

COMPACT



St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

Second Sunday of Easter
19 April 2020

Year A
#21.20

From the side desk.....

Over the years, I accumulated digital photos of interesting places visited and significant events in my life. I still have in my possession a number of gifts from different people, which have a sentimental attachment to each of them. In fact, most if not all the items that have survived my relocation to different MSC communities over the years, tell a story. They keep alive cherished memories of people and places. But every so often, I will reassess what I have, and declutter. With time and because of limited personal living space, I have to let certain things go and move forward with life.

This weekend's gospel is about the apostle Thomas. Thomas needed something to hold on to. His need for physical human contact following the death of someone he knew and loved, is something with which we can all sympathise.

However, in this gospel, there is something more. In the gospels, Jesus healed by touching people. He healed through his word. On one occasion, Thomas would have seen the woman who revealed that she was healed after touching Jesus' cloak (Luke 8:43-48). In this Sunday's gospel, after his resurrection, seeing Jesus was not enough for Thomas. Thomas had to touch him. He needed to be healed of his grief and doubt. Healed of the trauma of losing a teacher and friend, and of not being there for him. Healed in his faith in Jesus; a faith shattered by his cruel death.

Jesus, who embodied love and knew the anguish and pain, recognised Thomas' anguish and pain. Knowing Thomas, understanding Thomas' pain, and loving him, Jesus was able to heal him.

Today, without having seen Jesus, without being able to physically touch him, we believe. However, like Thomas, in moments of despair and hopelessness, our faith can falter and we long for something concrete. In times like these, we are called to be instruments of the Spirit and to be Christ's body to each other.

Even though we can no longer gather and worship, we can still pray for each other and support each other through a phone call and offering a listening ear.

Kimi msc

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Mon-Fri

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Tues 9:30am



Saturday 25 April



LEST WE FORGET



ANZAC DAY Public
Holiday

The office is closed for
Monday 27 April

Reflection

Tangible Proof

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. Like Thomas who looked for some tangible evidence of the resurrection, we do not find it any easier to live by faith than he did. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising.

However, when we do live by faith, we actually discover tangible proof. This proof can be seen in the way the community reaches out in care and support to others. Jesus extends his wounded hands to us as he did to Thomas, and the community is invited to touch his wounds as we touch the wounds of our world. We find a similar situation in the reading from Acts where the fledgling Christian community grew in number as a result of the teaching of the apostles.

Those who are not eye witnesses of the actual events are called, through the teaching of others, to witness to the power of the resurrection. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more.

Despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, Thomas abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God.

Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

Resources used: *Reflection*, by Dianne Bergant CSA & *Reflection*, by Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp

Heart Spirituality

Queen of the Apostles

God hungers and thirst to give himself and he does this especially by grace. Mary's greatest need and deepest desire is to assist God's outpouring of himself, by communicating grace. God is an infinitely abundant spring desiring only to pour out its water. Mary is a blessed channel, desiring only to further this outpouring; and she wants this out of love for us. Human beings are made to live the life of God; and so throughout our whole being there is this hunger for God that God alone can satisfy. And so, what a need in Mary to give God to us and to give us to God! This explains why she is the Queen of the apostles. After God, she is to the utmost of her being living love, living zeal.

Jules Chevalier msc
(Our Lady of the Sacred Heart p.173f,)

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved.....forever!

Stewardship

It is challenging to live for heaven when the things of the earth — job stress, family crisis, health troubles, political strife — loom large on the horizon. We can find ourselves becoming cynical like the Apostle, Thomas, in our Gospel passage today — until he had an encounter with the merciful Savior. We all recall the famous line from Thomas, who was not present with the other Apostles during Jesus' first appearance after the Resurrection. Beaten down by the events of the last several days, Thomas refuses to believe that the others had indeed "seen the Lord" as they claimed.

When we are tempted to give in to doubts to the faith for whatever the reason, all we need to do is seek the Lord — in prayer, in the sacraments, through the encouragement of our Christian communities — and just as He did for Thomas, our Lord will mercifully restore our Easter vision and fill us with His joy and peace.

Stewardship Reflections from TheCatholicSteward.com

Mass Intentions

Although there are no public celebrations of Mass, Fr's Kimi and Michael continue to celebrate mass privately. They can offer Mass for your intention. If you have a mass intention, please send your request in via email or phone call.

TIME ● TALENT ● TREASURE

Through our baptism we are all called to participate in Christ's Mission.

Thank you to all the parishioners who have committed to parish ministries for the 2020-2021 period.

You are all invited to participate in the mission and ministry life of our parish with your time, talent and treasure.

We are in need of more ministers, if you are not currently involved in a ministry, please give this your prayerful consideration

**The ministry commitment period is
1st June 2020 to 31st May 2021.**

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

For those who wish to continue with their weekly sacrificial giving, you can drop off your weekly offering at the parish office or use the Tap & Go which is now located in the parish office.



“Be on earth the Heart of God”



Recently Deceased:

Br Len Smith FMS

Anniversary: Drago Pola, Barbara Normann, Delilah Wilson, Leslie Barry Daniel Dewar, Claudio Orifice, Sheldon Doyle, Yolanda Melikian, Brenda Hudson, Basil Adkins, Ricaredo Jabagat, Monique Adamik, Hannah Kennett, Jaochim Tittlebach, Frederick Hayes, Vladislav Malnar, Joseph Kowalski, Miroslav Chodora, Patricia Ticehurst, Andrea Sannazzaro, Michael Quigley, Cyril Harper.

LIGHT A CANDLE



While the church is closed if you would like to light a candle please call the parish office or send us an email and we will light a candle on your behalf.

KIT @ KIPPAX

<http://www.stjohnkippax.org.au/index.php?page=kit-keeping-in-touch>

Perhaps you would like to share a story of what is different in your life during this time of physical isolation. How has it impacted your life? Have there been some surprises on how you have coped? Share them with the SJA community.

**Please remember the Cowman family in your prayers.
Bryan's funeral will be held on
Monday 20 April 2020.**

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me,
but still believe!
Alleluia!

Becoming Catholic

Rite of Christian Initiation of an Adult [RCIA]

please contact the parish office for more information.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 3rd Sun during 10:00am Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 5:00pm – 5:30pm
Sacramental Program	Contact Parish Office
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 7:30pm Rosary 7:00pm
Meditation	Friday 6.15-7.15 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 st Friday of the Month 8:00pm – 9:00pm
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

SOCIAL LIFE

Coffee Club	Fourth Sunday after 10:00am Mass
Over 45's	Last Wednesday of the Month 9:30am Mass and morning tea
Pins & Needles	3 rd Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Book club	3 rd Sunday of the Month 3:00pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 th Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Lucky Shot Espresso Bar Kippax
Youth Group	AGAPE - First & Third Sunday after 6:00pm Mass Parish Centre
Men's Group	3 rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre

SMOKE FREE ZONE

There is a 4-metre smoke free zone from the entrance and exits of the church buildings. Thank you



Hearing Loop: in the central body of the church.



TAP & GO - The donation amount is set at \$10.

As Tap & Go is anonymous we have no way of identifying who has made the donation so we are unable to provide a tax receipt

Readings – 26 April 2020

First Reading	Acts 2:14, 22-33
Psalm	Ps 15
Second Reading	1 Pt 1:17-21
Gospel	Luke 24:13-35

26 April Reading Roster

6:00pm	
8:30am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	

26 April Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	
8:30am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	

26 April Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	
8:30am	
10:00am	
6:00pm	

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society:	20 April	
Grounds	25 April	
Counting:	26 April	
Church Cleaning:	20 April	

On a Lighter note

WEEKLY COFFEE
EVOLUTION



MON. TUE. WED. THU. FRI.