



*Please pray for:* Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

**Mass Times: Sunday 19th April 2020 – Second Sunday of Easter / Divine Mercy Sunday (A)**

Sunday, 19 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Solemn Mass
Sunday, 19 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Young Adults Mass
Monday, 20 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Monday – 2nd Week of Easter
Tuesday, 21 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Tuesday – 2nd Week of Easter
Wednesday, 22 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Wednesday – 2nd Week of Easter
Thursday, 23 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Thursday – 2nd Week of Easter
Friday, 24 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Friday – 2nd Week of Easter
Saturday, 25 Apr	<b>No Mass</b>	Saturday – ANZAC Day

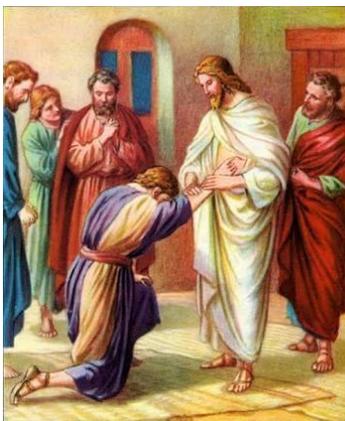
**Regular Confession Times:**

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)  
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass) (*Not available at this time*)

**The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office**



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. *Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.*



A VOCATION VIEW: 'Lay your head on my shoulder, rest and regain your strength. I am always with you.' *Jesus to Saint Faustina, from her Diary (Diary entry 498)*

**Donations to Caritas for Project Compassion 2020**

Dear everyone, if you would like to make a donation to Caritas Australia for Project Compassion 2020, here are the options for this year:

- To make a credit card or direct deposit payment, call 1800 024 413 or visit [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)
- To post a cheque or money order – GPO Box 9830, Sydney NSW 2001

**Holy Land Collection – postponed**

The traditional collection on Good Friday to assist Catholic communities in the Holy Land has been postponed until later this year. Once a new date has been determined for this Appeal, we will organise a collection. Thank you.

**Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. You'll find the webpage here:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

**CatholicCare – is available on their Care line – 13 18 19 – to lend a helping hand to those in need – 8am–6pm, Monday–Friday – or email – [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org) or go to – [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org)**

**Sunday Mass** – is televised by **Channel Ten**, every Sunday at **6am** – this service is called '*Mass for you at Home*' – it is not known which church in Australia the Mass will be televised from and may vary each week

**Sunday Mass** – is also being streamed from a number of parishes around Sydney – please go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney website for details – [www.sydneycatholic.org](http://www.sydneycatholic.org)

**\*\*\*How you can financially support the Parish at this time\*\*\***

Dear everyone, we understand that COVID-19 is having a large financial impact on so many people, in addition to the health and life impact. This is naturally a very challenging time for our parish, too. As it is currently not possible to take up **First and Second collections**, **we would like to provide the following options for anyone who would like to donate**, in lieu of being at Mass and being able to contribute to the First and Second collections:

**Parish Bank Account – for anyone who would like to donate via an electronic funds transfer:**

- BSB: 062-784
- Account Number: 27025000
- Account Name: St Benedict's Catholic Parish (the Parish account is held at Commonwealth Bank)

**Parish Website link – for anyone who would like to make an online donation using a Visa card or Mastercard:**

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/broadwayparish>

Once you have gone into the above link, please select the correct option from the drop box, as follows:

- **To donate to the Parish** – select *General Donation* – (for the Second collection)
- **To donate to the Dominican community** – select *Pastoral Revenue* – (for the First collection)

**Below is a bar code which can be scanned to take you into the donation page on our website – it leads to exactly the same place as the above link:**



## [Prayers for Divine Mercy Sunday – from Saint Faustina’s Diary](#)

*O Jesus, stretched out upon the cross, I implore You, give me the grace of following faithfully the most holy will of Your Father, in all things, always and everywhere. And when this will of God seems to me very harsh and difficult to fulfill, it is then I beg You, Jesus, may power and strength flow upon me from Your wounds, and may my lips keep repeating – Your will be done, O Lord... O most compassionate Jesus, grant me the grace to forget myself, that I may live totally for the souls, helping You in the work of salvation, according to the most Holy will of your Father. (Diary entry 1265)*

*O Lord, I want to be completely transformed into Your mercy and be Your living reflection. May the greatest of all divine attributes, that of Your unfathomable mercy, pass through my heart and soul to my neighbour.*

*Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in my neighbours’ souls and come to their rescue.*

*Help me, O Lord, that my ears may be merciful, so that I may give heed to my neighbours’ needs and not be indifferent to their pains and moanings.*

*Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful, so that I should never speak negatively of my neighbour, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.*

*Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful and filled with good deeds, so that I may do only good to my neighbours and take upon myself, the most difficult and toilsome tasks.*

*Help me, O Lord, that my feet may be merciful, so that I may hurry to assist my neighbour, overcoming my own fatigue and weariness...*

*Help me, O Lord, that my heart may be merciful, so that I myself may feel all the sufferings of my neighbour...*

*May Your mercy, O Lord, rest upon me. (Diary entry 163)*

## [Prayer for the Protection and Intercession of the Holy Mother of Mary](#)

*O, Our Lady, Holy Mary! To your mercy, special protection and compassion,  
Today and every day and in the hour of my death,  
My soul and my body, I entrust to you,  
My ever hope and happiness, oppressions and concerns,  
My life and the end of my life, to you I confide,  
So that through your merits, all my deeds are done according to your will and that of your Son. Amen.*



## **‘We can stop events. We can stop sporting matches. But we can’t stop feeding people.’ – OzHarvest**

OzHarvest is a wonderful organisation, founded by Ronni Kahn in 2004 which feeds people who cannot feed themselves. In these years, OzHarvest has redistributed good, uneaten, much needed food to charities whilst keeping it out of rubbish bins and ultimately, land-fill. In the current COVID-19 circumstances, **OzHarvest urgently needs donations to keep going.** If you would like to help and learn about what OzHarvest does, please go to – [www.ozharvest.org](http://www.ozharvest.org) **\*For every dollar given, OzHarvest can provide 2 meals.**

**Since the beginning – 120 million meals served through 1,300 charities – 44K tonnes of food saved from land-fill!**

### **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)**

JRS Australia are working hard to ensure that they can meet the critical needs of the refugees and asylum seekers they serve in the absence of any federal government support. If you are able to donate food or essential items, please email [amelia.savage@jrs.org.au](mailto:amelia.savage@jrs.org.au) or ring 02 9098 9336 or consider making a donation to their emergency cash appeal: <https://www.jrs.org.au/donate-now/> **\*\$40 feeds a single adult for one week – \$70 feeds one family – \$350-\$500 pays for a week’s rent.**

### **[Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Parish Safeguarding Volunteer Online Induction Training, Working With Children Check & Code of Conduct](#)**

– St Benedict’s Parish, Chippendale (Broadway) requires all of our volunteers to complete the Parish Safeguarding Volunteer online training, obtain a Working With Children Check and sign a Code of Conduct. It is MANDATORY that volunteers in all parishes comply with the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office training. Please contact Amanda or Brooke at St James’ Parish, Forest Lodge on 9660 1407 or email [info@stjames-stbede.org.au](mailto:info@stjames-stbede.org.au) to obtain the link to the online training and required forms which will be sent to you via email. Thank you.

# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY / A

19 APRIL 2020

his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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## STILL BEARING THE WOUNDS OF LOVE

Thomas is one of the most clearly defined characters in the Gospels. Born loser, realist, pessimist, he has missed out on the Easter night appearance of Jesus. He won't believe that Jesus has been raised simply on the other disciples' claim: 'We have seen the Lord'. He insists on seeing, touching, hearing for himself.

Eight days later, with divine 'courtesy', Jesus meets Thomas' conditions exactly. But, at the sight of his risen Lord, Thomas abandons these conditions. He, the late-comer, the obtuse one, goes on to make the most exalted act of faith contained in the gospel: 'My Lord and my God!' It is Thomas, the hesitant, the doubter, who brings out the full identity of Jesus.

Moreover, Thomas' demand to see and touch the wounds shows that the risen Lord continues to bear these badges of vulnerable love. Presumably that is why Pope John Paul II chose this Second Sunday after Easter as 'Divine Mercy' Sunday: Jesus is someone to whom we can go and find understanding and mercy in a divine degree.

Jesus adds a comment that brings us into the picture too: 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe'. Succeeding generations of believers will not have the privilege of seeing the risen Lord. We have to believe simply the testimony handed down in the Church: 'We have seen the Lord'. We are not at a disadvantage. We are in fact 'blessed' because from us a faith greater than that of Thomas' will be drawn. And it is faith that lets God's power into the world.

## FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.*

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

**R.** Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia.)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**

2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling / but the Lord was my helper. / The Lord is my strength and my song; / he was my saviour. / There are shouts of joy and victory / in the tents of the just. **R.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the corner stone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20:29

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

### GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them