

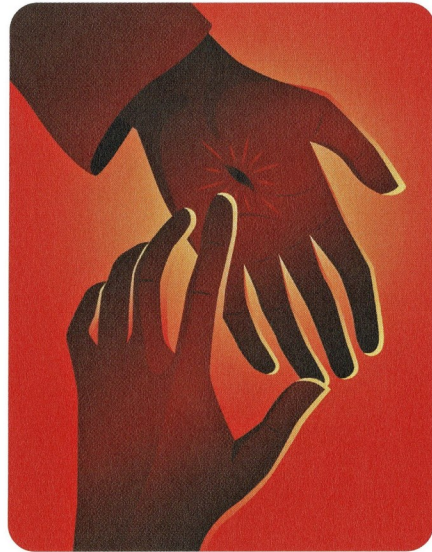
Dear Padre,

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. ●



ANDREW SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redeptorists / 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	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 17	April 18	April 19	April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:23-31	Acts 4:32-37	Acts 5:17-26	Acts 5:27-33	Acts 5:34-42	Acts 6:1-7	Acts 2:14, 22-28
Jn 3:1-8	Jn 3:7b-15	Jn 3:16-21	Jn 3:31-36	Jn 6:1-15	Jn 6:16-21	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



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 16, 2023

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy) (A)

Acts 2:42-47 / 1 Peter 1:3-9 / John 20:19-31



The Gift of Doubts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When 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.

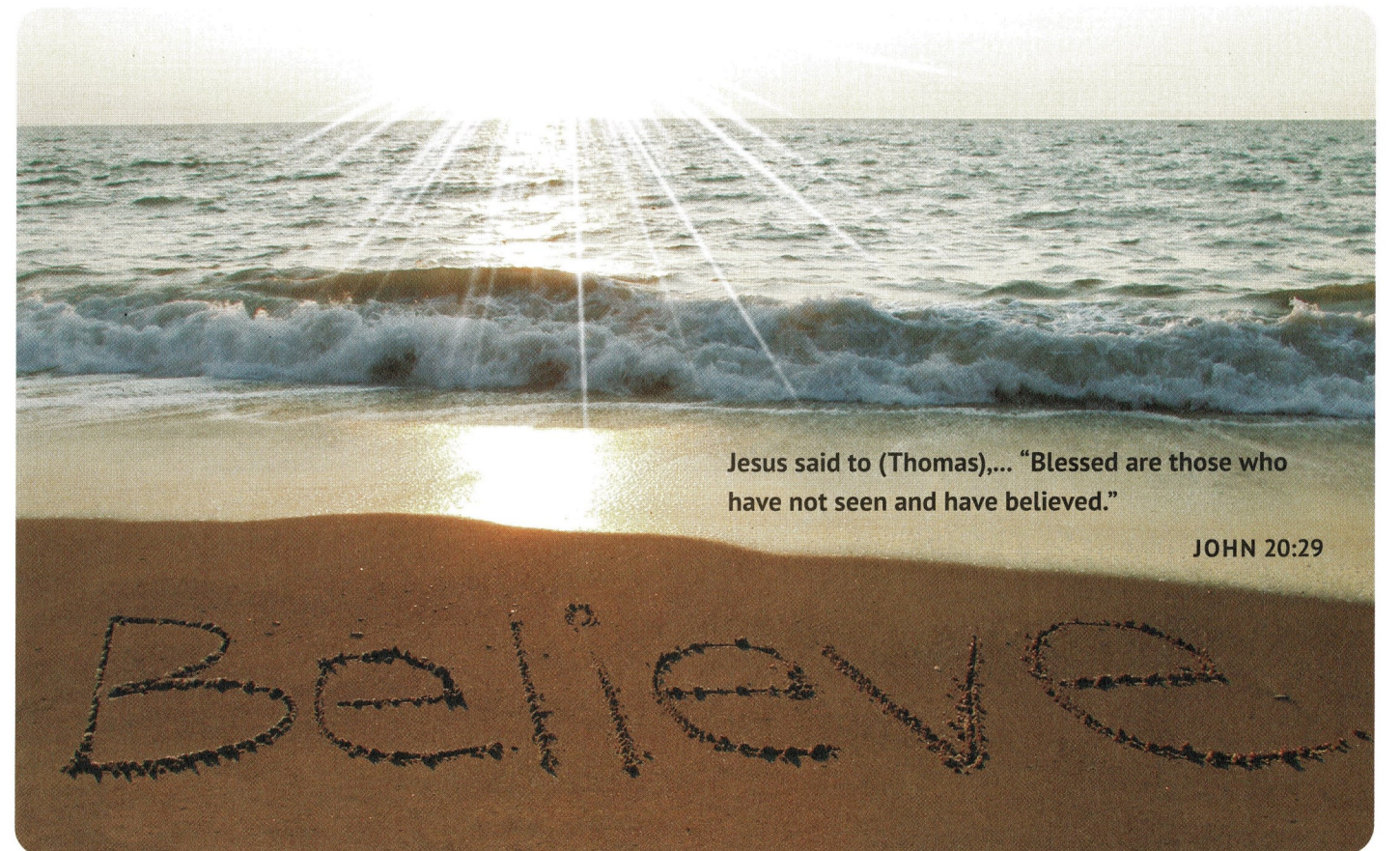
What such doubts ask us to do is to rethink our understanding of who God is. Tossing out our old idea of God does not mean there is no God. It simply means we had a faulty or immature notion of God. It may take some time to rethink who God is, but if we stay with it, do some reading, ask some questions,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

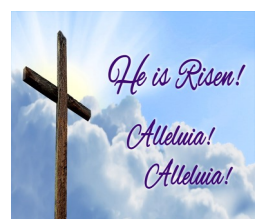
Reflect

How has your understanding of God changed over the years?



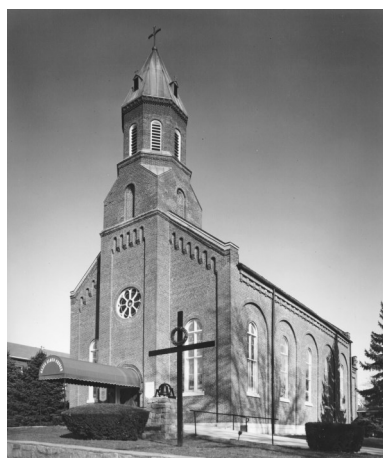
Jesus said to (Thomas),... "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

JOHN 20:29



St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street
Potosi, MO 63664



Weekly Mass Schedule

Mon	No Mass
Tues	8:00 AM
Wed	8:00 AM
Thurs	8:00 AM 6:00 PM
Fri	8:00 AM
Sat	8:00 AM 4:30 PM
Sun	8:00 AM 10:00 AM

***HOLY DAY SCHEDULE:**
Please check the Bulletin for Mass times.

E-MAIL:
stjameschurch@centurylink.net
WEBSITE:
www.stjamespotosi.org
FACEBOOK: St. James Catholic Church @stjamespotosi

Office Hours:
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Tuesday thru Thursday
Phone: 573-438-4686

Parish Hall or Parish School of Religion
Phone: 573-436-0144

Confessions:

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:10 PM
Thursday: 5:00 - 5:30 PM

Staff

Rev. Rodger Fleming—Pastor
rodgerfleming@archstl.org

Susan Broombaugh—Admin Asst
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

Maintenance:

Julie Wright: Coordinator of Religious Ed. (573) 436-0144/727-808-9273
stjamespsr@gmail.com

Laura Allen— Assistant Coordinator, Religious Ed.
573-436-0144/573-366-5235



MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF:
April 17, 2023



MON	8:00 AM	No Mass
TUE	8:00 AM	Bess Lalumondiere
WED	8:00 AM	Richard Dix
THU	8:00 AM	Hanna Mathis (Birthday)
THU	7:00 PM	Michael & Kate Moxely & Family
FRI	8:00 AM	Ruth Jarvis
SAT	8:00 AM	Alvina Coleman
SAT	8:00 PM	Parish Family
SUN	8:00 AM	Betty Matthews & Family
SUN	10:00 AM	Harold & Patsy Courtois

Week of: Easter, April 6-9, 2023

Envelope.....\$	345.00	Main & Repairs.....\$	20.00
Loose.....\$	563.00	On-Line donations.....\$	56.20
SVDP.....\$	878.11	Easter offering.....\$	4849.00
Votive Lights.....\$	47.16	Holy Land.....\$	529.00
Light House.....\$		Retired Priests.....\$	1069.00

Special Ministers April 22 & 23, 2023 3rd Sunday of EASTER

Saturday 4:30 pm Laura Allen	Lectors: Sunday 8:00 am Susan Broombaugh	Sunday 10:00 am Charlie Schloemer
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Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday 4:30 pm C: Vikki Neier L: Judy East R: Laura Allen	Sunday 8:00 am Don Thompson Jamie Thompson Julie Jost	Sunday 10:00 am Mary Roy Jamie Warden Nikki Warden
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Servers:

Sat. 4:30 p.m.	Volunteers please
Sun. 8:00 a.m.	Ava & Garryn West
Sun. 10:00 a.m.	Bruce Carter

Music:

Sat. 4:30 p.m.	Chala Short
Sun. 8:00 a.m.	Rebecca Richards
Sun. 10:00 a.m.	Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS.

Heavenly Duster: 04/21: Nedra Vilmer
Altar Linens: 04/17: Glenda Farrow

Sunday Reflection

If anyone was in need of mercy, it was Thomas. He wasn't present when the Risen Jesus revealed himself to the other apostles. Because he didn't see Jesus with his own eyes, he refused to believe.

Mass Offerings -

Masses can be said for the living also; birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Come by the office or write the name & any preferred date on paper, put in envelope with \$10 for each Mass & drop in drop box or put in the collection basket at Mass. If the chosen date is available, I will schedule for that date, if not I will schedule next available.

Calvary Cemetery:

Reminder to all: Mowing season is upon us.
St. James Calvary cemetery is sacred ground. Be respectful of our loved ones.
Cemetery rules only allow for **2 decorations per grave**
-No luminaries
-No shepherds hooks or hummingbird feeders
-No eternal flames; no votive lights or solar lights
-No benches
-No balloons
-or any other unsightly grave decorations
-And ABSOLUTELY NO Alcohol is Allowed on cemetery grounds.
Please be considerate to those who care for our cemetery as weed eating and mowing are very difficult with all the decorations. Be advised that decorations will be removed periodically. God Bless.

Word of Life

If you or someone you know has had an abortion, be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Additionally, other confidential, compassionate help is available. Select "Find Help" from the menu on www.hopeafterabortion.org to find the diocesan Project Rachel Ministry near you.
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Bridges of Mercy for Healing after Abortion" www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy

For those who have participated in an abortion and feel they have committed an unforgivable sin: May they come to know the Lord's limitless mercy, and turn to Him for forgiveness and healing; We pray to the Lord:

Upcoming Events

Apr 16: Divine Mercy Sunday
Apr 22/23: ACA weekend. Time to fill out our pledge cards!
Apr 23: PSR, 9:00 am, Parish Hall
Apr 26: Picnic mtg, 6:00 pm, Parish Hall
Apr 30: 1st Communion celebrated @ 10:00 mass
St. Annes (St. Joachim) Basket Bingo at the KC Hall, doors open at 12:00 noon, bingo starts @ 1:00 pm



Sunday of Divine Mercy April 16, 2023

"Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to our neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to absolve yourself from it." — Diary 742

- feed the hungry
- give drink to the thirsty
- clothe the naked
- shelter the homeless
- visit the sick
- visit the imprisoned
- bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy - The spiritual works of mercy are acts of compassion by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs.

- counsel the doubtful
- instruct the ignorant
- admonish sinners
- comfort the afflicted
- forgive offenses
- bear wrongs patiently
- pray for the living and the dead

Corporal Works of Mercy - The corporal works of mercy are kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs.

*****FORMED*****

Formed this week!
Living Easter as a Season: What do we do after the resurrection? Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Ben Akers as they discuss Eastertide!

Ocean of Mercy: At the dawn of the twentieth century, three voices rose up from Poland to proclaim an urgent message, a message powerful enough to alter the course of an age plunging into spiritual darkness. This true story examines and chronicles the phenomenal lives and spiritual legacy of St. Faustina Kowalska, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. John Paul II, modern day "Apostles of Mercy."

Divine Mercy with Fr. Michael Gaitley: 1 Season—Renowned speaker & author Fr. Michael Gaitley tells the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St. Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, & the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II. Featuring the brilliant cinematic artistry of the Augustine Institute's film studio, the vast panorama of God's work of mercy in the world unfolds as a story to be experienced.
Divine Mercy Trailer: God's School of Trust/Divine Mercy/Episode 1

To sign up for "Formed",
Go to: <https://signup.formed.org/>
Enter our parish's zip code
Enter your name and your email address. That's it, you're in.

Dynamic Catholic Alive! Mercy

In the Gospel, Jesus institutes the Sacrament of Reconciliation, authorizing the Apostles to forgive sins in the name of Jesus. It is no coincidence that Jesus says, "Peace be with you" more than one time to them as he greets them. When was the last time you went to the Sacrament of Reconciliation? What beautiful peace in our hearts is found in this sacrament! Through the priest, Jesus forgives us of our sins when we are truly contrite. We receive sanctifying grace and actual graces that will help us to overcome sin in the future. Although sometimes we may still be restless and doubt God's forgiveness, we must remember the words of Christ to St. Faustina: "I am love and Mercy Itself. There is no misery that could be a match for My mercy, neither will misery exhaust it, because as it is being granted – it increases. The soul that trusts in My mercy is most fortunate, because I Myself take care of it." God's mercy is always greater than our sins. Let us approach the throne of grace and mercy, trusting in the goodness of the Lord.

Picnic news: Our next mtg is scheduled for **April 26th, 6:00 pm in the parish hall.** Save the date - **Sunday, September 17th.** Ideas: outside music, grand Raffle, "Bottle" Booth, Face Painting, Bounce houses, silent auction, pull tabs, "game of chance", hot dog stand, BINGO, Corn hole tournament, Country Store w/ handmade gifts & arts/crafts, homemade food items (items that can be gifted; say for Christmas or birthdays!), beer & wine booth, 50/50 drawing and of course, our chicken and pork steak dinner. **Whatcha think everyone.....sounds like lots of fun, right?!** So, come on out and give us some more ideas at the next meeting, **4/26!!!!**

World Day of Prayer for Vocations - April 30th.

World Day of Prayer will be observed on Sunday, April 30, 2023 also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "**Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest**" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). This year marks the 60th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on April 30, 2023. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests in your prayers throughout the week.
- Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

Collection for Retired Priests

There's still time to give in this year's Retired Priests Collection. Your donation will support the priests who have given their lives in service and inspired a vibrant future here in our Archdiocese. Your support helps assure our priests receive the essential care they need, including physician services, hospitalization, nursing home care, vision care and disability, now and for years to come.

You can make your gift through the designated envelope, or any envelope marked Retired Priests, on or after Easter weekend. You can also text-to-give through April 20 by texting "4PRIESTS" to 314-648-8456. Online gifts are welcome year-round at archstl.org/retiredpriests

Have you encountered God in your own life? Won't you share your "God Encounter"? Your encounter may be exactly what someone else needs to hear. Send your stories to: stjameschurch@centurylink.net. If you want to remain unnamed, we can do that. Let's just start sharing our stories. How are people going to know if we don't share!!!!

ACA 2023

It's that time of year again. Our 1st ACA weekend will be Sunday, April 22 & 23. Please come visit Mr. Jim Politte to complete your pledge cards. We need everyone to complete the cards even if you are unable to donate. Thank you so, so much for your continued support and generosity. We are so very Blessed here at St. James!

St. James PSR NEWS

Family Catechesis Helping Build Faithful Families!

Next Class will be APRIL 23RD Unit 7 is due.
First Communion is approaching fast: April 30th @ the 10:00 am Mass!
May 14th; May Crowning/Mother's Day, All are to attend Mass

Join our Facebook page for all the latest and greatest information.

