

# SUNDAY PLUS



LIVERPOOL 2018  
ADOREMUS

See Jesus!

## Divine and human

by Denise  
Cottrell Boyce



The appearances of Jesus after his resurrection are a strange mixture of the supernatural and the mundane. Jesus – truly divine – is not limited by time, space or locked doors. But Jesus – truly human – wants there to be no doubt that he is physically present, not as a ghost but as real flesh and blood, needing sustenance. In the early centuries of the Church, there was much debate about the exact nature of Jesus – how his divinity and humanity were balanced. This was not an academic dispute between dusty old Fathers of the Church. During the Council of Ephesus rival gangs slugged it out in the streets. The “Mother of God” gang ambushed the “Mother of Christ” brigade, who, in return, broke noses and blacked eyes. Feelings ran high because the nature of Jesus

defines the nature of the Church and it defines who we are when we call ourselves Christians. The life of the Church must always reflect that balance of mystical and practical. It does so in its combination of prayer and action: the depth and exuberance of Catholic liturgy balanced with the generosity and diversity of Catholic social teaching.

St Theresa of Avila tells us that when we become one with Christ’s body in Holy Communion, he uses our hands, feet, hearts and minds to feed, bless, heal and comfort his beloved sons and daughters. When we go out into the world as Christ’s presence, we should have both the odour of sanctity and the smell of the sheepfold.

*Denise Cottrell Boyce is a theology graduate and mother of seven children.*

### In unexpected places

Dr Lawrence Osborn

A stranger met two of the disciples as they were walking home. A conversation led to a meal together and they discovered that the stranger was Jesus. Later as the disciples discuss this, suddenly, unexpectedly Jesus is there in their midst, reassuring, teaching, calling.

We are never prepared for it, but Jesus meets us now as he did then. He meets us as Church in the breaking of the bread. He met Francis in the very people he feared most, the lepers. He met Mother Teresa among the poorest people of Calcutta. And he waits to meet us in the strangers we encounter every day. He waits among the addicts, prostitutes, street people and asylum seekers on the margins of our society. But equally he waits among the anonymous shop assistants, commuters and people we pass on the street every day. Where will he meet us this week?

*Dr Lawrence Osborn is an Anglican Franciscan Tertiary.*

### Namaste

by Sr Janet Fearn  
FMDM

“God within me respects and honours God within you.” God is living somewhere in my heart, even if I am sometimes blind to his whereabouts in my life. Yet there are times when I am very short-sighted and find it hard to see God in the people around me. It can be so easy to be critical and judgemental.

“Namaste” means “God within me respects and honours God within you.” What would happen if I could say that to everyone I meet during the course of a day? Life would be transformed if I could open the eyes of my heart and see God, not just within myself, but in the person in front of me – even if that individual is someone I find difficult.

The Hindi greeting “Namaste” is usually accompanied by joined hands placed over the heart – where God is. Lord, let me greet everyone I meet with “Namaste” and mean it from the bottom of my heart.

*Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.*

**Loving Lord, don’t let me be blind to your presence in the people around me. Amen.**



“Can we walk alongside the pilgrim of today’s world as Jesus walked with those companions to Emmaus, warming their hearts on the way and bringing them to an encounter with the Lord? Are we able to communicate the face of a Church which is ‘home’ to all?”

Pope Francis

Today:  
Acts 3:13-15, 17-19  
1 John 2:1-5  
Luke 24:35-48

Monday:  
Acts 6:8-15  
John 6:22-29

Tuesday:  
Acts 7:51 – 8:1  
John 6:30-35

Wednesday:  
Acts 8:1-8  
John 6:35-40

Thursday:  
Acts 8:26-40  
John 6:44-51

Friday:  
Acts 9:1-20  
John 6:52-59

Saturday:  
Acts 9:31-42  
John 6:60-69

Next Sunday:  
Acts 4:8-12  
1 John 3:1-2  
John 10:11-18