

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 19, 2020

“Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

— John 20:29b

GET REAL!

Those of us who flatter ourselves that we have a “realistic” view of the world may listen to the first reading today and say, “Get real!” when we hear Luke’s account of the early, Elysian days of the Christian movement. All seems to be rosy, lots of wonders are performed, everyone shares selflessly, they eat together in “exultation,” and the Lord added to their numbers? Well, who wouldn’t be attracted to a group like this? From the wind that swept through the upper room at Pentecost as the Spirit of God blew over the face of the waters in Genesis, and the fire that appeared over each disciple as the light appeared at the dawn of creation, Luke’s intent in Acts is to show a new creation, a restoration of creation’s original goodness through the working of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who continues to make us into the Body of Christ. We may occasionally, like Thomas in the Gospel, say, “Get real!” but our ultimate reality in the Spirit is to work continually to make our Christian community a new creation, one in which others will find God’s joy and beauty.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory Development

Last Week’s Collection	\$4,945.00	\$4,366.00
Number of Families contributing	136	119
Total Pledge for 2020	\$167,031.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (14 Weeks)	\$49,337.00	\$48,608.00
Received to Date	\$47,288.00	\$35,341.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$2,049.00	\$13,267.00

LADES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2020
\$461.00	\$5,357.00

Thirty-nine ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2020
\$230.00	\$32,688.00

Five people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$43,642.00

POOR BOX totaled \$80.00.

BAA totaled \$220.00.

EASTER COLLECTION totaled \$298.00

HOLY LAND COLLECTION totaled \$55.00.

29 **CHILDREN** contributed \$217.00..

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A hunter once lost his way deep inside the jungle while chasing a deer. He used all his navigation skills, but neither did he find any way out of the jungle nor could he find any food to eat for 3 days at a stretch.

He lost all hope. He thought he would die of hunger. That is exactly when an apple tree caught his sight. He was so happy. He collected 10 to 20 apples to feed him for the rest of his stretch. As he ate the first apple, his joy knew no bounds. He couldn’t stop feeling grateful and blessed. He thanked God.

But he was less grateful while having the second apple and even lesser grateful when he had the fifth apple. Somehow with each passing apple, the joy kept on reducing drastically. He just could not enjoy the tenth apple. He even started throwing apples which did not taste good.

He had already taken for granted the gift of finding an apple tree in the middle of the forest. In Economics this is called the law of diminishing marginal utility. It’s actually the law of diminishing gratitude. In simple words: taking things for granted. Lets just call it the 10th Apple effect.

The 10th apple represents our lack of appreciation for gifts of life. The hunter represents all of us. The apple represents the gifts that life gave us. The 10th apple is as sweet as the first apple. If the 10th apple fails to give you as much pleasure as the first one, there is nothing wrong with the apple but the person enjoying the fruit. Hence be thankful always to God, people are the nature

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

THE FIVE FINGER PRAYER

Your thumb is nearest to you.

Begin your prayers by remembering those closest to you — family friends and loved ones.

Your next finger is the pointing finger.

Pray for those who teach, instruct, and heal. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.

Your next finger is the tallest finger.

Pray for leaders — in business, government, at work, in your community. They need God’s guidance.

Your fourth finger is your ring finger.

This finger is your weakest one. Pray for those who are in trouble or in pain; for all in need.

Finally, your little finger.

Here we place ourselves in relation to God and others. Having prayed for others, ask God to bless you and meet your needs.

CARING

CARING is a gift no one can buy.

It is made up of LOVE that roots in our HEARTS and creates MEMORIES not just for a while but for a LIFETIME.

THANK YOU to a member for a \$100 donation in thanks to St. Expedite; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Mother Theresa and St. Raphael; and also to two members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Dexter had just returned from two weeks of vacation. He asked his boss for two more weeks off to get married.

“What!” shouted the boss. “I can’t give you more time now. Why didn’t you get married while you were off?”

“Are you nuts?” replied Dexter. “That would have ruined my entire vacation.”

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Sunday of Divine Mercy
- Tuesday: St. Anselm
- Wednesday: Administrative Professionals Day; Earth Day
- Thursday: St. George; St. Adalbert
- Friday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen; National Arbor Day
- Saturday: St. Mark

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday:** For the repose of the soul of Beasley on his Birthday.
- Tuesday:** For Pete Suedle Carroll.
- Wednesday:** For the repose of the soul of Black Barney and for the repose of the soul of Black Barney’s Winnie on her Birthday.
- Thursday:** For the repose of the soul of Cracker on his Birthday.
- Friday:** For the repose of the soul of John F. on the 4th Anniversary of his death.

COME TO ME ALL WHO ARE WEARY

*The night is dark, the room is cold;
 There’s sadness everywhere.
 But someone hears and someone cares
 To lift your dark despair.
 Sit silently and listen,
 Feel His presence in the air.
 Turn to Him with all your longings,
 Tell Him all your cares.
 Remember that He promised
 He would help you everyday.
 Give Him your heavy burdens;
 Let Him show the way.
 The night will change from darkness,
 The room will warm with love
 The moment that we give our lives
 To our Heavenly Father above.*

READERS

Sat. Apr. 19th, 4:00 P.M.
Cathy Lisa

Sun. Apr. 20th, 10:00 A.M.
Mary Cat

Sat. Apr. 25th, 4:00 P.M.
Christina

Sun. Apr. 26th, 10:00 A.M.
Mary Cat

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Taneil
Tuesday	-	Fallon
Wednesday	-	Ivana
Thursday	-	Natalie
Friday	-	Christina

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	Cathy Pole
Tuesday	Bridget Rat
Wednesday	Margaret Butts
Thursday	Betty Jo
Friday	Mary Cat

PRAYER FOR THE LOVED ONE

**There are times when prayer is the only gift we can give to the ones we care about.
 So...I pray to God to you happiness, guide you safely,
 give you goof health and most of all,
 answer your prayers.**

ROAD

*When I was walking alone, I wished I could reach the END of the ROAD...
 But when friends joined me, I wished that the ROAD NEVER ENDS!*

NAILS

*When nails grow long, we cut nails not fingers.
 Similarly when misunderstanding grow up,
 Cut your ego, not your relationship.*

TWO THOUGHTSDECIDE THE SUCCESS IN YOUR LIFE

1. **The way you MANAGE when you have nothing in hands.**
2. **The way you BEHAVE when you have everything in hand.**

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

PRAYER FOR PEACE OF MIND

Kneeling at your feet, sweet Mother of God and Queen of Peace, I, your loving child, confidently turn to you in my need, seeking your intercession for peace of mind and comfort to my troubled heart. (Here mention your intention.)

O listen to me, dear Heavenly mother. Come to my aid and refuse me not as I cry to you. For you are my mother, and you fail no one who has recourse to You, O consoler of the afflicted, O Queen of Peace. Amen.