KEEPING FAITH FIRST- FAMILY FUN

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BELIEVE HOLY SEEN BREATHED LOCKED SENT DISCIPLES NAILMARKS SPIRIT DOORS NAME THOMAS EVENING PEACE FATHER RECEIVE FEAR REJOICED HANDS RETAIN

Catechizing Corner!

Today's two post resurrection appearances of Jesus are read every year throughout all three cycles. Jesus offers his peace, faith, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and a lasting legacy of his merciful forgive-ness. He appears first on Easter night, and then a week later. Luke did not relate Jesus' resurrection, ascension, and Pentecost as a one-time event. He extended it over a period of time in order to lead and guide his community to a deeper faith. John's portraval is probably more accurate: Jesus be-stowed the Spirit and commissioned his disciples on the same day. According to Charles Talbert, one purpose of this resurrection account is to show that Jesus is alive and to offer further in-structions to the disciples."

A few verses before this pericope, Jesus encountered Mary Magdalene standing beside the tomb. She did not recognize him at first glance. We are led to understand that something has changed; Jesus is different. "In his new identity, Jesus is no longer subject to the constraints of space and time." Today's gospel continues to portray Jesus in his new, altered state. He appears in the midst of the Twelve. There is no question that it is Jesus; he identifies himself by showing his hands and his side. His body is still real, though changed. Mary Magdalene in earlier verses was told not to touch him. Jesus passed through his shroud and through doors, but he could still be seen with the human eye. Talbert asserts that Jesus continues in his in-carnation even after the resurrection, albeit in a different corporeal form. "The incarnation did not cease with the cross and the tomb; it continues even now in transcendental glory."

Mary Birmingham, Word and Worship Workbook, Cycle A Paulist Press

> Holy Family Catholic Church South Pasadena, CA www.holyfamily.org

Disciple's Reflection for the Question of the Week

Second Sunday of Easter 4/16/23

A Call to Prayer

The Word of God John 20:19-31

Faith Sharing Questions of the week

Closing Prayer

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Family is a welcoming Catholic Eucharistic community of disciples of Jesus Christ connecting faith with life and reaching out to those in need!



Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment and listen attentively to this week's passage.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the first day of the week,

Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,

while it was still dark,

- and saw the stone removed from the tomb.
- So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,

"They have taken the Lord from the tomb,

and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.

They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter

and arrived at the tomb first;

<u>Gospel Glossary</u>

To retain means to keep or remember something. Hence, to retain a sin means not to forgive it.

he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head,

not with the *burial cloths* but rolled up in a separate place.

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.

For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord



Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week:

Even though you can't see him with your eyes, how do you "see" Jesus in others?

Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit and gave us the power to forgive sins. How do you offer forgiveness to your friends and family? How do you seek forgiveness for yourself?

When and how do you experience the "new birth" which we are given in Christ? When someone has forgiven you? When you have forgiven others? When you celebrate reconciliation? At other times?

Closing Prayer

- Lord, You have called us to be your disciples, to live in faith, walking always in your footsteps. By your suffering, death, and resurrection, you have made us children of God. As you have loved us and asked us to love one another, help us to love and embrace everyone in our lives.
- Fill us with love, compassion, forgiveness, patience, understanding, and tolerance, even when we face the pain of hatred, rejection, and failure.
- Guide us to be good disciples. May we seek always the praise and glory of God and the good of all people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.