



## The Gift of Doubts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**hen people tell me they have doubts about their faith, I usually tell them that doubts can be a good thing. "Reflect on your doubts," I say. So very often the doubts bring someone to deeper faith and understanding. When people say they're not sure they believe in God anymore, often what they mean is that they don't believe in a particular idea of God, like the bearded old man in the sky or a God who "allows" children to die of cancer and "permits" wars that slaughter people.

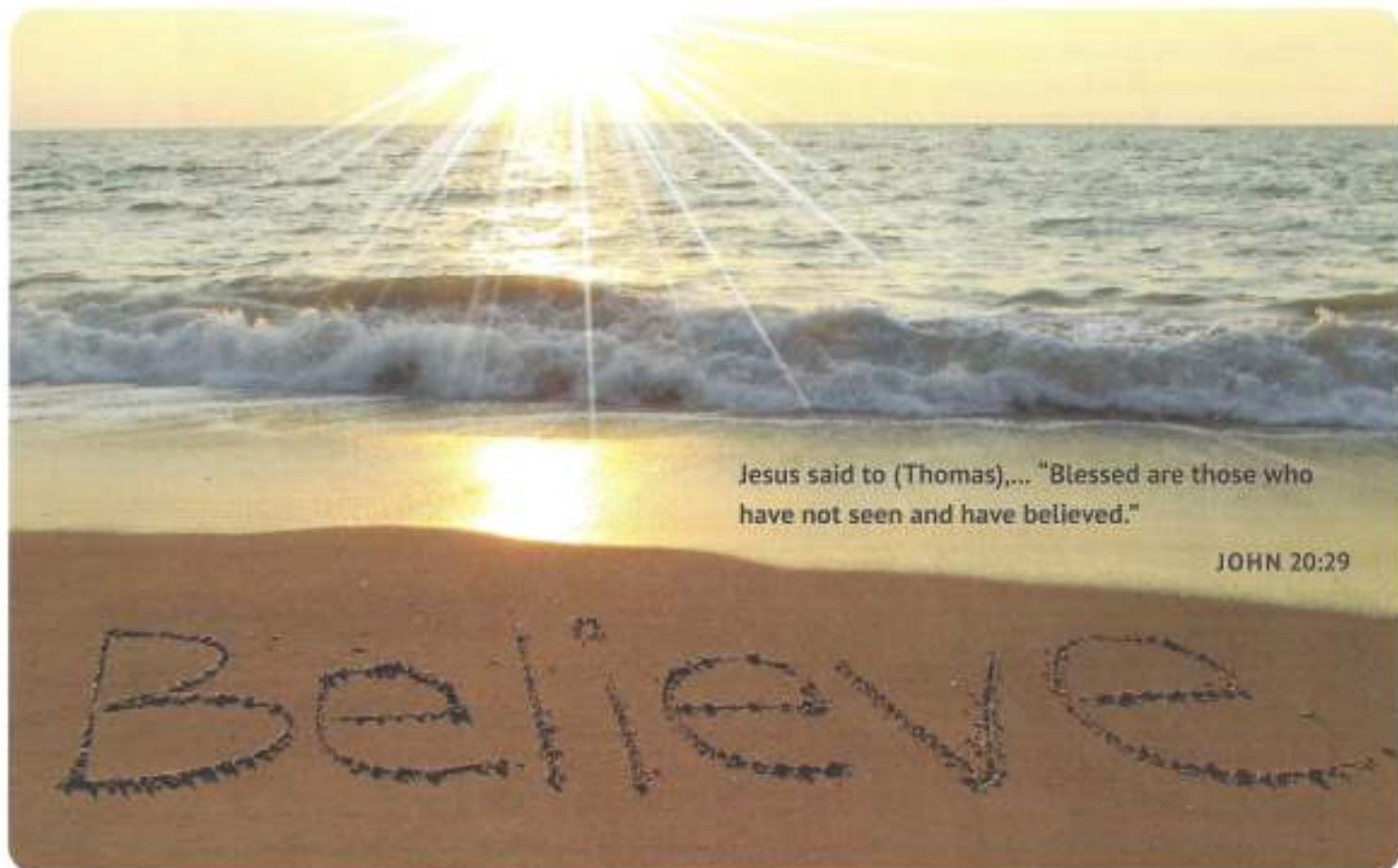
What such doubts ask us to do is to rethink our understanding of who God is. Tossing out our old idea of God does not mean there is no God. It simply means we had a faulty or immature notion of God. It may take some time to rethink who God is, but if we stay with it, do some reading, ask some questions, and pray over it, we

may come to a deeper and richer understanding of God. In short, because I don't understand how something can be does not mean that that something—or someone—is not true or real.

In this week's Gospel, Thomas, who was not with the community when Jesus appeared, later could not believe that the Jesus he had known was alive. He doubted. Yet when he was with the community the following week, he discovered that the risen Lord was indeed real but in an entirely new reality. It takes a community of faith to become a believer. ●

### Reflect

***How has your understanding of God changed over the years?***



Jesus said to (Thomas),... "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

JOHN 20:29



**Holy Trinity**



**St. Thomas More**



**St. Patrick**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
212 S. Main St. PO Box 159  
Cherry, IL 61317-0159  
Phone 815-894-2006  
Office Email  
HolyTSP@gmail.com

**Pastor of the Three Churches**  
Fr. Thaddeus Tran

**Main Office: Holy Trinity Rectory**  
Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger  
Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

St Thomas More Catholic Church  
302 Chestnut St.  
Dalzell, IL 61320  
Phone 815-663-6201  
Email  
thomasmore32@gmail.com

**Adoration Room at STM**  
Open Monday - Sunday  
Regular Hours  
9 am - 6 pm

**Peterstown Dates:**  
Sip n' Snack Fundraiser Sun May 7  
Men's Cursillo Weekend June 8-11  
Women's Cursillo Weekend June 22-25  
Contact Jim/Kathy Hosheid 815-228-2525

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
106 Church St.  
Arlington, IL 61312  
Phone 815-894-2006  
Mail: PO Box 159 Cherry IL 61317

**Website for the Three Churches**  
www.bureaucatholic.org  
and on Facebook at  
"Bureau Catholic Churches"

**Facebook for the Three Churches**  
Use Link on Home Page  
www.bureaucatholic.org

**Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164**



9:30 am - 10:30 am at Cherry Church Hall  
Sunday, April 16th - 5th thru 8th Grades  
Sunday, April 23rd - Last Class for K thru 4th Grades  
CCD email address is holytrinitycherry@gmail.com

**Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of April 17, 2023**

Monday	4/17			+ No Mass
Tuesday	4/18	9:00 am	STM	+ Sy Pyszka
Wednesday	4/19	5:30 pm	HT	+ Lois Marie Flaherty
Thursday	4/20	9:00 am	HT	+ Jerry Joiner
Friday	4/21	9:00 am	STM	+ Carol Bodnum

**Mass Intentions for the weekend of April 22-23, 2023**

Saturday	4/22	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ Dec. Mem. Lavern Eiten Family
Sunday	4/23	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	+ Rita Hoscheid
		10:30 am	St Patrick	+ Dec Mem. Mercogliano Family
		5:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ For the Parishioners



## A Recap of Divine Mercy Sunday



In the year 2000, at the canonization Mass for St. Faustina, Pope St. John Paul II announced that the Second Sunday of Easter would now be known as Divine Mercy Sunday. It must be made clear that this was not done in order to establish a way of honoring St. Faustina, but to emphasize the meaning of the Resurrection and the depths of God's great mercy and love that is made available to all of His creation. Divine Mercy Sunday is not a new feast day because the Second Sunday of Easter has always been a solemnity known as the Octave Day of Easter. The richness of the mercy of God comes to us not only through St. Faustina's revelations, but also through scripture and the history and tradition of the Catholic Church.

The following information on how to prepare for Divine Mercy Sunday was excerpted from Understanding Divine Mercy Sunday, by Dr. Robert Stackpole, STD.

1. Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter;
2. Sincerely repent of all our sins;
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus;
4. Go to Confession, preferably before that Sunday;
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast;
6. Venerate\* the Image of The Divine Mercy;
7. Be merciful to others, through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

\*To venerate a sacred image or statue simply means to perform some act or make some gesture of deep religious respect toward it because of the person whom it represents — in this case, our Most Merciful Savior.



The following members of our church have been granted the mandate to newly commission as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion exclusively for service for their respective parish. The additional newly commissioned ministers are:

HT - Susan Martin & Terry Templeton

STM - Mary Jo Brust & Mary Terese Deserf

According to church directive, Eucharistic Ministers of each church should be publicly commissioned in front of the congregation of their respective church.

## Thank you

Thank you to members of each church who helped with decorations for Holy Week and Easter celebrations. May God bless you for your dedication to the church.

WITH DEEPEST  
*Sympathy*

Remember in prayer, family and friends of

Dena Bussa - Holy Trinity

William "Bill" Kierczynski - Holy Trinity

## LATEST OFFERING'S

WEEKEND APR 9TH

HT - \$1,740.00

SP - \$1,146.00

STM - \$1,589.00

## Cemetery Clean Up

Please take a few minutes to remove your winter decorations from HT and SP Cemeteries. We will be mowing grass soon. Thank you for your cooperation!

## CONFESSIONS

THE NEXT CONFESSIONS

WILL BE SAT. APR 22ND

10:30 - 11:15 AM AT

ST PATRICK

IN THE CHAPEL



# Dear Padre,

***I am very curious why, after his resurrection, Jesus told Mary Magdalene not to touch him, but in the upper room, Thomas was encouraged to touch him.***

Saint John tells us of this incident between Mary and the risen Jesus. There are scholars who say that immediately after Jesus spoke to Mary he ascended to heaven. His encounter with Thomas, then, would be after the ascension, and the feast of the Ascension we celebrate forty days after Easter is simply a termination of Jesus' earthly appearances.

There is another explanation to consider, offered by other Scripture scholars. The word Jesus uses to tell Mary Magdalene not to touch him is more like "cling" to him. She cannot *cling* to her old relationship with Jesus. Since his resurrection, a new relationship is necessary. Mary was looking for the Jesus she knew before the passion, not the Jesus of the resurrection. She must now come to know the risen Jesus.

Mary could not cling to Jesus because she had to see him in a new way. For Thomas, the situation is different. Jesus invites Thomas to place his hand on the wounds to prove that he is "real"—that he is really a new kind of being, a resurrected being. Thomas, in his way, also wants to cling to what he thought he knew about Jesus. Both he and Mary Magdalene were close to Jesus, but even so, there were things they still did not understand. Jesus always has the ability to surprise us. ●



**The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org**

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about **Dear Padre**.

### MONDAY

April 17  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 4:23–31  
Jn 3:1–8

### TUESDAY

April 18  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 4:32–37  
Jn 3:7b–15

### WEDNESDAY

April 19  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 5:17–26  
Jn 3:16–21

### THURSDAY

April 20  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 5:27–33  
Jn 3:31–36

### FRIDAY

April 21  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 5:34–42  
Jn 6:1–15

### SATURDAY

April 22  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 6:1–7  
Jn 6:16–21

### SUNDAY

April 23  
Third Sunday  
of Easter  
Acts 2:14,  
22–28  
1 Pt 1:17–21  
Lk 24:13–35



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***Don't be afraid of doubts, because they are not a sign of the lack of faith....On the contrary, doubts are "vitamins of faith": they help strengthen faith and make it more robust. They enable faith to grow, to become more conscious, free and mature. They make it more eager to set out, to persevere with humility, day after day.***

MEETING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, ATHENS, DECEMBER 6, 2021