

# FAMILY PRAYER

## WEEK BY WEEK



### Second Sunday of Easter - Year A

19 April 2020

**“After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.”**

#### Something to Think About

Closed doors and locked-in fears are no barriers for Jesus. He enters our homes and hearts to bring us peace. Just as he did for the disciples, Jesus sends us out to build communities of love and forgiveness.

#### The Story

It was evening on the first day of the week and the disciples were together in a locked room – they were scared of what the leaders would do to them. Then Jesus appeared among them, but Thomas was missing. When the other disciples told Thomas that Jesus has been with them, he did not believe them and became known as ‘doubting Thomas’. Thomas refused to believe unless he saw Jesus for himself. A week later when the disciples, including Thomas, were together, Jesus appeared among them. Thomas saw Jesus and believed that he had risen.

#### The Scriptures

##### A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

20:19-29

The disciples were afraid and they locked themselves in a room. Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group. He greeted them and showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they became very happy. Jesus said to them, "I am sending you, just as the Father has sent me." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they will be forgiven. But if you don't forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven." Although Thomas the Twin was one of the twelve disciples, he was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them. So they told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But Thomas said, "First, I must see the nail scars in his hands and touch them with my finger. I must put my hand where the spear went into his side. I won't believe unless I do this!"

A week later the disciples were together again. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came in while the doors were still locked and stood in the middle of the group. He greeted his disciples and said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands! Put your hand into my side. Stop doubting and have faith!" Thomas replied, "You are my Lord and my God!" Jesus said, "Thomas, do you have faith because you have seen me? The people who have faith in me without seeing me are the ones who are really blessed!"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### Video

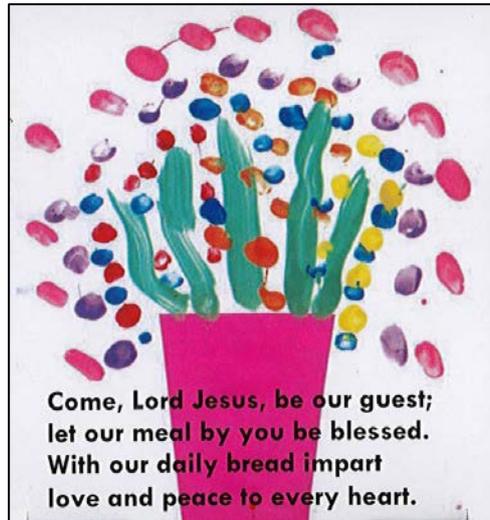
Click to watch the video:

[Jesus Appears to Thomas](#)



## THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

### Mealtime Prayer



### Family Discussion

What are some things you believe because you have seen them?

What are some things you believe without having seen them?

Faith asks us to believe things we cannot see for ourselves.

Take turns to talk about the people who have helped build your faith in Jesus.

### Family Activity

Write thank you letters to the people who have helped build your faith in Jesus e.g. parents, grandparents, godparents, sponsors, priests, teachers, friends.

Remember these people in your family prayer this week.





I didn't believe what Yuto told me  
about his holiday.  
He said he'd been to Disneyland.  
Could it really be true?  
Then he showed me his photos.  
**YES.** It was true!

**THOMAS DIDN'T BELIEVE  
THE OTHER APOSTLES  
WHEN THEY TOLD HIM  
THEY HAD SEEN JESUS.**

**BUT THEN, A WEEK  
LATER, HE TOO SAW  
JESUS AND THEN HE  
BELIEVED!**

**HE SAID: YES, YOU ARE  
MY LORD AND MY GOD!**



In this space, make a drawing with a white wax crayon.  
You can't see it. Now paint over it with water colour.