

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021  
Doubting Thomas



### Gather Together...

Take time together as a family, find a quiet space, perhaps play some music, light a candle and sit comfortably.

Make the Sign of the Cross

### Listen Together...

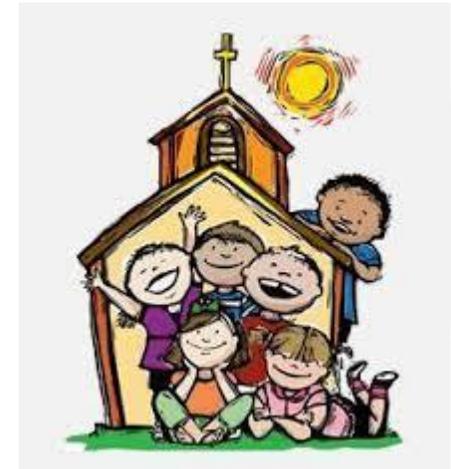
Listen to this week's scripture, from the Gospel according to Matthew...

On the Sunday after Jesus had died, his disciples sat huddled together in a locked room, hidden away for fear of being arrested. Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the room with them. 'Peace be with you,' he said and he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. His disciples were overjoyed to see him again. 'As my Father sent me, so I am sending you,' he said. Then, breathing on them he said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit and know that whoever you forgive I will forgive also.'

The disciple Thomas was not with them all when Jesus had appeared and because he had not seen Jesus with his own eyes he did not believe that Jesus was alive.

A week later Jesus appeared to them again and greeted them with the words, 'Peace be with you.' He showed his wounds to Thomas and said, 'Doubt no longer Thomas.' At once Thomas fell to his knees and cried, 'My Lord and My God.'

Jesus said to him, 'You believe because you have seen me with your own eyes. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.'



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Respond Together...

- When Jesus first appeared to the disciples in the locked room, who wasn't there?
- What did Jesus do when he appeared? He shared the gift of peace and he gave them the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Did Thomas believe the other disciples when they told him Jesus had risen from the dead?
- When Jesus appeared again and Thomas saw him, he showed Thomas his wounds. Jesus knew that many people like Thomas would hear the story of the resurrection and be filled with doubt.
- We cannot see Jesus but we believe that his is really there in Mass when the bread and the wine become Jesus' body and blood.

Pray Together... Today we pray for those who cannot believe without seeing. Increase their faith and help them to recognise you in the people they meet everyday. Amen.

