Louis’s life is inseparable from his efforts to promote genuine devotion to Mary, the mother of Jesus and mother of the Church. Totus tuus (“completely yours”) was Louis’s personal motto; Pope John Paul II chose it as his episcopal motto.

Born in the Breton village of Montfort, close to Rennes, France, as an adult Louis identified himself by the place of his Baptism instead of his family name, Grignon. After being educated by the Jesuits and the Sulpicians, he was ordained a diocesan priest in 1700.

Soon he began preaching parish missions throughout western France. His years of ministering to the poor prompted him to travel and live very simply, sometimes getting him into trouble with Church authorities. In his preaching, which attracted thousands of people back to the faith, Father Louis recommended frequent, even daily, Holy Communion—not the custom then!—and imitation of the Virgin Mary’s ongoing acceptance of God’s will for her life.

Louis founded the Missionaries of the Company of Mary, for priests and brothers, and the Daughters of Wisdom, who cared especially for the sick. His book True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin has become a classic explanation of Marian devotion.

Louis died in Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre, where a basilica has been erected in his honor. He was canonized in 1947. His Liturgical Feast Day is April 28.

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**Prayer Requests**

### For Those Who Are Sick

Mary Shankland, Elise Pritchett, Harriet Kawalko, Kim Coffey, Cindy Coffey, John DeMarco, Desmond Curran, Sr. Marlene Schimmel, CSJ, Maxine Difino, Nicole Difino Nugent, Peg Hennessey, Teresa Regan, Breege McGuane, Joe Capella Jr., Janice Quigley, Jose Jimenez, Marilyn Thibeau, Lillian Guide

### For Those Who Have Recently Died

Shannon Morrow, Karen Boxleightner, Dolores Lomnicki, Susan Kuncius Dykehouse, Arlene Katauskas, Carol Lacy, David Kolb, Nicara Lee, Cindy Hight, Elvin Thomensen, Helen Rachal, Dot Barsotti, Kurt Martyn

Please contact Bernadette Moore Gibson at 312-798-2389 for Pastoral Care Services.

---

**Parish Counselor:** If you or someone you know is in need of counseling services, please contact Old St. Patrick’s Parish Counselor, Sarah Thompson at sarah@oldstpats.org or 773-234-9630.
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Fr. Edward Foley, OFM Cap.
Fr. Pat McGrath, SJ
Fr. Paul Novak, OSM
Fr. William O’Shea
Fr. Ed Shea, OFM
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