

April 16, 2023

Second Sunday of Easter /
Sunday of Divine Mercy

Children Celebrate!

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Today's Readings

Acts 2:42–47
Psalm 118:2–4, 22–24
1 Peter 1:3–4
John 20:19–29



We Pray

Jesus, help us to always have faith in you and to follow you. Amen.



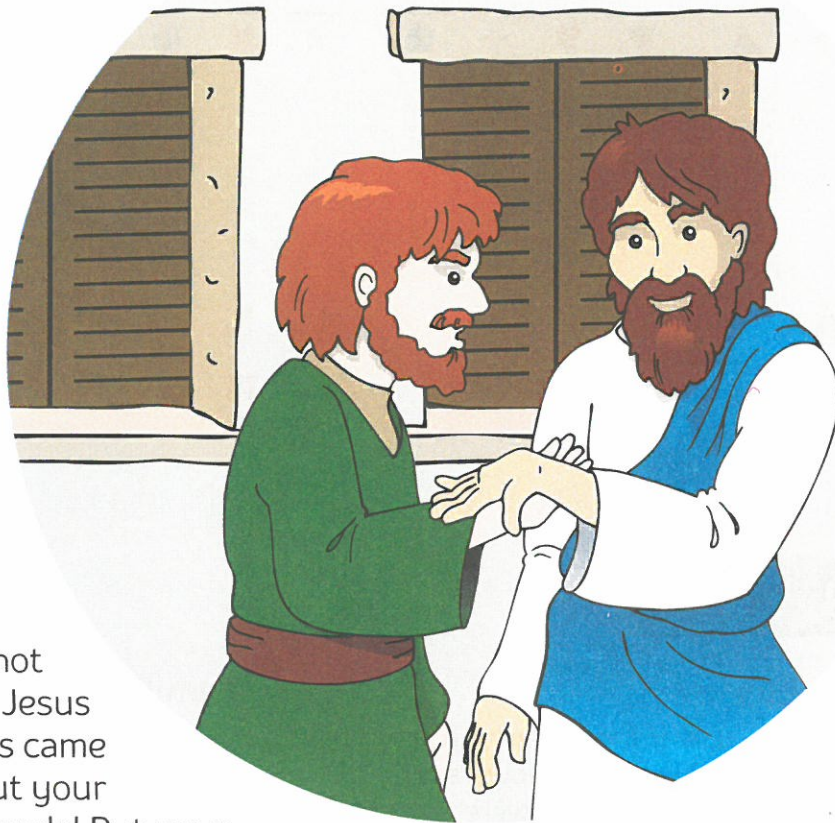
The Word of God This Week

Thomas Sees Jesus and Believes

After Jesus died, the disciples hid, afraid for their own lives. Suddenly Jesus was there. He filled them with the Holy Spirit and gave them the power to forgive sins.

The Apostle Thomas was not there and didn't believe that Jesus had come. A week later, Jesus came again. He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands! Put your hand into my side." Then Thomas believed.

Jesus said, "Because Thomas saw, he believed. Blessed are those who have not seen but still believe."



Visit <https://bit.ly/3Gea28P> for this week's Gospel Reflection, Saint Spotlight, and more.

Activity

Jesus accepts Thomas and all of us just as we are. Decode the message using the symbols below.

Scan here
for family
resources.



When Jesus appeared to the Apostles after his Resurrection, Thomas was absent. He doubted what he heard about Jesus being risen.

When Jesus appeared a second time, Thomas saw Jesus and said:

“
_____ .

A = ★

G = ◆

M = ◐

O = ♥

Y = ▲

D = ●

L = ▼

N = ✕

R = ⊕

Family Corner

Faith Focus

Today's Gospel tells of the different feelings that were experienced by Jesus' followers after his Death and Resurrection. Some were sad, others confused, still others afraid and skeptical. Yet, Jesus accepted them all.

Parents can apply this same acceptance to their own families. Parents, like God, hope that their children meet their full potential in life. It is important, however, that children feel unconditional acceptance from their parents.

Family Activity

This week, have each family member create a large star with his or her name on it. Attach the stars to a bulletin board or poster. During the week, everyone should pay particular attention to the others, and if one is being especially kind or caring, add a note that says "well done" on that person's star. If a family member is having a hard day, write a few words of encouragement on his or her star.