



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - APRIL 8, 2018

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday-Thursday - 5:40 pm - Holy Rosary
6:00 pm - Holy Mass

Friday - 3:00pm-Quyana Care Center

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday - 4:30 pm - Confessions
5:00 pm - Holy Rosary
5:30 pm - Holy Mass
Sunday - 10:30 am - Holy Mass

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1). There's Religious Education this Sunday after 10:30am Mass.
- 2). There's a Second Collection this weekend to the Diocese of Fairbanks Annual Appeal to support Bishop Missionary work in Alaska.
- 3). We are looking for EMHC if this is a ministry that is of interest to you please see me or Deacon Bob. We are in need of EMHC for next three months please volunteer as necessary.

READERS AND EM'S

| | <u>Lector</u> | <u>Eucharistic Minister</u> |
|----------|-------------------|--|
| Sat 4/7 | Gretchen Froehle | |
| Sun 4/8 | Bernadette Pohl | Kyle Pohl |
| Sat 4/14 | Tom Moran | |
| Sun 4/15 | Jennifer Fast | Gretchen Froehle |
| Sat 4/21 | Betsy Brennan | |
| Sun 4/22 | Megan Mackiernan | Bernie Alvanna-Stimpfle |
| Sat 4/28 | Elsa Bronson | |
| Sun 4/29 | Frances Contreras | Kitty Scott / Sylvia Paniataaq |
| Sat 5/5 | Janeen Sullivan | |
| Sun 5/6 | Kitty Scott | Jennifer Fast |
| Sat 5/12 | Angie Gorn | |
| Sun 5/13 | Sylvia Paniataaq | Gretchen Froehle /Megan Mackiernan |
| Sat 5/19 | Elsa Bronson | |
| Sun 5/20 | Julie Farley | Kitty Scott / Jennifer Fast |
| Sat 5/26 | Betsy Brennan | Volunteer |
| Sun 5/27 | Jennifer Fast | Bernie Alvanna-Stimpfle/Megan Mackiernan |

FAMILY CONNECTION TO THE GOSPEL

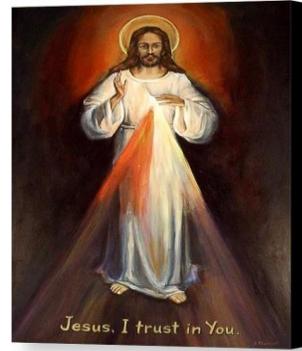
Today's reading from the Gospel of John is proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter in each of the lectionary cycles. This fact alone should alert us to the significance of the encounters with the resurrected Jesus that are described in this reading. This Gospel combines two scenes: Jesus' appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection and Jesus' dialogue with Thomas, the disciple who doubted.

Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit, but in bodily form. We do not know, however, exactly what this form looked like. Earlier in John's Gospel, when Mary of Magdala first encountered the risen Jesus, she did not recognize him until he spoke to her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples walking along the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until he broke bread with them. We know from readings such as today's that in his resurrected form, Jesus was not bound by matter; he appeared to the disciples inside a home even though the door was locked. Yet the disciples could still touch the marks of his Crucifixion.

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun; as Jesus was sent by God, so Jesus sends his disciples. He gives his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be able to accomplish this task. Jesus' words to his disciples also highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share forgiveness and reconciliation with others.

Thomas, the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of the Church that comes after this first community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human nature seeks hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative in obtaining this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe.

Divine Mercy Prayer



O greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your mercy---to Your compassion,

O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out.

Gracious God do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles!

O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through,

and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You,

we implore You; anticipate us with Your Grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour.

Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies,

that we may with confidence, as Your children await Your final coming - that day known to You alone.

And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness.

For Jesus is our Hope:

Through His merciful Heart

as through an open gate we pass through to heaven.

(Diary of St. Faustina 1570)