

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.



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.

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

19th APRIL 2020 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 18th April		
Sunday 19th April Divine Mercy Sunday	10:30am	Live streamed via Facebook
Monday 20th April		
Tuesday 21st April		
Wednesday 22nd April		
Thursday 23rd April		
Friday 24th April		
Saturday 25th April		
Sunday 26th April	10:30am	Live streamed via Facebook
Monday 27th April		

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 Craig Quinn

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

Father Simon's birthday Sunday 19th April – many happy returns

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