

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

19 April 2020



Readings for this week:

Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-311



Readings for next
Sunday

Acts 2:14, 22-33
1 Peter 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-355



Liturgical Jottings Baptismal Water

The Easter Vigil is the Great Night for Baptisms but due to the virus precautions baptisms and the RCIA have been postponed. The Blessing of Easter or Baptismal Water and the Font, if celebrated at all, were without the people participating.

The Old & New Testaments have many images of water. Water is a great physical symbol, carrying many spiritual meanings: washing away sin, dying and rising from the font, refreshment, life and power. Together with the words and the intentions of the Church the one baptised is reborn with sins forgiven, initiated into faith and community. During these times each baptism will have fresh water blessed each and every time.

Looking at the Readings

The themes for the second Sunday of Easter set the tone for the entire Easter season. They are all directed toward mystagogical instruction, primarily of the neophytes who were baptised during the Easter Vigil, but also of the whole Christian community. The readings for this season provide us an extended meditation on the resurrection and on our own incorporation into it through the mysteries of initiation. Most of us are 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. 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. So it has always been. 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. Although the blessings that we derive from the resurrection are clearly gifts from God, they are nonetheless costly gifts. They have been won through the blood of Christ, and we too may have to pay dearly for having received them. © Dianne Bergant CSA.

Good Idea for the Week

We expect cards at Christmas, but not at Easter. Letter drop your neighbourhood with a Resurrection card about Jesus' peace, love and forgiveness or an Anzac Card to others not of Christian faith, expressing hope, peace and mateship.

Pope Francis Easter Homily last year

Dear brothers and sisters: let us put the Living One at the centre of our lives. Let us ask for the grace not to be carried by the current, the sea of our problems; the grace not to run aground on the shoals of sin or crash on the reefs of discouragement and fear. Let us seek him in all things and above all things. With him, we will rise again.

On the Lighter Side

If I agreed with you we would both be wrong.
Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
When a teacher sends you out of the classroom you know you have won the argument.



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	Carmine Iorio, Concetta Di Giammatteo, Dennis Wood
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	
	Our sick and their carers	Cecilia Bannan



Keeping the Faith

Helping families stay connected

As Masses are restricted throughout the world, many parish and school communities are asking what they can do to keep their families connected to their faith.

CathFamily can help with our online resources which are available free of charge.

1: FREE Resource Database

CathFamily has a vast library of free resources for families, schools and parishes that celebrates Catholic culture. The free weekly eNews lists seasonal resources including downloadable prayers, feast day celebrations, recipes, craft, articles and links to other helpful resources.

Visitors can search and browse our thousands of posts or take advantage of our eNews to triage the most relevant content for the week.

[\[Go to CathFamily\]](#)

<https://cathfamily.org/>

2: Children's Sunday Liturgy @Home

CathKids is a weekly interactive experience designed for primary aged children that includes a short animated video on the Sunday reading, 'I wonder' questions, a craft activity and prayers. CathKids has a modest subscription fee but due to the situation with COVID19 we are offering this resource FREE for the next 3 months.

[\[Sign up FREE here\]](#)

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Firstly we would like to thank everyone who has continued with their planned giving program.

Planned giving, and our plate collections is the only income that our parish receives and it is how all the bills are paid. If we do not have a planned giving program then we cannot run the Church.

Although we are not celebrating Mass together there are still many bills to pay, electricity, gas, internet, telephone and household expenses such as food, etc.

If you do not contribute your planned giving via direct debit or credit card we hope that you will consider mailing a cheque made out to Sacred Heart Parish for your planned giving.

If you are not part of the planned giving program but would like to support your Church, please send a cheque, or alternatively you can deposit money straight into our bank account.

Please mail your cheque to

Sacred Heart Parish
PO Box 110,
Tatura VIC 3616

Or deposit it into the bank

Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish
BSB No: 083-543
Account No: 58775 2454
Ref: Your envelop number, or name

Thank you for your ongoing support of our wonderful parish and we pray that we can be celebrating Mass together very soon.

This week on the Journey (Ep 350)

This week on the Journey, Fr Mark De Bartista tells us that we too need to be like Thomas and touch the wounds of Jesus to draw the same strength of faith just as Thomas did. Plus, all your favourites and great music! And it doesn't stop there! Have a listen and let us know what you think!

Visit www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

The Journey is a weekly program developed by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong