

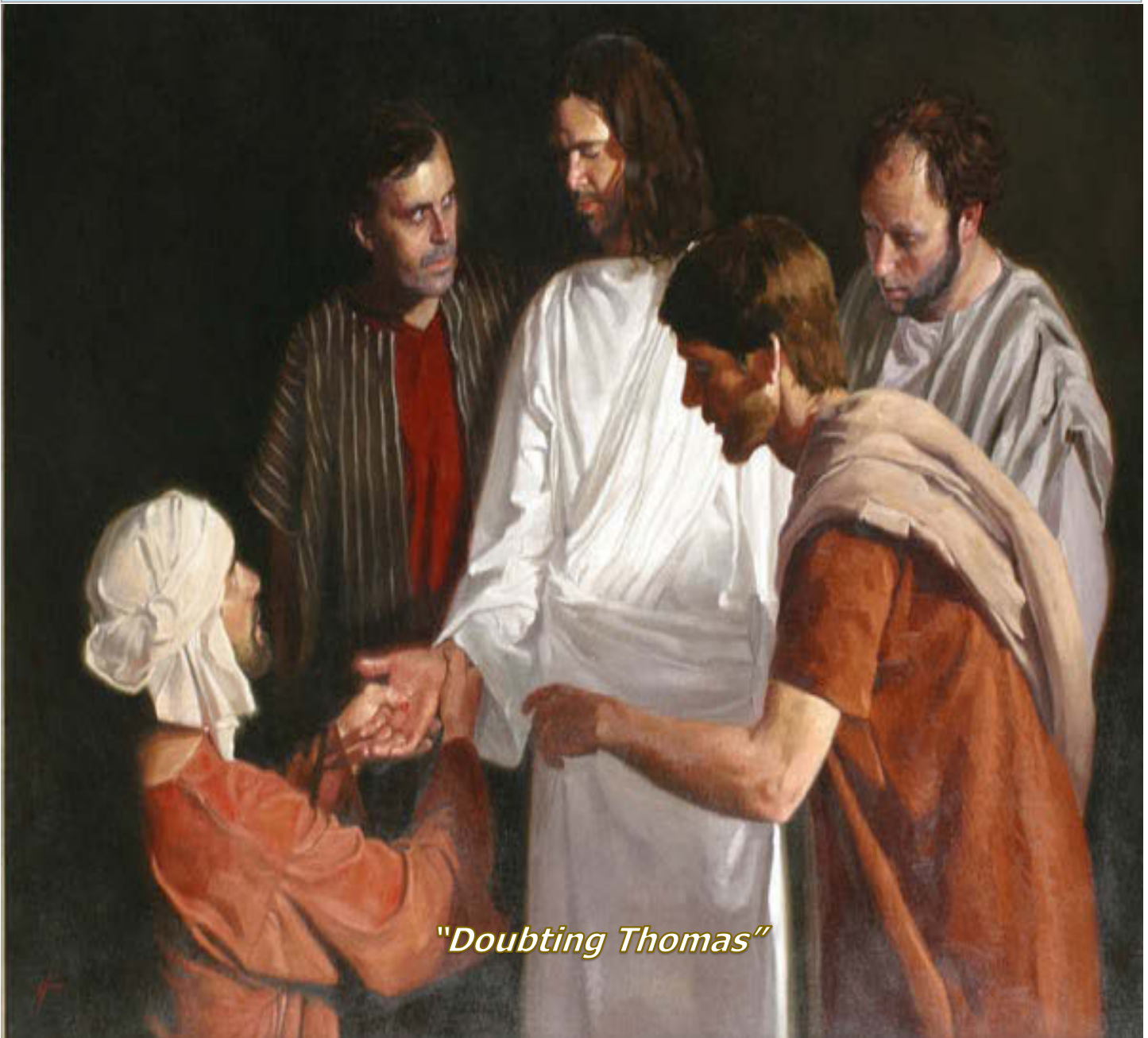


IMMACULATE HEART OF *MARY*

— Parish Mission + Mision Parroquial —

*With Mary, we seek to know Christ better and to make him better known through our words and actions.
Con María, deseamos conocer mejor a Cristo y darlo a conocer por medio de nuestras acciones y palabras.*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY — APRIL 11, 2021



"Doubting Thomas"

500 Fairview Avenue • Brentwood, CA 94513 • (925) 634-4154 • FAX (925) 516-9340

Website: www.ihmbrentwood.com — E-Mail: ihmchurch@ihmbrentwood.com

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland

The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ

+

Parish Office: (925) 634-4154

Mon-Fri Office Hours: 9 AM - 3 PM

+

Office Staff

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Sr. **Maria Teresa Rodríguez**, MSS

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Deacon **Leland DeFrates**

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Deacon **Ron Horan** (Retired)

Transitional Deacon

Deacon **Candelario Jimenez**

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Priests

Fr. **Arturo Bazan**, Parochial Vicar

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Fr. **Quang Dong**, Pastor

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Pastoral Council Chair

George Verret

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The Pastor's Page/Página del Pastor

Dear families of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

The desire to be able to prove the existence of a divinity has troubled humanity since human consciousness first became aware of the divine. To this very day we are fond of saying that any number of things—from sunsets to hot fudge sundaes—are “proof that there is a God.” We get so caught up in the story of **“doubting Thomas”** that we fail to notice that today’s Gospel gives us John’s account of Pentecost, the bestowing of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples following the Resurrection. Thomas, evidently, missed out not only on seeing the Risen Christ, but receiving the Holy Spirit as well. This is not to be taken lightly and, perhaps, makes Thomas’ disbelief a bit easier to comprehend. It also makes his professing that Jesus is his Lord and God—the only time the New Testament explicitly refers to Jesus Christ as “God”—more remarkable.

But what about our belief. Are we like Thomas, we must see before we believe or is our faith strong enough to believe the unseen. We are tested often and it is with the grace we are given through the sacraments that we are able to believe. Now that we are able to return to Mass in person come to the Lord’s table and give thanks for all we have and all He is as the Son of God.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us,
Fr. Quang

+++++

Queridas familias del Inmaculado Corazon de Maria,

El deseo de ser capaz de demostrar la existencia de una divinidad tiene a la humanidad con problemas desde que por primera vez se hizo consciente de lo divino. Hasta el día de hoy nos gusta decir que un sinnúmero de cosas, desde puestas de sol hasta los helados de crema de chocolate, son “pruebas de que hay Dios”. Estamos tan atrapados en la historia de **“Tomás el incrédulo”** que no nos damos cuenta de que el Evangelio de hoy nos ofrece el relato de Juan acerca de Pentecostés, el descenso del Espíritu Santo sobre los discípulos después de la Resurrección. Tomás, evidentemente, se perdió no solo de ver a Cristo resucitado, sino también de recibir el Espíritu Santo. Esto no se debe tomar a la ligera y, quizás, hace que la incredulidad de Tomás sea un poco más fácil de comprender. También hace que su profesión de fe en que Jesús es su Señor y su Dios —la única vez que en el Nuevo Testamento hay una referencia explícita a Jesucristo como “Dios”— sea más notable.

Pero qué pasa con nuestra creencia. Somos como Tomás, debemos ver antes de creer o nuestra fe es lo suficientemente fuerte como para creer en lo que no se ve. Somos probados a menudo y es con la gracia que se nos da a través de los sacramentos que somos capaces de creer. Ahora que somos capaces de volver a la misa en persona vengan a la mesa del Señor y den gracias por todo lo que tenemos y por todo lo que El es como Hijo de Dios.

Inmaculado Corazon de Maria ruega por nosotros,
Padre Quang

Weekday Masses/Misas Diarias

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00AM (English) - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:00AM (Bilingual)

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00PM (English)

Sunday Mass/Domingo Misa

7:30am (English) -9:00AM (English) - 10:45AM (Español) - 12:30PM (English) -2:00PM (Spanish)

5:00PM -Traditional Roman Rite (Latin)

Confessions

Tuesdays 6:00PM - 7:00PM — Saturdays 3:30PM - 4:30PM

Prayers & Weekly Scriptures/Oraciones y Lecturas de la Semana

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK INTENCIONES PARA MISAS DE LA SEMANA

Sat. Apr. 10th

8:00am Dunsten and Violeta Hand (Birthday)
5:00pm † Joseph Tan Dong

Sun. Apr. 11th

7:30am Candy Parter - Health
9:00am † Brothers & Sisters Urenda Family
10:45am Legión de María - Special Intention
12:30pm Figueroa Family - Thanksgiving
2:00pm Maria and Romualdo Vega – Anniversary
5:00 pm IHM Parishioners

Mon. Apr. 12th

8:00am Aida Rojo - Birthday

Tues. Apr. 13th

8:00 am Dianne Sevilla - Birthday

Wed. Apr. 14th

8:00 am † Roselio Angeles

Thurs. Apr. 15th

8:00 am † Robert Leo Specht

Fri. Apr. 16th

8:00am † Duke Durham

Mass Ushers:

We need to update our usher information. We have a sign in sheet in the alter servers room. Please print your name, email address and phone number and mass you attend clearly. We need to review collection procedures and need an usher for each mass willing to be head usher.

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Acomodadores de Misa:

Necesitamos actualizar la información de nuestros acomodadores. Tenemos una hoja en la sala de los monaguillos para que los acomodadores completen la información que estamos buscando. Por favor, escriba su nombre, dirección de correo electrónico y número de teléfono y la Misa que asisten claramente. Necesitamos revisar los procedimientos de las colectas y necesitamos un acomodador para cada misa dispuesto a ser el acomodador principal. Gracias.

Funerals for the month of March

David Hernandez Sandoval
Luisito Dela Cruz
Fe Luna Salcedo
Antonia Lara
Patricia E. Herrera
Jorge Antonio Garcia Torres
Rodrigo Garcia
Doris Sablan



Sick Relatives & Friends Parientes y Amigos Enfermos

Ryan McCloud, Ramon Antonio Toledo, Lyndsey Burrow, Kay Aviani, Chris Heuer, Meghan Heuer, Jan Coopoe,, Louise Delia, Anita Camera, Richard Grimes, Art Silvergleid, Dcn. Ron Horan, Connie Healey, Gina Lilly, Giselle Honore. *****

Roselia Santillon, Mary Lou Rodriguez, Chita Moore, Frances Ramos, Teresa Burke, Mary Franchetto, Rita and Richard Nahm, F. Albert Grosskopf SJ. , Shane Pearce, Dan Holmes, Eleanor Janson, Patrick Bowen, Phillip Aiello, John Hesse, Janet Gonzalez, Ryan Enos, Jose Santos-Silva, Ross Stevie, Greg Fasula, William Smith., Romano Marchetti, Marge and Larry Cragle, Janet and Ehrich Heitzmane, Frank Vargas, Aurora Tiangco, Michalina Siedliski, Rick Souza, Gail Della Nina, Oscar Alvarez, Dan Holmes, Shane Pearce, Solangue and Nicole Patino-Patroni, Gloria Almeida, Priseliano Cuevas, Bernadette Gluck, Jesus Garatachea, Maria de Jesus Jaimes, Ramiro Cortez, Darlene Riva, Baby Adrian Rodriguez , Enid Ortiz, Lelani Gray, Rodney Gallegos, Scott Bolen, Jen H., Daniel Figueroa, Frank Vargas, Laura Vecchio, Domingo Celis, Jr. Mary McGrath, Maria Medina, Juan Samuel Cano, Jr., Will Bean, Sydney Reed, Candice Sala, Jose Gomez, Capuyan Family, Kim Korstad.

If You would like a name added to the prayer list, please call the parish office at (925) 634-4154 or e-mail:

bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com. At the end of each month you must call to place the name again on the list.

Ud. quiere añadir un nombre en esta lista, por favor llame a la oficina de la parroquia al (925) 634-4154 o mande un correo electrónico al: bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com. Al final del mes, usted debe llamar a la oficina si desea que el nombre aparezca de nuevo.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Monday:	267: Acts 4:23-31 Jn 3:1-8	Ps 2:1-9
Tuesday:	268: Acts 4:32-37 Jn 3:7b-15	Ps 93:1-2, 5
Wednesday:	269: Acts 5:17-26 Jn 3:16-21	Ps 34:2-9
Thursday:	270: Acts 5:27-33 Jn 3:1-36	Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20
Friday:	271: Acts 5:34-42 Jn 6:1-15	Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14
Saturday:	272: Acts 6:1-7 Jn 6:16-21	Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
Sunday:	47: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 1 Jn 2:1-5a	Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9 Lk 24:35-48

Gloria

Gloria a Dios en el cielo,
Y en la tierra paz a los hombres
Que ama el Señor.
Por tu inmensa Gloria te alabamos,
te bendecimos,
te adoramos,
te glorificamos,
te damos gracias,
Senor Dios, Rey celestial,
Dios Padre todopoderoso.
Senor, Hijo unico, Jesucristo,
Senor Dios, Cordero de Dios,
Hijo del Padre;
Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,
Ten piedad de nosotros;
Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,
Atiende nuestra suplica;
Tu que estas sentado a
La derecha del Padre,
Ten piedad de nosotros;
Porque solo tu eres Santo,
Solo tu Señor,
Solo tu Altisimo Jesucristo.
Con el Espiritu Santo
En la gloria de Dios Padre.
Amen.

Primera lectura

Hch 4, 32-35

La multitud de los que habían creído tenía un solo corazón y una sola alma; todo lo poseían en común y nadie consideraba suyo nada de lo que tenía. Con grandes muestras de poder, los apóstoles daban testimonio de la resurrección del Señor Jesús y todos gozaban de gran estimación entre el pueblo. Ninguno pasaba necesidad, pues los que poseían terrenos o casas, los vendían, llevaban el dinero y lo ponían a disposición de los apóstoles, y luego se distribuía según lo que necesitaba cada uno. José, levita nacido en Chipre, a quien los apóstoles llamaban Bernabé (que significa hábil para exhortar), tenía un campo; lo vendió y puso el dinero a disposición de los apóstoles.

Salmo Responsorial

Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

Este es el día en que actuó el Señor, sea nuestra alegría.
Este es el día en que actuó el Señor, sea nuestro gozo.

Segunda Lectura

1 Jn 5, 1-6

Queridos hermanos: Todo el que cree que Jesús es el Mesías, ha nacido de Dios; todo el que ama a un padre, ama también a los hijos de éste. Conocemos que amamos a los hijos de Dios en que amamos a Dios y cumplimos sus mandamientos, pues el amor de Dios consiste en que cumplamos sus preceptos. Y sus mandamientos no son pesados, porque todo el que ha nacido de Dios vence al mundo. Y nuestra fe es la que nos ha dado la victoria sobre el mundo. Porque, ¿quién es el que vence al mundo? Sólo el que cree que Jesús es el Hijo de Dios. Jesucristo es el que vino por medio del agua y de la sangre; él vino, no sólo con agua, sino con agua y con sangre. Y el Espíritu es el que da testimonio, porque el Espíritu es la verdad.

Evangelio

Jn 20, 19-31

Al anochecer del día de la resurrección, estando cerradas las puertas de la casa donde se hallaban los discípulos, por miedo a los judíos, se presentó Jesús en medio de ellos y les dijo: “La paz esté con ustedes”. Dicho esto, les mostró las manos y el costado. Cuando los discípulos vieron al Señor, se llenaron de alegría.

De nuevo les dijo Jesús: “La paz esté con ustedes. Como el Padre me ha enviado, así también los envío yo”. Después de decir esto, sopló sobre ellos y les dijo: “Reciban el Espíritu Santo. A los que les perdonen los pecados, les quedarán perdonados; y a los que no se los perdonen, les quedarán sin perdonar”. Tomás, uno de los Doce, a quien llamaban el Gemelo, no estaba con ellos cuando vino Jesús, y los otros discípulos le decían: “Hemos visto al Señor”. Pero él les contestó: “Si no veo en sus manos la señal de los clavos y si no meto mi dedo en los agujeros de los clavos y no meto mi mano en su costado, no creeré”. Ocho días después, estaban reunidos los discípulos a puerta cerrada y Tomás estaba con ellos. Jesús se presentó de nuevo en medio de ellos y les dijo: “La paz esté con ustedes”. Luego le dijo a Tomás: “Aquí están mis manos; acerca tu dedo. Trae acá tu mano, métela en mi costado y no sigas dudando, sino cree”. Tomás le respondió: “¡Señor mío y Dios mío!” Jesús añadió: “Tú crees porque me has visto; dichosos los que creen sin haber visto”.

Otros muchos signos hizo Jesús en presencia de sus discípulos, pero no están escritos en este libro. Se escribieron éstas para que ustedes crean que Jesús es el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios, y para que, creyendo, tengan vida en su nombre.

Credo de Nicea

Creo en un solo Dios, Padre todopoderoso, Creador del cielo y de la tierra, de todo lo visible y lo invisible.

Creo en un solo Señor, Jesucristo, Hijo único de Dios, nacido del Padre antes de todos los siglos: Dios de Dios, Luz de Luz, Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero, engendrado, no credo, de la misma naturaleza del Padre, por quien todo fue hecho; que por nosotros, los hombres, y para nuestra salvación bajó del cielo, **y por obra del Espíritu Santo se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se hizo hombre**; y por nuestra causa fue crucificado en tiempos de Poncio Pilato, padeció al tercer día, según las Escrituras, y subió al cielo, y está sentado a la derecha del Padre; y de nuevo vendrá con gloria. Para juzgar a vivos y muertos, y su reino no tendrá fin. Creo en el Espíritu Santo, Señor dador de vida, que procede del Padre y del Hijo, que con el Padre y el Hijo recibe una misma adoración y Gloria, y que hablo por los profetas.

Creo en una iglesia, que es santa, católica y apóstolica. Confieso que hay un solo bautismo para el perdón de los pecados. Espero la resurrección de los muertos y la vida futura del mundo. Amen.

Readings

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father,
Lord Jesus Christ,
Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

First Reading

Acts 4:32-35

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

Reponsorial Psalm

Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad. This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading

1 Jn 5:1-6

Beloved:
Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him.
In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments.
For the love of God is this,
that we keep his commandments.
And his commandments are not burdensome,
for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world.
And the victory that conquers the world is our faith.
Who indeed is the victor over the world
but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
This is the one who came through water and blood,
Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies,
and the Spirit is truth.

Gospel

Jn 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in

their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.

But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

April 11, 2021 | Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 4:32-35 | 1 Jn 5:1-6 | Jn 20:19-31

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Do you ever have times - at the dinner table or at a gathering of friends - where all seems right with the world? I often hold my breath, conscious of the fragility of those moments, fearful that saying something might jinx things. It's a little like rooting for a pitcher cruising into the bottom of the ninth with a no-hitter - that feeling that we are on the verge of perfection. Well, as Christians, we are on that verge, although perfection will not come in this life but the next. And so, as fleeting as these human moments feel, and can actually be, we are reminded in today's psalm: "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting ... Let those who fear the Lord say, 'His mercy endures forever.'" As we celebrate this Divine Mercy Sunday, and enter the second week of Easter, let us give thanks for the gift of God's great mercy, and pray for the grace to be as loving and merciful to others.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I'm taken by the story of doubting Thomas. For a long time I've focused on the "doubting" part of his name, the fact that he demanded to place his fingers in the nail marks and his hand in Jesus' side. However, when Jesus addresses Thomas, Thomas' response is immediate and unqualified: "My Lord and my God!" Thomas has recognized the divine nature of Jesus; he sees him not just as the man he has followed, but as God. As Catholics, we may sometimes face questions about how the Church has come to believe and teach certain things. Thomas' ultimate affirmation encourages us to be steadfast in our faith, and to be patient with any of our own and others' questions. That is because Christ will come to meet us where we are. As the Incarnation of God's divine mercy, Jesus Christ is the one who hears our doubts and insecurities, and he answers them: "Here I am. Look at me. Touch me. Feel my presence." Thomas was not afraid, and we need not fear either. God's mercy is upon us, "and the victory that conquers the world is our faith." Let us witness to our faith as Thomas did to his.

PRAY Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, a day when we are reminded of God's immense love and mercy for us. Learn more about this day and how to recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet: uscgb.org/prolife/divine-mercy-sunday.

Oracion San Miguel

San Miguel Arcángel,
defiéndenos en la batalla.
Sé nuestro amparo contra la
perversidad y asechanzas del
demonio. Reprímale Dios,
pedimos suplicantes,
y tú Príncipe de la
Milicia Celestial,
con el divino poder de Dios,
arroja al infierno a Satanás
y a todos los espíritus
malignos que andan dispersos
por el mundo
para la perdición de las almas.
Amén.



Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection
against the wickedness and
snares of the devil.
May God
rebuke him we humbly pray;
and do thou, O Prince of the
Heavenly host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan
and all the evil spirits
who prowl about the world seeking
the ruin of souls.
Amen

Please Help

We are in need of 6 volunteers per mass to help.

- Help with seeing all persons wear face masks properly during Mass

After mass

- Wipe down pews
- Sanitize restrooms
- Wipe baskets
- Wipe door knobs
- Secure blue tape

Please contact George Verret at:
verretg@gmail.com



KoC and IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH

We all have boxes or bags of mail, important documents, or just papers we need to dispose of in a secure manor. Let us help you start your spring cleaning. Its time, we are here for you. Throw your stuff in the trunk of your car or the back of your truck and come see us. We will unload it for you while you relax. On site secure shredding. 100% of the proceeds go back to the Church. Please come and show your support!

Date: Saturday April 24th, 2021
Time: 10:00am-2:00pm
Place: 500 Fairview Av. Brentwood
Cost: Donation You Decide (\$10 Minimum)

What Can Go in Secure Shredding Containers

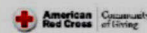
Most paper-based items are safe for Shred-it containers so long as they are not in contact with anything flammable. Don't worry about separating items that have been stapled or clipped together, either; small metal items like paper clips can also be thrown in.



Making sure it's secure.™



October 9, 2021
500 Fairview Avenue
Brentwood, CA 94513
More details are forthcoming!



Blood Drive Knights of Columbus Council 7467

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

(By Appointment Only- Masks & Social Distancing Required)

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Fr. Garcia Hall
500 Fairview Ave., Brentwood, Ca. 94513

"Give a bit of yourself to save someone else"

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Information/Información

St. Vincent de Paul for Friday's Food Pantry

For the weekend of April 18, 2021, please bring canned tuna and other meats. THANK YOU!

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Para el fin de semana del 18 de abril, 2021, por favor traigan atun enlatado y otras carnes. GRACIAS!!!

SCHEDULE OF SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 18, 2021 - Maintenance Fund
May 2, 2021 - Facility Improvement

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FECHAS DE SEGUNDAS COLECTAS

18 de abril, 2021 - Fondo del Mantenimiento
2 de mayo, 2021 - Fondo del Mejoramiento de las Instalaciones

Hours of Adoration are on Thursdays from 9:00AM to 6:00PM. On Fridays Adoration begins at 9:00am until 4pm.

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Horas de Adoración son los jueves de 9:00AM a 6:00PM. Adoración los viernes empieza a las 9:00AM _____

CONTRA COSTA FOOD BANK



The Contra Costa Food Bank Mobile Produce Distribution Program distributes FREE produce on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month in the IHM parking lot from 12:00 noon to 1:00pm to families in need. This program is only for low-income families.

For more information, please call Ralph at 925-437-3509.

MEN'S POWER CONFERENCE

Love like Christ
fight like a warrior



Honorable guest, Bishop Michael Barber, Diocese of Oakland.

\$25 (18 and older)
(under 17 access free)



Brentwood, CA.

May 14-15, 2021



JESSE ROMERO

Info
(925)597-0206
(510)698-9505

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+

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Saint Thomas the Apostle's Story

Poor Thomas! He made one remark and has been branded as "Doubting Thomas" ever since. But if he doubted, he also believed. He made what is certainly the most explicit statement of faith in the New Testament: "My Lord and My God!" and, in so expressing his faith, gave Christians a prayer that will be said till the end of time. He also occasioned a compliment from Jesus to all later Christians: "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29).

Thomas should be equally well-known for his courage. Perhaps what he said was impetuous—since he ran, like the rest, at the showdown—but he can scarcely have been insincere when he expressed his willingness to die with Jesus. The occasion was when Jesus proposed to go to Bethany after Lazarus had died. Since Bethany was near Jerusalem, this meant walking into the very midst of his enemies and to almost certain death. Realizing this, Thomas said to the other apostles, "Let us also go to die with him" (John 11:16b).

Reflection

Thomas shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the "sons of thunder," Philip and his foolish request to see the Father—indeed all the apostles in their weakness and lack of understanding. We must not exaggerate these facts, however, for Christ did not pick worthless men. But their human weakness again points up the fact that holiness is a gift of God, not a human creation; it is given to ordinary men and women with weaknesses; it is God who gradually transforms the weaknesses into the image of Christ, the courageous, trusting, and loving one.

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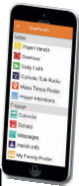
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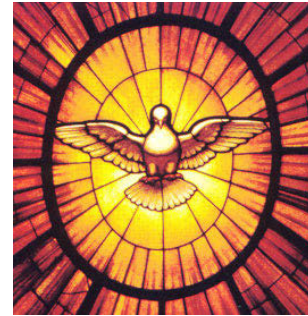
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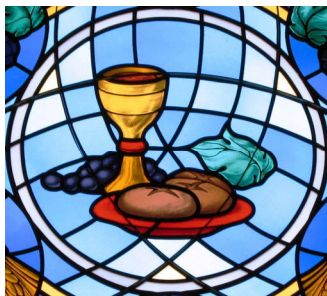


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Baptism, First Communion

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First Communion, Confirmation

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