



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish

Mass: 4:00 pm – Saturdays

Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei

(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

April 23, 2022

Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Meditation—Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday
 The Holy Gospel that the Liturgy presents to us on this second Sunday of Easter, is one of the most well known, discussed, and appreciated—the meeting of the Risen Lord with St Thomas. The Fathers of the Church have given us numerous insights into this Gospel text. Likewise, it has proven the inspiration to the numerous artists who have physically represented the events of this Gospel in order to give us a clear idea of what happened, ‘eight days after’ the first apparition of the Risen One, to the disciples congregated in the cenacle.

Jesus’ response to Thomas, after he recognized Him as ‘*My Lord and my God*’, has a mysterious fascination that must relate not so much to the disciples—those who ‘*have seen*’—but rather to those, like us, who were added to their number afterwards. ‘*You have come to believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.*’ (Jn 20:29)

The attention that these words evoke seems yet more paradoxical if we remember that the Lord had proposed, to the same author of the Gospel, what can be justly referred to as the Christian method, ‘*come and see*’ (Jn 1:39). How can we possibly reconcile these two phrases by Jesus that form the ideal setting for the whole of the fourth Gospel? Perhaps, in the end, the Lord decided to change His method? What do the words ‘*have not seen*’ really mean?

The timely recollection of the ‘eight days after,’ which is the Sunday after the Resurrection, permits us to tie our reflection to one of the most significant Eucharistic hymns composed by another Thomas, St Thomas Aquinas. In the Adore Te Devote, which refers to the Eucharist, we read: ‘Sight, touch, taste are all deceived in their judgement of you. But hearing suffices firmly to believe’. Combining these words with today’s Gospel we can justly affirm that the experience ‘to see’ was not denied to us, but it is in contrast with the Apostle Thomas’ physical experience, who was able to put his own finger into the holes in Christ’s hands and side, whilst we can only comprehend it in the faith which is guarded and transmitted by the Church, our Mother and Teacher.

That which we ‘have not seen’ is therefore the glorious Body of the Risen One. However, today we have the ability to ‘listen’ to the Word of God and the Magisterium of the Church and so we can ‘see’ the real Body of Christ which is the Eucharist. We can ‘see’ His Mystical Body which is the Church. We can ‘see’ Him in our lives and in the lives of our many brothers who, after meeting the Lord in a real but mysterious way, are united to Him in His Spirit!

Like Thomas, Christ calls us to fill the holes left by the instruments of the passion in His Body with our own hands so that our lives and the verbal witness that we give proclaim His Resurrection. Our senses could betray us, but we know that we have met the Risen One and we have recognized Him!

The certain hope that Peter, who betrayed the Lord three times for fear of death, proclaims to us with the words, ‘rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy’ (1 Peter 1:8), become fully comprehensible because blessed are they that ‘have not seen’ the Risen Lord, but seeing the joy of His disciples ‘have believed’ in Him!

—From the *Congregation for the Clergy*

**Collections:
 Good Friday:
 April 15, 2022**

Envelopes	\$115.00
Loose	\$10.00
	\$125.00

April 16, 2022

Envelopes	\$245.00
Loose	\$155.00
Initial Offering	\$5.00
	\$405.00

NOTICES:

1: Thank you: Thanks to everyone who made the fishcake supper a great success. We released a profit of 791.00 from the event, our best ever.

2: April 28: Spring Deadline for Bishop Power Foundation The late Bishop William Power recognized the importance of the laity in strengthening Christian faith in today's modern world. A family charitable foundation in his name continues to support: individuals in university Catholic Studies (full or part time) and non-profit groups that: a) empower the poor and/or b) develop the laity for their Christian role within the church and/or c) aid the missionary activity of the church Applications are accepted each spring and fall for consideration. The foundation typically distributes up to \$20,000 annually to successful applicants. Deadline is April 28 for consideration this spring. To apply or for more information: www.bishoppowerfoundation.ca

3: Bingo: Merchandise Bingo to be held on May 1st, 1:45 PM at the Tara Lynne Centre. River Bourgeois. Sponsored by the River Bourgeois Community Seniors Club.

4: The Johnstown Landing Artisan & Farmers Market:

Calling all vendors! Are you an artisan, bee keeper, farmer, baker etc..? Then we are looking for you! The Johnstown Community Development Co-operative Ltd. has developed its very own outdoor market space!

The location is directly across from the Johnstown Parish Hall located at 15290 Highway 4 in Johnstown. The outdoor market will run bi weekly starting Saturday June 4th ending the season on Saturday October 8th, 2022.

Vendors looking at participating in this outdoor market are responsible for bringing all materials required for your space ie. tents, tables, chairs, table cloths, etc.

Vendor spaces will be \$20.00 which can be e-transferred or paid in cash the day of the market. For more information, or a vendor application, please email johnstownlanding@gmail.com.

5: Notice: “ The Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine has been open for visitation throughout the winter. The gift shop will be open from 1:00 to 4:00 pm every day starting on Sunday, May 1. Hours for the gift shop will be extended as of June 1 to 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Shrine remains open daily for visitation.

Thank-you for your support and we look forward to seeing you again.

Inquiries: 902-945-2221”

6: Tentative Summer Schedule: more details will be provided closer to the event

- Sunday July 10 – Strawberry Festival and Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass – 2 pm
- Saturday July 30 – Eat-in/Take-out Supper – 4:45 pm
- Saturday August 13 – Cemetery Mass – Eat-in/Take-out Supper 4:00 pm
- Friday August 19 – Milling Frolic – 7 pm – 1 am
- Saturday August 20 – Music Royal Concert in the church - Aurore String Quartet – 7:30 pm
- Saturday September 6 – Eat-in/Take-out Supper: 4:45 pm