

# NEWSLETTER

## Gospel Reflection

Saint Thomas' story in the Gospels provides us with a story of failure that mirrors a universal human response to the challenge of faith itself. Who hasn't been a "doubting Thomas" at some (perhaps many) stages in our own lives? It is the struggle of faith against the limitations of human reason, the struggle of faith against hopelessness, and the human failing to reject faith in favour of the limitation of our own experience.

Thomas, as it happens, has quite a life ahead in service to Christ. He travels the farthest, perhaps, of any of the disciples. Thomas ends up in India, where his conversion created a community of Christians that exist to this day.

The stories of all the saints are filled with these kinds of stumbles, failures, and doubts. The saints, starting with Peter and Thomas and working all the way to John XXIII and John Paul II, don't lecture us on perfection. The saints beckon us to become their brothers and sisters, and to take heart in their struggles as we deal with our own. They remind us of the enduring love of God and our status as ever-prodigious sons and daughters, with our Father waiting for us to find our way home so that He can include us in the eternal celebration of His love.



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"United in conviction and united in love, with a common purpose and a common mind"  
Philippians 2:2

### 28th APRIL 2019 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (CYCLE C) MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 27th April Red Box Appeal	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sunday 28th April Red Box Appeal	9:30am 11:00am <b>3:00pm</b>	Tony Kearns RIP Abundia & Dante Oliveros RIP 1st Anniversary Divine Mercy Mass – St Mary's Middlewich
Monday 29th April	9:30am	Special Intention Patricia Owens
Tuesday 30th April	9:30am	Kitty (Anni) Jack Insley and Cathy RIP
Wednesday 1st May	Noon	The victims of the Sri Lankan bombs
Thursday 2nd May	9:30am	William Gallagher RIP
Friday 3rd May		No service
Saturday 4th May	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sunday 5th May	9:30am 11:00am	Mary & William Clearie RIP Elizabeth RIP
Monday 6th May	9:30am	Winefride Cannon Anniversary RIP

**Joke:** Who was the fastest runner in the race? Adam. He was first in the human race. 😊

**Prisoner Outreach:** Please continue to bring in your loose change and leave the money in the bottle on the bookshelves in the porch and help to support this organisation.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to make preparations for your child to be Baptised you should telephone Fr Simon to arrange to see him after an 11am Mass on Sunday morning.

Following this there are Meetings on the first Friday of each month at 7:30pm. that you will need to attend, where you will meet Mrs Gerri Doherty and Deacon Tony Ford.

If Fr Simon is unobtainable and you urgently need a Priest please phone the parish mobile: **07548 222133** Please use this number for emergencies only i.e. where a priest is needed urgently.

**200 CLUB DRAW**

Winner: £40 Prize  
This week – Mr Brian Doherty

**WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB  
AND HELP THE PARISH?**

**FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH**

If you would like to make a donation for the flowers please add your name to the list in the porch and place your donation into the wall box.

**First Eucharists:** On Sunday 12th May and Sunday 19th May our school children will be receiving their First Eucharist. The 11:00am Masses are the most popular and on Sunday 19th it is likely that there will only be standing room available once the children and their families are seated.

**Coffee morning:** The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. There will be tea and coffee, cakes and biscuits, Bingo and a Bring and Buy Sale. Everyone is welcome.

**Divine Mercy Sunday:** On Sunday 28th April at St Mary’s in Middlewich there is a Divine Mercy Mass with Father Jim McGrath. The Mass starts at 3pm, confessions are at 2pm. See the poster in the porch for more information.

**Joke:** Did Eve ever have a date with Adam? Nope — just an apple.



**PARISH CENTRE BOOKING ENQUIRIES**

If you are interested in hiring the Parish Centre for a function, please contact Phil Martin on 07720 807162

**Prayer for our Parish:**

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish  
and grant us a new vision of your glory,  
a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word  
and a new consecration to your service,  
that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come,  
through Christ our Lord.

.....  
St Joseph pray for us

**Gospel Reading John 20 19-31**

Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house.



Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, “Peace to you.” Then he showed them his hands and side.

The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were exuberant. Jesus repeated his greeting: “Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you.”

Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. “Receive the Holy Spirit,” he said. “If you forgive someone’s sins, they’re gone for good. If you don’t forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?”

But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We saw the Master.” But he said, “Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won’t believe it.”

Eight days later, his disciples were again in the room. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came through the locked doors, stood among them, and said, “Peace to you.” Then he focused his attention on Thomas.

“Take your finger and examine my hands. Take your hand and stick it in my side. Don’t be unbelieving. Believe.”

Thomas said, “My Master! My God!” Jesus said,

“So, you believe because you’ve seen with your own eyes. Even better blessings are in store for those who believe without seeing.”



Jesus provided far more God-revealing signs than are written down in this book. These are written down so you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.

“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”  
St Francis of Assisi