



ST. JOSEPH'S & ST. MARY'S



PARISH GAZETTE

The Archdiocese of Cardiff, Registered Charity no. 242380

Second Sunday of Eastertide (Divine Mercy Sunday) A

April 19th 2020

1st Reading: Acts 2: 42-47

Day after day the Lord added to the number of disciples those who were being saved.

Ps. 117; 2-4,13-15,22-24, r/V1

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
For his love has no end.*

2nd Reading: I Peter: 1: 3-9

By his great mercy, God the Father has given us a new birth into a living hope, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Acclamation: Jn: 20-29

Alleluia alleluia !

Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe"

Alleluia !

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The disciples received the wondrous gift of peace from the Lord Jesus when they were locked away in a state of fear.

You can view the full readings online at http://www.stjosephsandstmarys.com/mass_readings.html

THE EUCHARIST IN ACTION.

Although we are deprived of celebrating the Eucharist together at the moment, it is gratifying to know that so many are viewing Mass on-line from a variety of locations locally or around the world, and that they are most appreciative of the opportunity to do so. It isn't the same as being physically present of course, but it is perhaps the next best thing. As a priest, I am very conscious of the importance of the Eucharist as the centre of parish life and activity. This is why I am still celebrating Mass privately every day during the current closure of our churches. Through the celebration of daily Mass, it is Christ himself who breathes life into the parish and who is the beginning and the end of every parish endeavor. The priest, "in persona Christi" – in the person of Christ – facilitates the dynamic of parish life, and it is parish life that, in turn, gives birth to the different parish groupings and ministries, which produce life-long friendships and enduring community.

During the last four weeks of this Coronavirus Lockdown, I hear that so many parishioners of St. Joseph's and St. Mary's have been looking out for one another; some asking me if I know of anyone who needs help; others seeking out and providing that help where it is most needed. Many are just picking up the phone or using social media to establish that human contact which is so vital and so necessary. So although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist together, sacramentally, at this time, nonetheless we are showing that we are indeed a Eucharistic community by bringing the Eucharist TO LIFE in this way, during this period of crisis.

Monsignor Joe.

DOUBTING THOMAS...

When The Risen Lord appeared to the disciples, who were huddled together in the upper room that evening in today's gospel, one of their number, Thomas, was missing. When Thomas arrives he refuses to believe what he hears. History has rather unkindly labelled him as "doubting" Thomas. Doubting Thomas he might have been, but at least *his* was an honest doubt. It was not enough for the group to profess *their* faith on his behalf. He could not shelter in a faith which he could not make his own. He may have wanted to believe it, but that wish just could not struggle into faith. Thomas was searching for conviction. For him, his faith had to be authentic; it had to be his own, or else he could not handle it. Thomas was lucky that the Risen Lord was on hand to dispel his doubts, by allowing him to touch the wounds in his hands and side. By doing that, in front of chosen witnesses, Jesus used the doubts of Thomas to dispel any doubts his followers-to-come might have.

In these dark days which have enveloped Easter 2020, and in the days that lie ahead, we may need our faith more than ever, not least as a bannister rail to hold onto. But if like Thomas, our faith is rooted in conviction, then we will see the face of the Risen Lord, even behind the gloomy headlines and the complexities of current predictions. (Mgr)

RITA WILSON RIP

As reported last week, Rita died on 9th April. She had been resident in Hazelhurst Nursing Home Penarth. Her Funeral will take place at the Vale Crematorium on Wednesday 29th April at 3pm (subject to attendance restrictions imposed at the present time). **MAY SHE REST IN PEACE.**

St. Joseph's Church Wordsworth Avenue PENARTH CF64 2RL	Parish Priest: Monsignor Joseph Boardman Tel: 029 2070 8247 Permanent Deacon: Rev. Elfed Jones Tel: 07950 013224	St. Mary's Church Edith Road DINAS POWYS CF64 4AD
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PRIVATE MASSES

WEEK COMMENCING SATURDAY APRIL 18TH / SUNDAY APRIL 19TH 2020

Saturday	April 18th	Saturday of the Octave of Easter	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Priest's Intention
Sunday	April 19th	2nd Sunday of Eastertide (Divine Mercy Sunday) (A)	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Pat & Bill Jones (Diane) 671
2nd Week of Eastertide			
Monday	April 20th	St. Beuno, Abbot.	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Joy and Fred Stimpson (Pat) 624
Tuesday	April 21st	St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Priest's Intention.
Wednesday	April 22nd	Wednesday of Week 2 Easter.	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Anna Mahoney (Paul) 567
Thursday	April 23rd	St. George, Martyr. Patron of England.	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Sean Ballard & Paul Stanton (Kay and Tony) 663
Friday	April 24th	Friday of Week 2 Easter	
MASS IN PRIVATE			John and Nell O'Donovan (Anne & Chris) 676
Saturday	April 25th	St. Mark Evangelist (Feast)	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Priest's Intention
Sunday	April 26th	3rd Sunday of Eastertide (A)	
MASS IN PRIVATE			Priest's Intention.



THE YEAR OF GOD WHO SPEAKS

"The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again,

"Peace be with you. as the Father sent me, so am I sending you".

John 20: 19 (Second Sunday of Easter)

