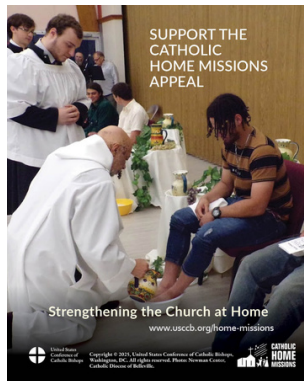




**STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME**  
**Fortaleciendo la Iglesia en el hogar**



**ST FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC PARISH OF LUMBERTON**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026**



**Address (Dirección)**  
**2000 East Elizabethtown Rd**  
**(PO Box 2249)**  
**Lumberton, NC 28358**

**Office Hours**  
**Tuesday through Friday**

**Horarios de Oficina**  
**martes a viernes**

**9:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**closed**  
**(cerrado)**

**12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**

**Sunday Masses**  
**(in english)**  
**Saturdays 5:00 pm**  
**and Sundays 10:30 am**

**Misas los domingos**  
**(en español)**  
**7:20 am**  
**y 12:30 pm**

**Website (sitio web): <https://www.sfds-nc.org/>**  
**Office (oficina): 910-739-4723**  
**Email (correo electrónico): [office@sfd-nc.org](mailto:office@sfd-nc.org)**  
**Fax: 910-739-5443**



**Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today!**

Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities for their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. Find more information at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions)

**¡Apoyen hoy al Llamado Para Las Misiones Católicas!**

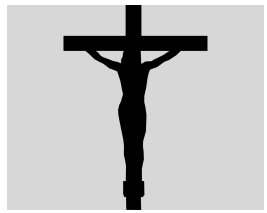
Cerca del 40% de las diócesis en los Estados Unidos y en sus territorios presentes y antiguos, es considerado territorio misionero ya que a esas diócesis no les es posible financiar las labores pastorales básicas para sus comunidades. El apoyo de ustedes financia la educación religiosa, la formación de seminaristas, la capacitación de ministros laicos y otros programas que forman entusiastas comunidades de fe, aquí mismo, en los Estados Unidos. Por favor, sean generosos. Pueden encontrar más información en [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions)

| ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, LUMBERTON NC      |             |                |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| BAA2026                                 |             |                |
| Interim Report 02                       |             | April 12, 2026 |
| Parish Goal BAA2025 (\$):               |             | 30,823.90      |
| Description                             | Amount (\$) | Totals (\$)    |
| TOTAL: Online Donations:                | 4,269.00    |                |
| TOTAL: SFDS Online Donations This week: | 100.00      |                |
| TOTAL: Other Donations This Week:       | 1,522.00    |                |
| TOTAL: Previous Period:                 | 19,207.00   |                |
| Grand Total TODATE:                     |             | 25,098.00      |
| Difference From GOAL:                   | 5,725.90    |                |
| Grand Total as %age of Goal:            |             | 81.42%         |

| SAN FRANCISCO DE SALES, LUMBERION NC:           |              |                     |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| BAA2026                                         |              |                     |
| Informe provisional 02                          |              | 12 de abril de 2026 |
| Meta parroquial BAA2025 (\$):                   |              | 30,823.90           |
| Descripción                                     | Importe (\$) | Totales (\$)        |
| TOTAL: Donaciones en Línea:                     | 4,269.00     |                     |
| TOTAL: Donaciones en Línea de SFDS Esta semana: | 100.00       |                     |
| TOTAL: Otras Donaciones Esta Semana:            | 1,522.00     |                     |
| TOTAL: Periodo anterior:                        | 19,207.00    |                     |
| Fecha Total General:                            |              | 25,098.00           |
| Diferencia De GOL:                              | 5,725.90     |                     |
| Total General como % edad de la Meta:           |              | 81.42%              |

| Campaign declaration -PARTICIPATION           |           |              |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Optimum number of Donors:                     |           | 300.00       |
| Description                                   | Amount    | Unit         |
| TOTAL: Current Funds -RECEIVED                | 25,098.00 | \$           |
| TOTAL: Number of donors                       | 101.00    | Number       |
| Current Average Gift Per Donor                | 248.50    | \$ per Donor |
| Optimum Average Gift per Donor (300 Families) | 83.66     | \$ per Donor |
| Current Participation Quotient                | 2.97      | -            |
| Participation Quotient (Optimum Value=1.00):  |           | 2.9703       |

| Declaración de campaña-PARTICIPACIÓN                |           |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Número óptimo de Donantes:                          |           | 300.00         |
| Descripción                                         | Importe   | Unidad         |
| TOTAL: Fondos corrientes-RECIBIDOS                  | 25,098.00 | \$             |
| TOTAL: Número de donantes                           | 101.00    | Número         |
| Donación Promedio Actual Por Donante                | 248.50    | \$ por Donante |
| Donación Promedio Óptima por Donante (300 Familias) | 83.66     | \$ por Donante |
| Cociente de Participación Actual                    | 2.97      | -              |
| Cociente de Participación (Valor óptimo=1,00):      |           | 2.9703         |



**Adult Faith Formation** meets this Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 pm beginning with dinner and class from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Topic of Discussion: The Council of Trent. All are invited!



REPORT TO THE PARISH  
RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES  
ACTUAL TO BUDGET COMPARISON (Cash Basis)  
3rd QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH 2026

|                                                          | 3rd QTR<br>Actual  | 3rd QTR<br>Budget | YTD<br>Actual      | YTD<br>Budget     | Annual<br>Budget   |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Receipts**</b>                                        |                    |                   |                    |                   |                    |
| Offertory                                                | \$ 59,293          | \$ 68,250         | \$ 196,814         | \$ 204,750        | \$ 273,000         |
| 2nd Collection**                                         | \$ 7,407           | \$ 8,301          | \$ 43,306          | \$ 24,903         | \$ 33,204          |
| Other                                                    | \$ 24,429          | \$ 9,214          | \$ 55,531          | \$ 27,641         | \$ 36,854          |
| <b>Total Receipts**</b>                                  | <b>\$ 91,130</b>   | <b>\$ 85,765</b>  | <b>\$ 295,652</b>  | <b>\$ 257,294</b> | <b>\$ 343,058</b>  |
| <b>Disbursements**</b>                                   |                    |                   |                    |                   |                    |
| Religious Education                                      | \$ 8,909           | \$ 5,882          | \$ 15,172          | \$ 17,645         | \$ 23,526          |
| Worship & Liturgical                                     | \$ 2,512           | \$ 2,874          | \$ 5,665           | \$ 8,622          | \$ 11,496          |
| Assistance & Food Pantry                                 | \$ 200             | \$ 300            | \$ 800             | \$ 900            | \$ 1,200           |
| Clergy & Lay Personnel                                   | \$ 41,356          | \$ 43,829         | \$ 123,487         | \$ 131,487        | \$ 175,316         |
| Office Expenses                                          | \$ 2,663           | \$ 3,843          | \$ 10,319          | \$ 11,529         | \$ 15,372          |
| Bldg Maintenance, Utilities, & Insurance***              | \$ 26,743          | \$ 17,484         | \$ 94,626          | \$ 52,451         | \$ 69,935          |
| Diocese of Raleigh Assessments                           | \$ 5,847           | \$ 5,760          | \$ 17,627          | \$ 17,280         | \$ 23,040          |
| Committees & Commissions & Social Ministries             | \$ 2,315           | \$ 1,647          | \$ 7,328           | \$ 4,940          | \$ 6,586           |
| <b>Total Disbursements**</b>                             | <b>\$ 90,545</b>   | <b>\$ 81,618</b>  | <b>\$ 275,024</b>  | <b>\$ 244,853</b> | <b>\$ 326,471</b>  |
| <b>Net Operating Receipts over/(under) Disbursements</b> | <b>\$ 584</b>      | <b>\$ 4,147</b>   | <b>\$ 20,628</b>   | <b>\$ 12,440</b>  | <b>\$ 16,587</b>   |
| <b>Mortgage Payments</b>                                 | <b>\$ 9,000</b>    | <b>\$ 9,000</b>   | <b>\$ 27,000</b>   | <b>\$ 27,000</b>  | <b>\$ 36,000</b>   |
| <b>Transfer to/(from) Savings</b>                        | <b>\$ (20,000)</b> |                   | <b>\$ (20,000)</b> |                   | <b>\$ (19,413)</b> |

\* Quarterly budget assumes that the Annual budget occurs evenly throughout the year which may not always be the case  
\*\* Excluding receipts & disbursements collected for others, e.g., Missions, Catholic Relief, etc.  
\*\*\* Includes Expenditures for converting Rectory into classrooms & Planning for Church Renovations.  
The fiscal year for St. Francis de Sales runs from 1 July through 30 June.

We sincerely thank you for your past and continued support. With your continued support and barring unforeseen expenditures St. Francis will stay fiscally sound.

# THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

## Readings and Masses for the Week ~ Year A Lecturas y Misas de la Semana ~ Año A

Saturday (April 18th) Mass 5:00 pm (Healing for Jay Lalonde)

Sunday (April 19th) **Third Sunday of Easter**

Misa 7:20 am (Por el pueblo)

Mass 10:30 am (+Eleanor Fields)

Misa 12:30 pm (Health of Baby Valyanna Quarshie)

Acts 2:42-47 Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11 1 Pt 1:17-21 Lk 24:13-35

Monday (April 20th)

Easter Weekday [3]

Acts 6:8-15 Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday (April 21st) **Saint Anselm, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

Easter Weekday [3] **Funeral Mass for +Ken Cross ~ 11:00 am**

Acts 7:51-8:1a Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday (April 22nd) Mass 12:00 noon (+Ken Cross)

Easter Weekday [3]

Acts 8:1b-8 Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a Jn 6:35-40

Thursday (April 23rd) **Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop, Martyr**

Mass 12:00 noon (+Ken Cross)

Easter Weekday [3]

Acts 8:26-40 Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 Jn 6:44-51

Friday (April 24th) **Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest, Martyr**

Mass 12:00 noon (+Denise McGee)

Easter Weekday [3]

Acts 9:1-20 Ps 117:1bc, 2 Jn 6:52-59

Saturday (April 25th) **SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST**

Easter Weekday [3]

1 Pt 5:5b-14 Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 Mk 16:15-20

SFDS Calendar April 2026 - June 2026

Updated (Actualizado) 17 April 2026

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 19th<br>7:00 am - 7:20 am Rosario<br>7:20 am - 8:30 am Misa<br>8:45 am - 10:00 am<br>Faith Formation<br>10:00 am - 10:30 am Rosary<br>10:30 am - 11:30 am Mass<br>12:00 pm - 12:20 pm Rosario<br>12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Misa<br>2:00 pm - 6:00 pm<br>PAID Reservation<br>5:00 pm Ensayo de Coro | 20th                                                                   | 21st<br>11:00 am Funeral Mass<br>12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Reception<br>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Grupo de Parejas<br>7:00 pm Reunión (upstairs) | 22nd<br>12:00 pm Mass, Rosary<br>6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Adult Faith Formation<br>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Spanish Catechist Certification Training<br>7:00 pm Ensayo de Coro V. N. | 23rd<br>12:00 pm Mass<br>(6:00 pm) 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Grupo de Oración<br>6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Choir Practice<br>7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Ultreya<br>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Jóvenes Adultos                          | 24th<br>12:00 pm Mass<br>5:00 pm - 7:00 pm G's Choir Practice<br>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Ensayo de Coro<br>7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Ultreya<br>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Jóvenes Adultos | 25th<br>1:00 pm Misa Quinceanera VS<br>1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Plática de Bautismo<br>3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Confession<br>5:00 pm Mass<br>6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Ensayo de Coro<br>6:30 pm - 9:00 pm Formación G. C. |
| 26th<br>7:00 am - 7:20 am Rosario<br>7:20 am - 8:30 am Misa<br>8:45 am - 10:00 am<br>Faith Formation<br>10:00 am - 10:30 am Rosary<br>10:30 am - 11:30 am Mass<br>12:00 pm - 12:20 pm Rosario<br>12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Misa<br>1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Day of the Children Festival                  | 27th<br>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm English Catechist Certification Class ONLINE | 28th                                                                                                                              | 29th<br>12:00 pm Mass, Rosary<br>7:00 pm Ensayo de Coro V. N.                                                                                                          | 30th<br><b>BUDGETS DUE (PRESUPUESTOS NECESITA SER ENTREGADOS)</b><br>12:00 pm Mass<br>(6:00 pm) 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Grupo de Oración<br>6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Choir Practice<br>6:30 pm Knights of Columbus |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

[Parish Financial Record](#)

[Registro Financiero Parroquial](#)

### Divine Mercy Sunday

1st Collection \$3,618.00

2nd Collection \$789.00

(Building & grounds Maintenance)

Total: \$4,407.00

Last Year \$6,927.39

We thank you all for your contributions! Please remember to send your offertory envelope weekly or monthly, or you may give online.

¡Les agradecemos a todos por sus contribuciones! Por favor, recuerde enviar su sobre de ofertorio semanal o mensualmente, o puede dar en línea.

<https://www.parishgiving.org/index?e=EB7D1D74B9E1D3AFD5A6E0FD209BC0BECD23ED5C1C016A00>



## Happy Birthday Blessings Bendiciones de Feliz Cumpleaños 19 - 25 April 2026

Valentine Quarshie, Salem Rose Bryant, Jaydon Lopez Zacarias, Andralyn Flores, Angeles Rojas, Marie Jee Locklear, Christine Cruz, Melany Aguilar, Arabella Stremich, Dana Evans, Sam Johnson, Madilyn Pittman, April Pittman, Morelia Lucas Vail, Elizabeth Rodriguez Mendez, Gabriel Villafuerte H, Christopher Walters, Larry Perez-Sanchez, Mikayla Rich, and Melissa Edwards

**In Need of Prayer/En necesidad de oración:** David & Rhonda Martin, Sandra Rodríguez, Dr. Jerry Devine, Renete Cortez, Lupita Flores Castellano, Fabien, Joseph & Shelby Young, Cathy Cartrette, Doris Schneider, Doris Warwick, Carolyn Wilkerson, Michelle & James White, Joan Van Huesen, Noelia Powell, Joel Rivera, Kathy Geibert, Mary Lee Wadrose, Juanita Mishoe, Sr Marta Castrejon Flores, Annette Dent, Neal Frazier, Victor Dorais, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, The Dana Family, Rosario Reantaso, Allie Rogers, Lou Rastelli, the Bowen Family, Michael Charkey, Marion Sherman, Patricia Norton, Jimmy & Marie Davis, Joanne Hayes, Ruth Keen, Myrtle Gudauskas, Valyanna Quarshie, and Suzanne Snow

**Sick and Homebound/Enfermos y confinados en casa:** Lydia Yarborough, Josette Terry, Gladys Ortiz, Peggy Malinsky, Lorraine Sinclair, and Rita Delong

**Nursing Homes/Residencias de Ancianos:** Mary Hammonds and Therese Morel at Wesley Pines (Lumberton), and Elisabeth Oxendine at Carrolton Nursing Home (Fayetteville)

**Recently Deceased/Recientemente fallecidos:** Kenneth Cross ([Orbituary](#))

\*Please notify the office if there is someone you would like us to add to our prayer list. \*  
\*Por favor notifique a la oficina si hay alguien que le gustaría que agreguemos a nuestra lista de oración.\*



**Spring Has Sprung!** We are seeking volunteers to help keep the grounds of our Church campus looking beautiful. Any assistance is welcome. Please call Rafael [910-718-0217](tel:910-718-0217) or the church office if you are available.

**¡Ya llegó la primavera!** Buscamos voluntarios para ayudar a mantener hermosos los jardines de nuestro recinto parroquial. Toda ayuda es bienvenida. Por favor, llame a Rafael [910-718-0217](tel:910-718-0217) o a la oficina de la iglesia si tiene disponibilidad.

**Parying for our deceased** The Catholic Church has a long and treasured tradition of praying for the souls of the faithful departed. This practice is rooted in the deep belief in the communion of saints – the idea that all Christians, living and dead, are united in one spiritual family. Prayers for the dead are offered as acts of love and mercy, asking God to grant the souls in purgatory a speedy and complete purification, so that they may enjoy the fullness of heaven. Reach out to the Church office to request a Mass intention.

**Orar por nuestros difuntos:** La Iglesia Católica posee una larga y preciada tradición de orar por las almas de los fieles difuntos. Esta práctica tiene sus raíces en la profunda creencia en la comunión de los santos: la idea de que todos los cristianos, tanto vivos como difuntos, están unidos en una sola familia espiritual. Las oraciones por los difuntos se ofrecen como actos de amor y misericordia, pidiendo a Dios que conceda a las almas que se encuentran en el purgatorio una purificación pronta y completa, para que puedan gozar de la plenitud del cielo. Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial para solicitar una intención de Misa.



**THE LUMBERTON CHRISTIAN CARE CENTER** feeds the hungry in our community Monday through Friday at various locations throughout Lumberton. Our **Social Ministry** collects food every week to help with their effort. **PLEASE** consider bringing one item of non-perishable food when you come to Mass. Small Things with Great Love Make a Big Difference. Thank you so much for your continued support!

**El Lumberton Christian Care Center** alimenta a los necesitados de nuestra comunidad de lunes a viernes en diversos lugares de Lumberton. Nuestro **Ministerio Social** recolecta alimentos cada semana para apoyar esta labor. **Por favor,** considere traer un artículo de comida no perecedera cuando asista a Misa. Las cosas pequeñas hechas con gran amor marcan una gran diferencia. ¡Muchas gracias por su continuo apoyo!

**Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreat (June 12-14, 2026)**  
If you desire healing from a past abortion, you are invited to experience the love of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat June 12-14, 2026, in the Raleigh area. The weekend retreat is strictly confidential, for both women and men and includes discussions, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service, and a Mass of the Resurrection. Participation offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion. For more information or to register for the retreat, contact Project Rachel at: [project.rachel@raldioc.org](mailto:project.rachel@raldioc.org) or call **(919) 852-1021** (English). The website is: [rachelinc.org](http://rachelinc.org). Cost is \$350 for lodging, meals, and all retreat materials. Discount of \$50 if you register before May, 12th. If there is a financial burden, assistance is always available.

**Proyecto Rachel Post Aborto Retiro de Sanación (June 12-14, 2026).**  
Si desea sanar de un aborto pasado, le invitamos a experimentar el amor de Jesucristo en un retiro de fin de semana de Project Rachel, del 12 al 14 de junio de 2026, en el área de Raleigh. Este retiro de fin de semana es estrictamente confidencial, está dirigido tanto a mujeres como a hombres, e incluye charlas, ejercicios espirituales, el sacramento de la Reconciliación, un servicio conmemorativo y una Misa de la Resurrección. La participación ofrece una hermosa oportunidad para experimentar el amor, el perdón y la compasión de Dios. Para obtener más información o para inscribirse en el retiro, comuníquese con Project Rachel a través del correo electrónico: [project.rachel@raldioc.org](mailto:project.rachel@raldioc.org) o llame al **(919) 264-5892** (Español). El sitio web es: [rachelinc.org](http://rachelinc.org). El costo es de \$350 e incluye alojamiento, comidas y todos los materiales del retiro. Se ofrece un descuento de \$50 si se inscribe antes del 12 de mayo. Si la situación económica representa una dificultad, siempre hay asistencia disponible.

**Reflexión de esta semana**  
**Tercer domingo de Pascua (19 de abril de 2026)**



En el Evangelio de hoy, Lucas nos permite percibir la intensidad del encuentro de los discípulos con Jesús resucitado. También nos ofrece los elementos esenciales de una liturgia cristiana. Una vez que se han abierto las Escrituras y se ha partido y compartido el pan, los ojos de los discípulos reunidos se abren aún más, y una vez más, Jesús es reconocido entre nosotros. Este encuentro conmueve nuestra fe de tal manera que salimos presurosos a compartir la Buena Nueva que hemos llegado a reconocer con mayor claridad a medida que se celebraban la Palabra y el Sacramento.

Observemos el comentario de los discípulos: «¿Acaso no ardía nuestro corazón en nuestro interior mientras nos hablaba en el camino y nos explicaba las Escrituras?». Sus palabras revelan un anhelo y una disposición a escuchar todo cuanto Jesús les decía. Esa actitud de apertura y de afán por escuchar las palabras de Jesús permitió que sus corazones fueran tocados por aquello que oían.

Debemos traer esa misma actitud de apertura y de anhelo por escuchar a nuestra celebración. Debemos estar atentos a las lecturas de las Escrituras, pues constituyen la Palabra viva de Dios, destinada a enseñarnos acerca de nuestras vidas y del modo en que Dios obra en ellas.

Asimismo, debemos acudir a cada celebración de la Eucaristía con una fe activa, creyendo que Jesús está presente, ofreciéndose al Padre por nuestros pecados y alimentándonos con su Cuerpo y su Sangre para fortalecernos en nuestro camino.

Resulta muy fácil para todos nosotros asistir a la Eucaristía por mera rutina y olvidar que, en dicha celebración, nos encontramos con nuestro Dios. Cuanto más viva sea nuestra fe al celebrar, con mayor profundidad podrá hablarnos la Palabra de Dios y con mayor plenitud seremos nutridos. Podremos experimentar aquello que vivieron los discípulos en el camino: que nuestros corazones ardan en nuestro interior mientras Jesús nos habla y nos alimenta.

Quizás entonces sintamos una urgencia aún mayor por compartir la Buena Nueva que hemos experimentado a través de una vida plena de fe y colmada de Jesús.

**This week's reflection**  
**Third Sunday of Easter (April 19, 2026)**



In today's Gospel Luke gives us a feel for the disciples' encounter with the risen Jesus. He also gives us the essentials for a Christian liturgy. Once the Scriptures have been opened and the bread has been broken and shared, the eyes of the disciples who have gathered are opened ever wider and once again Jesus is recognized among us. We are so moved in our faith by this encounter that we rush out to share the good news we have come to recognize more clearly as word and sacrament were celebrated.

Notice the disciples' remark: "Were not our hearts burning inside us as he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" Their words indicate an eagerness and an openness to listening to whatever Jesus was saying to them.

That attitude of openness and eagerness to listening to Jesus' words allowed their hearts to be touched by what they heard.

We have to bring that same attitude of openness and eagerness to listen to our celebration. We have to be attentive to the Scriptures readings for they are the living word of God, meant to teach us about our lives and how God is working in them.

We also have to come to each celebration of Eucharist with an active faith, believing that Jesus is present, offering himself to the Father for our sins and feeding us with his Body and Blood to strengthen us on our journey.

It's very easy for all of us to come to Eucharist out of routine and forget that we encounter our God in the celebration. The more alive our faith is as we celebrate, the deeper the word of God can speak to us and the more fully we are nourished. We will be able to experience what the disciples on the road experienced – our hearts burning within us as Jesus speaks to us and nourishes us.

Perhaps, then, we will feel a greater urgency to share the good news we have experienced in faith-filled, Jesus-filled living.

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 Billy G. Davis  
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**Pier 41 Seafood**  
 Steve & Patty Runkle  
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 Phone: 910-738-8555  
 2401 Elizabethtown Rd Lumberton NC 28358



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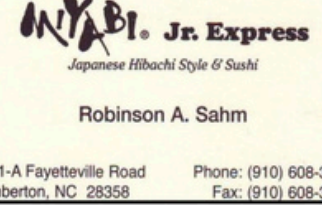



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