St. John XXIII Parish

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PARISH BULLETIN | 2nd SUNDAY of EASTER | 16 April 2023



SJXXIII Parish Bulletin

2^{nd} SUNDAY of EASTER



Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God." Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Thomas, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe!" John 20:28-29

Every day, this week, in every Eucharistic Celebration, we emphatically proclaimed our Faith in the Risen Lord with the Words of the Gospel Acclamation; "*This is the Day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.*" Indeed, Easter is the Day, that the whole of Creation looked forward to after the Sin of Adam and Eve, and having been rescued by the Second Adam, Creation looks back to, as it speeds towards its final glorification. Today, with this Sunday Celebration, we mark the 8th Day, in the celebration of this great day of Our Lord's Resurrection.

This Sunday, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, the Church encourages us to meditate more on the Motivation of God; the motivation that made Him as you say in English "to go that extra mile," in pursuit of us, human beings!

The Church calls this Sunday "Divine Mercy Sunday," declared thus, by St. John Paul II on the 30th of April 2000, during the Canonization of St Faustina Kowalska! (Homily of JJII August 18, 02)

Both St. Faustina and St. John Paul II are referred to, in the Church as Apostles of Divine Mercy. For they called the Church's Attention to the Truth of God's Mercy based on His Love! Let it be known, however, that it was not St. Faustina or St. John Paul II who first taught, Divine Mercy, to humanity. The Bible is the Testimony to God's Mercy.

In these past days, we witnessed God's Mercy reach its Climax! On the Wood of the Cross, we witnessed the most profound bowing of the Divine toward humanity. Jesus, the Lamb of God became "the Grain of Wheat," that died so that we, human beings could receive the <u>"Fullness of Life in God.</u>" God, the Father confirmed the effectiveness of Christ's Sacrifice with His Son's Resurrection.

Every Disciple is called to Faith in the Resurrection of Christ. This Faith is the essence of Our Salvation. John the Evangelist underlines this in the Gospel Reading of today, warning us against the Sin of unbelief.

Thomas, the Apostle, surrounded by peace and joy; fruits of Easter Faith, was still in the darkness of unbelief. His fellow disciples attempted to share their **Easter Faith** with him, repeating the confession of Mary Magdalene: *"We have seen the Lord."* Thomas was not prepared to believe, unless the Risen Lord met his conditions; *"Unless I See the marks of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the marks of the nails and place my hand in his Side, I will not Believe."*

Surprisingly, the Risen Lord complied and fulfilled the conditions of Thomas;

"Thomas put your finger here and see my hands!" "Reach out your hand and put it in my side!" "Do not doubt, but believe!"

Thomas crashed by the generosity of his Master, responded with Greatest Proclamation of Faith in St. John's Gospel.; <u>"My Lord and My God!"</u>

What followed has been a consolation to every Believer in Christ in every generation; an uplifting beyond any measure;

"Thomas, have you believed because you have seen me, <u>Blessed are those who have not</u> <u>seen and yet believe!"</u>



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- Compendium - Catechism of the Catholic Church-

111. How did the messianic entrance into Jerusalem come about? 557-560; 569-570

I. At the established time Jesus chose to go up to Jerusalem to suffer his passion and death, and to rise from the dead. As the Messiah King who shows forth the coming of the Kingdom, he entered into his city mounted on a donkey. He was acclaimed by the little children whose shout of joyful praise is taken up in the *Sanctus* of the Eucharistic liturgy: "Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! *Hosanna* (save us!)" (Matthew 21:9). The liturgy of the Church opens Holy Week by celebrating this entry into Jerusalem.

"Jesus Christ suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died, and was buried."

112. What is the importance of the Paschal Mystery of Jesus? 571-573

The Paschal Mystery of Jesus, which comprises his passion, death, resurrection, and glorification, stands at the center of the Christian faith because God's saving plan was accomplished once for all by the redemptive death of his Son Jesus Christ.

113. What were the accusations by which Jesus was condemned to death? 574-576

Some of the leaders of Israel accused Jesus of acting against the law, the temple in Jerusalem, and in particular against faith in the one God because he proclaimed himself to be the Son of God. For this reason, they handed him over to Pilate so that he might condemn him to death.

117. Who is responsible for the death of Jesus? 595-598

The passion and death of Jesus cannot be imputed indiscriminately either to all the Jews that were living at that time or to their descendants. Every single sinner, that is, every human being is really the cause and the instrument of the sufferings of the Redeemer; and the greater blame in this respect falls on those above all who are Christians and who the more often fall into sin or delight in their vices.

118. Why was the death of Jesus part of God's plan? 599-605; 619 To reconcile to himself all who were destined to die because of sin God took the loving initiative of sending his Son that

MASS INTENTIONS

Apr 15 – Saturday, 8:00PM <u>Vigil Mass</u> + Isagani A.	
Apr 16 – Sunday 9:00 AM + Willie A. Sr.	
10:00 AM First Holy Communion Mass	
12:15 PM + Sebastian M.	
5:30 PM The Parishioners	
Apr 17– Monday, 7 PM	Intention of Sagar D.
Apr 18 – Tuesday, 7 PM	Intention of John C.
Apr 19 – Wednesday, 7PM +Jose L.	
Apr 20 – Thursday, 7PM	Parishioners
Apr 21 – Friday, 2PM	+ Alberto P.
Apr 22 – Saturday, 9AM	Thanksgiving of Gemma &
Jorgen C.	

he might give himself up for sinners. Proclaimed in the Old Testament, especially as the sacrifice of the Suffering Servant, the death of Jesus came about "in accordance with the Scriptures".

119. In what way did Christ offer himself to the Father? 609-609; 620

The entire life of Christ was a free offering to the Father to carry out his plan of salvation. He gave "his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45) and in this way he reconciled all of humanity with God. His suffering and death showed how his humanity was the free and perfect instrument of that divine love which desires the salvation of all people.

120. How is Jesus' offering expressed at the Last Supper? 610-611; 621

At the Last Supper with his apostles on the eve of his passion Jesus anticipated, that is, both symbolized his free self-offering and made it really present: "This is my Body which is given for you" (Luke 22:19), "This is my Blood which is poured out..." (Matthew 26:28) Thus he both instituted the Eucharist as the "memorial" (1 Corinthians 11:25) of his sacrifice and instituted his apostles as priests of the new covenant.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention – April 2023 For a culture of peace and non-violence "We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens."

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PARISH DEVOTIONS

-every Saturday before the 9am Mass

-Every 1st Friday at 6:00pm communal

Parish Ministries & Programs

Eucharistic Extraordinary Ministers

Lectors-Proclaimers of God's words

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

-Everyday – personal in the chapel

Altar Servers & Sacristans

Intercessory Prayer Group

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

If you are interested to join, please email us at stjohn23do@archtoronto.org and we will

direct you to the person leading these groups. What unites us, is much greater than what

Shrine Apostolate Icon of Our Lady

Catholic Women's League

Recitation of the Holy Rosary

-before the Mass

Ushers



The Humor, Quotes and Love of John XXIII "O Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, I would like to be filled with love for You; keep me closely united with You, may my heart be near to Yours. I want to be

to You like the apostle John O Mary of the Rosary, keep me recollected when I say these prayers of yours; bind me forever, with your rosary, to Jesus of the Blessed Sacrament. Blessed be Jesus, my love..." *To be continued*

St. Anselm, April 21

Born in 1033, Anselm was motivated to enter the monastery of Bec in Normandy due to the reputation of the great teacher, Lanfranc. Anselm became a monk at the age of 27, and a student and close friend of Lanfranc, eventually succeeding him as prior and abbot of Bec.

After the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, William I replaced the English hierarchy with Normans, and Lanfranc was sent as archbishop of Canterbury. Three years after Lanfranc's death Anselm was in England (1093) and was forcibly made archbishop. Neither an administrator nor a politician by nature, he persevered nonetheless. Through his encouragement of English devotions, he helped heal the wounds of the Conquest on the English.

Anselm's fame lies in his role as theologian and philosopher. His argument for the existence of God still holds strong appeal. In his concern for the oppressed, he was one of the first opponents of the slave trade.

Anselm died in 1109. Never formally canonized, he was made a Doctor of the Church in 1720.

Living with Christ, April 2023 edition

divides us." St. John XXIII "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his DO YOU KNOW ...? hands, and put my finger in the mark of 1. When is the 8th day of the Octave of Easter? the nails in his side. I will not believe? 2. The second Sunday of Easter is also called 7. What was the greeting of Jesus when he 3. During the season of Easter, in what book the first reading came and stood among the apostles? is taken? 8. After the Easter season, what feast will 4. Peter in the second reading said that the great Mercy of be celebrated? God the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ through the 9. What is the color of the priest's chasuble Resurrection of Jesus has given us what? during the Easter season? 5. Paul said that our faith is useless if this did not happen? 10. What is the response when the priest 6. Who was the Apostle in the Gospel this Sunday who said said "The Lord be with you".?

Answer on April 2nd trivia: 1. Palm Sunday; 2. Th 1st reading was from Isaiah; 3. Psalm22; 4. Jesus; 6. Prophet Jeremiah; 7. Pilate; 8. Three days of season that concludes Lent and introduces Easter. Starts on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil.; 9. INRI means in English- Jesus King of the Jews; 10. Jesus died on the Cross to reconcile us to the Father and it is God 's saving plan.; 11. The Paschal Mystery of Jesus, which comprises his passion, death, resurrection, and glorification, stands at the center of the

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