



'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and
yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Thomas was granted the gift of seeing the Risen Lord bearing the wounds of His crucifixion. Thomas was invited to touch them. Responding, he simply cries out: 'My Lord and my God.'

Thomas does not declare his belief in the Resurrection as such. That was all too apparent. Rather, he declares his faith in the *identity* of the risen Jesus Christ: 'My Lord and my God.'

Pope Francis says we can *only* join Thomas in this faith by touching the wounds of Christ. Those wounds are to be found in the body of someone wounded. This can be in a myriad of ways.

We have to bend down and touch those wounds in whatever means of healing is available to us. Otherwise we simply engage in philanthropy at a distance. We end up believing in a semblance of God, but not God embodied in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ always bearing his wounds.

Sometimes we struggle with our faith – after all, it is an astounding claim that Jesus of Nazareth is God embodied for us. You, or any other person intrigued by Jesus, are invited to touch the wounds of Christ and let the patience of God take care of the timing of the response of faith.

We could pause for a moment, praying to be counted amongst those who receive the Blessing promised to those who have not seen the Risen Lord as such, but who touch his wounds and proclaim, 'My Lord and my God.'

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The Living Word

Second Sunday of Easter, Year A

16 April 2023

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

*(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.*

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 1:3-9

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

*Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you
have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me,
but still believe!
Alleluia!*

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'



ST ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH CLOVELLY

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Parish Office: (02) 9665 2711 Email: parish@stanthonyclovelly.org.au
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CLERGY: Parish Priest: Fr Laurie Cauchi

PARISH OFFICE: 7 Fewings St, Clovelly NSW 2031
(Open Mon & Fri only, 9 AM—4 PM).

PARISH SECRETARY: Louise Jones

SUNDAY MASS Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm, Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am.
WEEKDAY MASS Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 9.00 am.
BAPTISMS 4th Sunday of the month only. Meeting with Fr Laurie required **BEFORE** Baptism can proceed.
Please contact the Parish Office to discuss.

MARRIAGES By appointment (six months' notice).

RECONCILIATION Half an hour before weekend Masses or by appointment.

RCIA PROGRAM Enquiring to become a Catholic? Contact the parish office.

Second Sunday of Easter

Divine Mercy Sunday

16 April 2023



Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

Christ is alive, he is in our midst, and he invites us all to a new life with him. The celebration of Easter is the most important feast of the ecclesiastical year.

Am I a shining light for others?



Thank you to all who helped contribute to the beautiful Easter liturgies that we celebrated.

They were beautiful and prayerful and allowed us to enter into the spirit of Easter as we journeyed with Christ to Calvary and then the Resurrection.

Entrance Antiphon: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.
Communion Antiphon: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

FIRST RECONCILIATION:

Baptised children, in Year 4 or above, will be eligible to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in June, after **proper preparation**. Later in the year they will be able to receive 1st Holy Communion. An important meeting for parents/carers will be held on **Wednesday 10 May at 6.30 pm in our School Library**. It is expected that you attend this meeting if you wish your child to receive these Sacraments this year. Any further clarification, please contact Linda Heavener (linda.heavener@gmail.com).

EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES are available at the Church Entrances. Your donation will help support our Priests. **Thank You**

Project Compassion Boxes/Envelopes: Please return your boxes ASAP.

Become a Catechist in 2023! Our catechists teach around 100 children at Clovelly Public school, but we need at least one more catechist to cover all the classes. Lessons are held on Tuesday mornings, and lesson plans are provided for each week. Some basic training is required, and you must get a Working With Children Check. If you are at all interested, please speak to **Fr Laurie**, or contact **Joanne Russell** 0467 023 962 or email the parish office.

*Jesus believes all sinners have a future not just a past.
That's why He died for us.
Do we allow others to have a future?*

Please remember in your prayers:

Recently deceased: Henry Moloney, Fr John Keeble

Anniversary: Jacqui Van Cauwelaert

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.