

April 24th 2022 2nd Sunday of Easter (Feast of Divine Mercy) Year C – John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name..”

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| ➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel. | ➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition |
| ➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life | ➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do) |

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This week we see the disciples in the room with the doors closed for fear of the Jews. Jesus stood among them and as he showed them his hands and his side he said “Peace be with you”. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw him. Thomas was not with them when Jesus came and when told of the events he did not believe. When they were at the house again eight days later Thomas was with them. Jesus stood among them again and for the third time said “Peace be with you.” Then Jesus invited Thomas to put his finger into his wounds and said “doubt no longer but believe.” Thomas replied “My Lord and my God.” Jesus said “you believe because you see, blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Who do we identify with in this gospel? Are there times in our lives when we feel like Thomas finding it hard to believe?

Prayer:

Lord thank you for the people like Thomas who will not let us away with easy solutions but insist on seeing the wounds that have been made to the victim so that he can understand the situation more.

Forgive us Lord for the times we want to help those in need without sharing their pain but serve them with pious exhortations. We look for their resurrection but do not see their wounds.

Help us to be like Jesus welcoming Thomas even though he did not believe. He invited him to see his wounds and as a result he believed and proclaimed, “My Lord and My God.

