

## Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy April 28, 2019

### **From the Desk of Rev. Fr. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP:**

The first reading from Acts is a summary of the signs and wonders affected by the apostles after the coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2). Even Peter's shadow is thought to be efficacious (Acts 5:15). As we saw in the Gospel, those who are sick or possessed by unclean spirits are cured. But as Peter carefully noted earlier, it is in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean that all signs and wonders are done (Acts 3:6). The author of Acts crafts the portrait of the apostles so that their actions and words are shown to be in continuity with those of Jesus.

The second reading introduces the visionary John, who is writing from the island of Patmos, which at that time served as a Roman, penal colony. Though most scholars presume John has been imprisoned for refusing to worship the emperor as a god, the visionary never states explicitly that he is in chains. More recent scholarship proposes that John is evangelizing on the island (Revelation 1:9) and not necessarily under arrest. In today's passage, John has a vision of the Risen Christ and is told to "write on a scroll what you see," so that it may be shared with the churches of Asia Minor (1:11).

Since messianic expectations held that resurrection from the dead would be a sign of the coming reign of God, today's Gospel reading stands as verification of Jesus' messiahship. But in fairness to the disciples and particularly to Thomas, they had never encountered a resurrection before, so Jesus' sudden presence despite the locked doors is a shock. But the encounter with the resurrected Jesus in John's Gospel isn't about the end-times breaking in so much as it is a commissioning. Though the term "apostle" (apostolos) is not used by John, here Jesus clearly commissions (apostolein) the disciples. To accompany them, Jesus gives the disciples two gifts, his peace and the Holy Spirit.

### **~ PARISH MISSION ~**

Next weekend, Saturday May 4/5 we are beginning our Parish Mission both in English and Spanish Language. Please invite your family members and friends to join us also on Monday – Wednesday, May 6 – 8, 2019, especially as we prepare for our First Holy Communion and Mother's Day 2019. Very Rev. Robert Kajoh, MSP is a well known revivalist in Houston, Texas and he conducts parish Retreats, Talks and Seminars outside Nigeria also, like in Mexico. He was a pastor at St Philip Neri Catholic Church and later was elected to serve as one of the councilors of The Missionary Society of St Paul of Nigeria. By the grace of God, he will be completing his doctorate degree program in Spirituality in the month of May in Washington. Please plan to join us in this uplifting spiritual experience in our parish.

### **Stewardship**

Tithing - God's Plan for Giving Sunday  
Collection Update For 04/21/19 was \$6,781.00  
Thank you everyone for your Easter Flower donations.

### **Sundays Readings:**

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16, p. 16 Through the work of the apostles, many signs and wonders look place among the people. People in great numbers became believers, and many sick people were cured.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 p. 17

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting".

**Second Reading:** Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19, p. 17 The author of Revelation had a vision of seven gold lampstands. Among the lampstands was one like a son of man.

**Gospel:** John 20:19-31; p. 18

One of the Twelve, Thomas, was absent when the risen Lord first appeared to the others. Later, when Thomas was with them. Jesus came and said, "Bring your hand and put it into my side and believe." Thomas cried, "My Lord and my God!"

### **Religious Education Classes - May 4, 18**

Religious Education Students:

May 4 - For Holy Communion, 5:00 pm.

May 11—No Class - Happy Mother's Day

May 18—Confirmation Rehearsal for Candidates and Sponsors at 1pm.

May 18—Last Day of Class. Enjoy your summer.

Registration for 2019-2020 Starts on June 15.

### **All are welcome to our Up Coming Events**

- Divine Mercy Spanish Retreat in the Church Hall Sunday April 28, 2019 from 10:00am to 3:00pm
- Parish Mission begins with weekend Mass on May 4&5 and continues May 6-8 at 7:00 pm in Church; Mission Theme is "Do whatever He tells you" John 2.5; led by visiting priest Rev. Fr. Robert Kajoh, MSP.
- First Holy Communion, May 4, 2019 at 5:00 pm Mass
- Confirmation Friday, May 24, 2019 at 6:00 pm celebrated by Most Rev. Bishop Gerald T. Walsh

### **Mass Schedule for the week of April 27 to May 4, 2019 Special Intentions for this week**

#### **Saturday, April 27, 2019:**

12:05 pm – Joanne Kunny \* Anthony Kunny

5:00pm - In Thanksgiving \*Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Antionette Anthony

7:30pm - Luis Ruiz \*Joaquina Tovar

#### **Sunday, April 28, 2019:**

7:30 am – For Parishioners

9:00 am – Accion De Gracias \*Ana Alvarado

11:00 am – Ester & Jose Duarte \*Esther & Eduardo Rodrigues

#### **Monday, April 29, 2019:**

8:15am — Available/Disponibile

12:05pm – Portia Fagel (Healing) \*Portia Fagel

#### **Tuesday, April 30, 2019:**

8:15am—Available/Disponibile

12:05pm –Carl & Vee Motta (Decease)\*Son George Motta

#### **Wednesday, May 1, 2019:**

8:15am - Orlando Taddeo (Decease) \* Helen Gallego

12:05 pm – Baby Rory Rodden (Health) \*Winifred & John O'Flaherty

#### **Thursday, May 2, 2019:**

8:15am - Eder Millan (Decease) \* Belen Fernandez

12:05 pm –Carl & Vee Motta (Decease)\*Son George Motta

7:00 pm - Claudina Alvarez \* Los Cursillistas

#### **Friday, May 3, 2019:**

8:15am - Available

12:05 pm – Thomas J. Bonanno \* The Bonanno Family

7:30 pm—Sagrado Corazon de Jesus

#### **Saturday, May 4, 2019:**

12:05 am – Leonard Spano

5:00pm - Anthony & Margaret Mary Felicissimo \*Tony Felicissimo

7:30pm - Legion of Mary

**\*Indicates the person (s) who requested the Mass.**

### **~Request a Mass Intention~**

Those wishing to honor a loved one during the celebration of Mass may pick up Mass cards in the parish office. Mass cards are available for the living and deceased and provided opportunities for prayerful remembrance of anniversaries, birthdays, and other special intentions. Masses are usually booked at least several months in advance so if you want the Mass, it is very important that you call the parish office well ahead of time.