



SECOND SUNDAY OF

Easter

(OR OF DIVINE MERCY)

APRIL 11, 2021

Jesus said to Thomas,
“Have you come to believe because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

John 20:29



SECOND SUNDAY OF Easter

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Jesus came and stood in their
midst and said to them,
"Peace be with you."

John 20:19

FAITH

What a difference faith makes! The faith of the early community of believers led them to rise beyond the selfishness that so many of us struggle with as they grew in communion with Christ and one another. Their selflessness was a living sign of the impact of their faith in Jesus Christ. They did not find the commandments burdensome, but rather centered their lives on the love of God and neighbor that Jesus taught through his life, death, and resurrection. It is good for us to remember that faith is a gift. The journey of faith is not always straightforward and is often marked by doubt and moments of weakness. The apostles' faith grew as they experienced the risen Jesus. Jesus surely knew they needed the peace he offered and the presence of the Holy Spirit, as do we who have not seen the Lord and yet have come to believe in him.

FROM DOUBT TO BELIEF

The apostle Thomas will forever be remembered as the one who doubted. It is good that his experience is recorded in the Gospel of John. We all doubt sometimes, and "Doubting Thomas" shows us how to move from doubt to belief, knowing that the risen Jesus will be with us through it all. Thomas did not keep his doubts to himself, but instead voiced them aloud to his trusted companions. We can only imagine the conversations that took place between Thomas and the other disciples as they described the peace that they felt following Jesus' time with them. Thomas' doubts were put to rest once and for all when Jesus offered him physical proof of the Resurrection. We do not have the sort of physical evidence that was shown to Thomas, but we can perceive Christ's presence in the Eucharist, in the words of sacred scripture, and in the presence and actions of others.

LIVING FAITH

The journey of faith often ebbs and flows, with times when our relationship with the Lord is the guiding force in our lives, and times when we are tempted to turn away from all we know to be true, good, and beautiful. In those moments when we find ourselves struggling with doubt or temptation, we can follow Thomas' lead and turn to trusted companions, faithful and faith-filled family and friends, who will support us and show us the way from doubt to living faith. Like the disciples who were in the room when Jesus came among them, we too have received the Holy Spirit. Today, let us consider where we are on the journey of faith, turn to trusted companions and the Holy Spirit to strengthen us on the way, and know that the Lord is with us as we live and grow in relationship with Christ.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 4:32–35

Psalms 118:2–4, 13–15, 22–24

1 John 5:1–6

John 20:19–31

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 10, 2021

5:00 pm.....Cornelius Schouten (RIP)

7:30 pm..... Parishioner Intentions

Sunday, April 11, 2021

9:00 am..... Parishioner Intentions

10:30 am (OLG)..... Parishioner Intentions

11:30 am (SH)..... Parishioner Intentions

6:00 pm..... All College Students

Weekly Parish Activities

April 11 - April 17

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday, April 11

St. Mary

8:30 am..... Confession

9:00 am..... Holy Mass

Our Lady of Guadalupe

10:00 am..... Confession

10:30 am..... Holy Mass

Sacred Heart

11:00 am.....Confession

11:30 am..... Holy Mass

St. Brendan

5:30 pm..... Confession

6:00 pm..... Holy Mass

7:00 pm.....CCM/Al-Anon_Meeting

Monday, April 12

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

Mass Intention: For Richelle

Tuesday, April 13

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

12:00 pm..... Al-Anon Meeting (St. Brendan)

Wednesday, April 14

7:00 pm.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

Thursday, April 15

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

7:00 pm.....Al-Anon Meeting (St. Brendan)

Friday, April 16

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

5:00 pm.....Adoration (St. Brendan)

Saturday, April 17

7:00 amTMIY (St. Brendan)

4:30 pm..... Confession (St. Brendan)

5:00 pm.....Holy Mass (St. Brendan)

7:00 pm..... Confession (St. Mary)

7:30 pm..... Santa Misa (St. Mary)

Online Giving is available on our parish website: www.stbrendanscc.org

Prefer Mail:

Make check payable to your parish and mail to 1444 W. Washington St. Stephenville, TX 76401.

DOUBT

April 4, 2021

The desire to be able to prove the existence of a divinity has troubled humanity since human consciousness first became aware of the divine. To this very day we are fond of saying that any number of things—from sunsets to hot fudge sundaes—are “proof that there is a God.” We get so caught up in the story of “doubting Thomas” that we fail to notice that today’s Gospel gives us John’s account of Pentecost, the bestowing of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples following the Resurrection. Thomas, evidently, missed out not only on seeing the Risen Christ, but receiving the Holy Spirit as well. This is not to be taken lightly and, perhaps, makes Thomas’ disbelief a bit easier to comprehend. It also makes his professing that Jesus is his Lord and God—the only time the New Testament explicitly refers to Jesus Christ as “God”—more remarkable.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus (Acts 4:32-35).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — — The victory that conquers the world is our faith (1 John 5:1-6).

Gospel — Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed (John 20:19-31).

ALÉGRENSE Y REGOCÍJENSE

4 de abril de 2021

El deseo de ser capaz de demostrar la existencia de una divinidad tiene a la humanidad con problemas desde que por primera vez se hizo consciente de lo divino. Hasta el día de hoy nos gusta decir que un sinnúmero de cosas, desde puestas de sol hasta los helados de crema de chocolate, son “pruebas de que hay Dios”. Estamos tan atrapados en la historia de “Tomás el incrédulo” que no nos damos cuenta de que el Evangelio de hoy nos ofrece el relato de Juan acerca de Pentecostés, el descenso del Espíritu Santo sobre los discípulos después de la Resurrección. Tomás, evidentemente, se perdió no solo de ver a Cristo resucitado, sino también de recibir el Espíritu Santo. Esto no se debe tomar a la ligera y, quizás, hace que la incredulidad de Tomás sea un poco más fácil de comprender. También hace que su profesión de fe en que Jesús es su Señor y su Dios —la única vez que en el Nuevo Testamento hay una referencia explícita a Jesucristo como “Dios”— sea más notable. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

Giving during the COVID-19 pandemic: During this challenging time, we depend on online donations to keep our parish family going. Please take advantage of online giving by visiting our parish website at www.stbrendanscc.org.

The Annual Diocesan Appeal is underway throughout the Diocese of Fort Worth.

Through this annual campaign, the Diocese funds programs and ministries for its 90 parishes and missions throughout the 28 counties it serves.

Information sheets and commitment envelopes are in the back of 4 churches. Once completed please mail your contribution or pledge card directly to the Diocese office in Fort Worth. You can also go to <https://stbrendanscc.org/>.

Here is the latest ADA report from the Diocese:

As 3-31-21

Our Lady of Guadalupe...16 donors...Goal \$5000
Committed...\$5390 (108%) Paid...\$5165 (103%)

St. Mary's...36 donors...Goal \$16,500
Committed \$15,581 (94%) Paid...\$15,431 (94%)

St. Brendan's...33 donors...Goal \$17,500
Committed...13,462 (77%) Paid...\$11,512 (66%)

Sacred Heart...18 donors...Goal \$6000
Committed...\$5807(97%) Paid...\$5007 (83%)

Remember to check the website <https://stbrendanscc.org/> for important updates on Mass Schedules, Covid-19 guidelines, and Church Gatherings updates.

Please Remember:

1. There is no obligation at this time to attend Mass.
2. Masks are to be worn at all times inside parish buildings.

BULLETIN: Please direct all bulletin announcements to Nathan in the church office. Email them to catholic@embargmail.com by Wednesday at 12:00 pm.

Office Hours are Monday through Friday, **9 am – 3 pm**. Please be sure to call during these hours for assistance. **(254-965-5693)**

UPCOMING SECOND/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 24-25.....Good Shepherd Sunday

PRAYER CORNER: Please pray for the different intentions of each person this week for: Mike Hill, Richelle, Ranisa, John Hill, Tom Bole, Lt. Evan Flores and Caitlin Cook, Harry Romans (RIP), Jody Cornell, Kathy Prentice, Anne Blount, Baby Lauren, Tye Coapland, Laurie Tolboom Martin, Carter Brown, Neide Gonsalves, Jackie Demetruk, Natal Mello, Poplin family, Carl Volleman, John McCarthy, Irma Lopez, Jennifer Lancaster and Family, Della Munson and Husband, Isaac Montelongo, Mack McCormick, Ann Blair, Paulette Jones, Paul and Jami Dominguez, Amanda Nicholson, Jocelyn Lewis, Donnie H., Peter DeJong, Teresa Villadesanchez, Marisol Sanchez, Tino Bernal, Lupita Ojeda, Margie Derrick, Maria Bernal, Rudy Guerrero, Filegonio Cardenas, Chris Roemer, Mykal Jones, David Gonzales, Bole Family, Jeanna DeViney, Bill Luther, Pete Sanchez, Teresa Sanchez, Patrick Noonan, Estela Patlan, Cristino DeLeon, Jr., Janice Schuetz, Dorothy Casseqтта, Jose Torres, Patsy Shafer, Cheryl Mauer, Lisa Bradshaw, Sara Maldonado, Mary Rose, Lagarde Family, Jerry Soape, Florin Schlautman, Linda Mitchell, Kayla Cambers, Stephanie Martinez, Crystal Lena Martinez, Colleen Carey Dotson, Nursing Home Patients, homebound parishioners, all who are ill, and for all the souls in purgatory.



Announcing the 2021 St Brendan **Voyager Project**

We don't have to tell you; everybody knows that the St. Brendan campus is showing its age. Our community has seen many good times over the years, but the demands of this modern world are also taking their toll.

The annual Diocesan safety audit has pointed out several deficiencies in the buildings that make up our campus. Safety for the youth in CCD and CCM should be the most important responsibility that we have and ignoring safety concerns is never a good practice. The aging facilities have an ever-growing number of issues that can no longer be ignored.



The exits in the Church and CCD buildings do not meet modern safety requirements while at the same time, the doors could allow unwanted strangers (predators?) access to the classrooms. Easy to get in, hard to get out in an emergency.

We are proud of our youth programs for both adolescents as well as our college community, but the CCM program has not been allowed a dedicated facility in a Catholic Community ultimately design for them!



All said, we believe that is time for a change. The Building Committee selected by Father Sanka has worked very hard over the past two years to address the issues of the Parish. Working with the Diocese and an architect we would like to introduce a new design option which has met the approval of the Diocese. This plan will update the St Brendan campus to support all our needs:

- Updated church that meets all safety guidelines
- A Religious Education facility with 12 classrooms
- Dedicated space for the CCM program
- Parish offices with space for all staff, equipment, and visitors

Please join us for an open discussion of the proposal

**A parish meeting is planned for Saturday, April 17th after the 5pm mass.
Pizza and refreshments will be provided.**

Live Streaming of the Saturday 7:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. masses from St. Mary's is available on Facebook, by search "*St. Brendan's Catholic Church*".

Weekdays masses are also streamed live from St. Brendan's, at 8:00 a.m. Mon-Tu-Th-Fri, and 7:00 p.m. on Wed.

Let us welcome those who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil!

Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion: Jonathan Nance, Michael Gillentine and Aaron Licerio.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion: Lori Cohen, Jamie Cole, Walker Cole, Kelly Cole, Maria Mendoza, James Mitchell, Yale Yocham, Gaby Cervantes, Luis Covarruvias, Jennifer Garcia, Octavio Garcia, Lizeth Martinez, Jackelin Morales, Flor Rocha, and Briselda Villeda.

Confirmation: Serena Padilla.

TMIY: The Vision of Man Fully Alive

The Vision of Man Fully Alive enables men to experience authentic freedom as sons of God. Through living the three-fold mission of abiding presence, joyful service and living sacrifice, their hearts and homes will experience the joy that God desires. To sustain them on their spiritual journey, the men will be led directly to the three spiritual foods that Christ himself proclaims: The Eucharist, The Word of God, and The Will of God. Join us for food, fellowship and faith at **Newman Hall, on Saturdays at 8 AM. All men are welcome.** Learn more at tmiy.org.

Contact Anthony Williams at 817-894-5343 or awillj@gmail.com

Monthly Baptism Preparation Classes:

Monthly Baptism classes (English and Spanish) are for **children UNDER the age of 7**. Please contact the office (254) 965-5693 for information/enrollment.

Children 7 and older prepare for Baptism via the RCIA-Adapted for Children program. Contact Karen Harper for information/enrollment.

God-parents **MUST** be practicing Catholics.

If you cannot receive Communion you cannot be a God-parent.

The following requirements **MUST** be met in order to be a God-parent:

Baptized

Confirmed

If Married, they **MUST** be married in the Catholic Church

If Single, they **CANNOT** be cohabitating

Clases para preparación de Bautismo Mensual:

Clases de Bautismo mensuales (Inglés y Español) son para **niños que tengan MENOS de 7 años**. Comuníquese con Irma Chacón (254) 965-2078 para el horario de clases

Niños que tengan 7 años o más serán preparados para el Bautismo por acabo de él programa RCIA-Adaptado para niños. Llame a Karen Harper para obtener información

Padrinos **TIENEN** que ser Católicos practicantes.

Si no puede recibir la Comunión, no puede ser un padrino.

Los siguientes requisitos **TIENEN** que ser cumplidos en orden de poder ser Padrinos:

Tiene que ser Bautizados

Tiene que estar Confirmados

Casados por la Iglesia Católica se están casados

Si no están casados no pueden estar viviendo con una pareja

FAITH CORNER

FEAST OF FAITH: The Psalms in the Liturgy

The book of Psalms is a prayer book, hymnal, and anthology of verse all rolled into one. It contains one hundred fifty ancient songs—poem-prayers that express the joys and sorrows of the Hebrew people and their longing for God. The psalms are incredibly varied in tone. Some are solemn anthems of praise that once accompanied processions of great multitudes to the temple; others record the lonely cries of a faithful soul who feels abandoned by God.

This ancient prayer book of the Hebrew people is our principal prayer book as well. The psalms are everywhere in the liturgy—in the antiphons and acclamations of the Mass, and most particularly in the responsorial psalm that follows the first reading. The psalm that is sung at Mass usually echoes the themes of the first reading, and sometimes even comments on it. On this Second Sunday of Easter, we listen to the account from Acts describing the communal life in the early Church, and then the psalm comes to remind us: “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting” (Psalm 118:1). In their wonderful variety, the psalms teach us how to pray.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

FIESTA DE LA FE: Las lecturas

La primera lectura, excepto durante la Pascua, siempre se toma del Antiguo Testamento. Durante los cincuenta días de la Pascua, la primera lectura se toma del libro de Los Hechos de los Apóstoles. Esto tiene como fin el poner de “relieve la unidad de ambos Testamentos y de la historia de la salvación” (IGMR 57). Así pues, no está permitido, bajo ninguna circunstancia, cambiar los textos bíblicos, incluyendo el Salmo Responsorial, por textos no bíblicos. La vinculación entre la primera lectura y el Evangelio es vital, pues ambas tienen el mismo tema de fondo. La segunda lectura, por su parte, sigue su propio ritmo, más no por eso está desvinculada o debe desvincularse de la primera lectura y del Evangelio. Puesto que se trata de la Palabra de Dios, la proclamación de ambas lecturas, así como el canto del Salmo Responsorial, debe hacerse desde el ambón. La proclamación corresponde a ministros laicos, pues este ministerio no es de quien preside, sino de quienes celebran junto con él, el pueblo de Dios. No obstante, el Evangelio sí es de oficio presidencial y ha de proclamarse por el diácono o el presbítero.

—Miguel Arias, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

saint snippets



*I desire that the
Feast of Mercy be
a refuge and shelter
for all souls.*

Divine Mercy Sunday

*A Feast celebrated on the 2nd Sunday of Easter.
Jesus promised an abundance of grace and mercy
on this day.*

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If you've ever wanted to understand the Bible, this podcast is for you!

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The Eucharist and Adoration: Will you let Him love you?

[The Hour That Will Change Your Life](#)

[Adoration 101](#)

[The Power of Eucharistic Adoration](#)

[What Do We Do In Adoration?](#)

Divine Mercy Sunday Links:

[Divine Mercy Sunday Explained-Video](#)

[9 Things About Divine Mercy Sunday](#)

[What is Divine Mercy Sunday?](#)



Saint Story: SAINT ANSELM (1033-1109)

Feast Day: April 21

For anyone disheartened at how easily contemporary discussions of disputed Church-State issues escalate from civil discourse to shrill polemic, Anselm provides perspective. Grounded in the Benedictine Rule's balanced "prayer and work," this monk-scholar, called from his Abbey to become Archbishop of Canterbury, was thrust into firestorms of political intrigue, himself the target of warring bishops and nobles, kings and popes. Yet from depths of inner peace, Anselm wrote this moving exhortation by which today's *Liturgy of the Hours* celebrates him: "Rise up, insignificant man! From your preoccupations, flee a while. From your turbulent thoughts, hide for a time. Your crushing responsibilities cast aside. Your burdensome business lay down. Free a little space for God. Rest a little while in him!" "Faith seeking understanding" was his strikingly contemporary motto; and though renowned as an erudite philosopher-theologian, Anselm also left personal letters, profound for their insights on Christian friendship. Along with those, he composed "A Prayer for My Friends" and "A Prayer for My Enemies," reminding us that those who love God most passionately are also those who love others most humanly.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

"My God, I pray that I may so know you and love you that I may rejoice in you. And if I may not do so fully in this life let me go steadily onto the day when I come to that fullness ...Let me receive That which you promised through your truth, that my joy may be full." St. Anselm, pray for us!





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