

'Walking With Jesus Through the Mass'

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This program is inspired by the 'Walk to Emmaus' (*Luke 24:13-35*) which St Pope John Paul II compared with the Mass in his apostolic letter, 'Mane Nobiscum Domine' as also in his encyclical, 'Ecclesia de Eucharistia'.

'Whenever the Church celebrates the Eucharist, the faithful can in some way relive the experience of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus: "their eyes were opened and they recognized him."' EE6

'It is significant that the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, duly prepared by our Lord's words, recognized him at table through the simple gesture of the "breaking of bread". When minds are enlightened and hearts are enkindled, signs begin to "speak."' MND14

It is our hope that, as we take the children through the Mass, explaining each part, with its signs, prayers and gestures, their minds will be enlightened and hearts enkindled, and they will be able to take part in the Mass in a meaningful way.

To encourage participation of the parents, the children's workbook includes a weekly family follow-up. Parents are also expected to attend 3 of the lessons. Tests could be done at home, after each unit.