



The Holy See

URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II

Easter Sunday, 27 March 2005

1. *Mane nobiscum, Domine!*

Stay with us, Lord! (cf. *Lk 24:29*)

With these words, the disciples on the road to Emmaus invited the mysterious Wayfarer to stay with them, as the sun was setting on that first day of the week when the incredible had occurred.

According to his promise, *Christ had risen*; but they did not yet know this.

Nevertheless, the words spoken by the Wayfarer along the road made their hearts *burn within them*.

So they said to him: "Stay with us".

Seated around the supper table, *they recognized him* in the "breaking of bread" - and suddenly he *vanished*.

There remained in front of them *the broken bread*,
There echoed in their hearts the gentle sound of *his words*.

2. Dear brothers and sisters,

the *Word* and the *Bread* of the Eucharist,
the mystery and the gift of Easter,
remain down the centuries as a constant memorial
of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ!

On this Easter Day,
together with all Christians throughout the world,

we too repeat those words:

Jesus, crucified and risen, *stay with us!*

Stay with us, faithful friend and sure support
for humanity on its journey through history!

Living Word of the Father,

give hope and trust to all who are searching
for the true meaning of their lives.

Bread of eternal life, nourish those who hunger
for truth, freedom, justice and peace.

3. Stay with us, *Living Word of the Father,*

and teach us words and deeds of peace:

peace for our world consecrated by your blood
and drenched in the blood of so many innocent victims:

peace for the countries of the Middle East and Africa,
where so much blood continues to be shed;

peace for all of humanity,

still threatened by fratricidal wars.

Stay with us, *Bread of eternal life,*

broken and distributed to those at table:

give also to us the strength to show generous solidarity

towards the multitudes who are even today

suffering and dying from poverty and hunger,

decimated by fatal epidemics

or devastated by immense natural disasters.

By the power of your Resurrection,

may they too become sharers in new life.

4. We, the men and women of the third millennium,

we too need you, Risen Lord!

Stay with us now, and until the end of time.

Grant that the material progress of peoples

may never obscure the spiritual values

which are the soul of their civilization.

Sustain us, we pray, on our journey.

In you do we believe, in you do we hope,

for you alone have the words of eternal life (cf. *Jn 6:68*).

Mane nobiscum, Domine! Alleluia!
