

Second Sunday of Easter

E G Q R W T Y D R W
 C X T E H B E E R N
 A A E O K H T E K W
 E K M V T A G D Y N
 P A G A I N S I D E
 S R E N I E B G R T
 G R E F O M C P D P
 B D L S E V L E W T
 S I S O E H J A R N
 P P S L C N O Q R E
 I O E U I K C L W T
 R B L U M A E E Y T
 I Z P E D O N D R I
 T N I K B S B M E R
 P R C A N Q B P J W
 S I S G B O O K O U
 I A I B B Q A S I P
 D S D G V N J E C S
 E V E I L E B E E Y
 F O R G I V E N D O

BELIEVE
 BOOK
 BREATHED
 DISCIPLES
 FINGER
 FORGIVEN
 HOLY
 INSIDE

LOCKED
 NAILS
 PEACE
 PRESENCE
 RECEIVE
 REJOICED
 RETAINED
 SEEN

SIGNS
 SPIRIT
 THOMAS
 TWELVE
 WEEK
 WRITTEN

Catechizing Corner!

Thomas's scene is regarded by some scholars as the culminating scene of John's entire gospel. It brings closure and satisfaction. John began his gospel by stating the purpose for its writing: to proclaim Jesus, the incarnate Word of God. All the events of the gospel lead to this point. Thomas, upon seeing Jesus' wounds, acclaims him Lord and God. "Jesus is described as being of the essence of God at the outset of the Gospel, and then, fully twenty chapters later, one of his disciples comes to believe in him fully and affirms him loftily as 'my Lord and my God' The last phrase of this gospel is the summary of the purpose of the work: first that people may believe in him, and second that they may have life.

John strongly connects belief with eternal life. Yet the consequence of believing is itself of extreme importance for John; this consequence is that his readers have eternal life. The one purpose thus involves the other, for to have eternal life cannot be separated from believing.

Mary Birmingham, Word and Worship Workbook, Cycle C Paulist Press, 1998



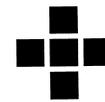
Holy Family Catholic Church
 South Pasadena, CA
www.holyfamily.org

Disciple's Reflection for the Question of the Week

Second Sunday of Easter 4/27/2025

A Call to Prayer

The Word of God John 20:19- 31



Faith Sharing Questions of the

Call to Prayer

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.

The Word of God John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Whose sins you **forgive** are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are **retained**."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them,

"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them.

Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their **midst** and said, "Peace be with you."

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me?"

Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.

But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord



Gospel Glossary

The Holy Spirit empowers the apostles to **forgive** sins. In the name of Jesus, they are given the power to forgive the bad things that someone has done.

To **retain** sins is the opposite of forgiving them.

Jesus came and stood in the **midst** of the apostles this means that he stood in the middle of them.

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week:

Choose one

Jesus said: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Give one example of how you will show your belief in Jesus this week - how you are being sent forth.

Thomas didn't believe because he hadn't seen Jesus with his own eyes. How hard is it for you to believe in God without being able to see God? How do you see God in the words and actions of others?

Jesus appeared to the women in the garden and the disciples in the closed room. How can you show Jesus to another person this week by how you act?

Closing Prayer

God of mercy, you wash away our sins in water, you give us new birth in the Spirit, and redeem us in the blood of Christ. As we celebrate Christ's resurrection increase our awareness of these blessings, and renew your gift of life within us. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Second Sunday of Easter