



## The Thomas Dilemma

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**ill is a widower, now in his eighties. He calls every once in a while, partly to talk but really wanting to know how he can convince his grown children and grandchildren to come back to church. He tells me they're good people, but he would like them to have faith. It's been a mainstay in his life, he tells me, something that has gotten him through many difficulties. He loves his family but says their life would be so much richer if they had an active faith life. I try to tell Will he can't argue them into faith. At most he can share with them how faith has been a blessing in his life, hoping that it might then spark an interest in them.

The disciples in the Gospel story about "Doubting Thomas" experienced Will's dilemma. They were unable to convince Thomas that the Lord had risen. He insisted that he would only believe when he could put his fingers and hands into Jesus' wounds, which of course is just what happens the next time they are gathered. For Thomas, words were not enough; he needed the experience.

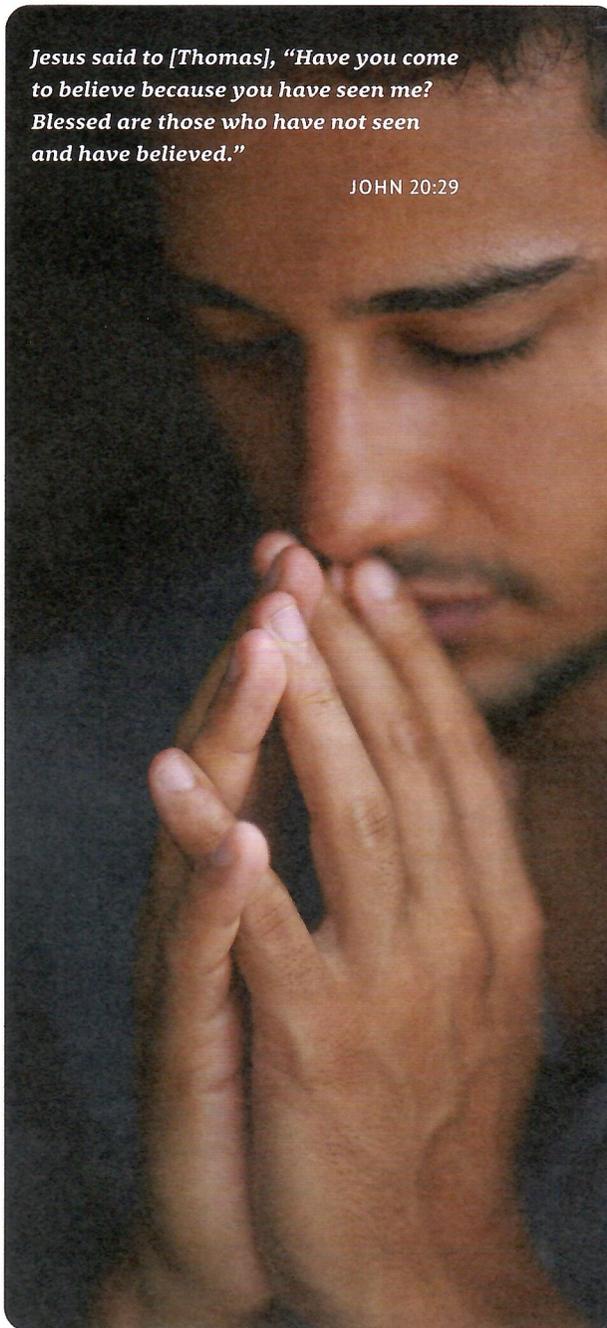
Sometimes that's true for us. We've heard the truth, but we haven't experienced the truth as real or relevant or something we cannot live without. The experience of grave need and then surrendering to God is what many need to remain faithful. Meanwhile, the faithful pray for those who do not believe, especially those we dearly love. ●

### Reflect

***Have you ever surrendered to faith even when you were filled with doubt?***

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

JOHN 20:29



**SAINT JOSEPH  
AKRON, CO  
phone: 970-345-6996**

**Pastor:** Rev. Marek Ciesla, S. Chr.  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Maurice Okeke  
**Deacon:** Joe Benjamin ph: 970-554-1154

**Masses:** Sat. - 7:00 PM    Sun - 8:00 AM  
          Tues. - 5:30 PM    Wed. - 7:30 AM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
Sat. after 7:00 PM Mass, Sun. - 7:00 AM,  
1/2 h before daily Masses or by appointment

**Anointing of the Sick** - call the Office

**Office:** open Tuesday and Wednesday.  
(970) 345-6996 leave message  
**Visit our Website** [www.stmarybrush.org](http://www.stmarybrush.org)

**Sign up at** [Flocknote.com/stjosephakron](http://Flocknote.com/stjosephakron)  
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**We are on Facebook:**  
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St. Mary's: [www.facebook.com/STMBush](http://www.facebook.com/STMBush)

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Enter 80723 / select St. Mary's  
Enter your e-mail - and you are in!

If you are interested in being a cantor or  
providing music for the Mass, please contact  
**Marcia Pieper** (970)554-1535  
or **Julie Green** (970)554-0740

**Bulletin:** **Kathy McFadden** 970-301-2306  
or [kathryndianehall@gmail.com](mailto:kathryndianehall@gmail.com)

**Mass Intentions**

**Sat. Apr. 6 Vigil**  
7:00 p.m. †Arnulfo "Johnny" Medeles  
**Sun Apr. 7 Mass/Divine Mercy Sunday**  
8:00 a.m. †Christine Lopez - CS

**Tues Apr. 9 Mass**  
5:30 p.m. For Souls in Purgatory  
**Wed Apr. 10 Mass**  
7:30 a.m. †Patricia Means - JW

**Sat. Apr. 13 Vigil**  
7:00 p.m. Graces/Jennifer Willeke - JW  
**Sun Apr. 14 Mass/3rd Sunday of Easter**  
8:00 a.m. For Souls in Purgatory

**In need of prayer support, call**

Linda Littleton: 970-630-3267  
Kim Krause: 970-554-1459  
Peggy Dreher: 970-554-0546

**Please Pray For Our Sick:**

Kane Schrock, Geneva Aguilar, Mary Ann  
Kreutzer, Barbara Wolf, Bobby Dreher,  
Terry Hart, Pauline Frenzl, Dan Killip,  
Ray Hottinger, Deacon Taylor Elder, Bridget  
Glosson, Ken Kuntz, Randy Kraich, Carol  
Benjamin, Don Mollendor, Von Axtell, Art  
Aaron, Maria Foy, Beverly Gebauer, Tricia  
Dreher, Tracy Basler, Bibiana Camacho,  
Robert McMillion

**Divine Mercy Novena Schedule**

Saturday, April 6 - privately  
**Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7**  
Pray Chaplet during Adoration before Mass

**Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph**  
*Spend time with our Lord...*

Every Tuesday from 5:00 a.m. till 9:00 a.m.

**April 9th / Altar-Rosary Meeting**

5:00 p.m. - Rosary

5:30 p.m. - Mass

6:00 p.m. - meeting

National March for Life hosting state march  
**Friday, April 12th** in Denver. Begins with  
a 10 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
April 13th/14th**

2nd weekend of the month:  
Immediately after each Mass  
/ Exposition + Adoration  
+ Holy Face Chaplet + procession  
by the Celebrant + Benediction /



Please keep in your prayers children and  
their families preparing to receive  
the Sacraments of Confession,  
Communion, and Confirmation.



**REQUEST FOR MASS INTENTIONS  
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

There is no charge for Mass; however,  
a customary offering of \$10 is appreciated.

Intention Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased

Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date Wanted \_\_\_\_\_

May this request be done privately

by Father \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Lay Minister Schedule**

Sierra Mireles

**April 14, 2024**

**Greeters/Gifts:** Youth

**Pianist:** Marcia Pieper

**Cantor:** Youth

**Lector:** Youth

**Altar Servers:** Youth

**Head Usher:** Roger Kuntz

**Euch Ministers:** Monte & Peggy Willeke

**April 14 - Breakfast**

Luke & Kristin Crumley

Layne & Sam Crumley

**1st Sunday Adoration / April 7**

Exposition / Adoration / Benediction

7:40 a.m. - 7:55 a.m.

**Saint Joseph's corner:**

"St. Joseph, your life is a testimony to the  
importance of welcoming others. Help me to  
follow your example that I may be a beacon  
of hospitality. Amen"



**ARCHBISHOP'S  
CATHOLIC APPEAL**

Join us **NEXT WEEKEND** for the special  
release of the latest Archbishop's Catholic  
Appeal video. Help us give hope, support  
education, and impart faith through a  
donation to the appeal which supports more  
than 40 ministries that care for the needs  
of our neighbors each day. To make an  
immediate impact on our faith community  
visit:

**[www.archden.org/givetoday](http://www.archden.org/givetoday)  
or call 303-867-0614**

Email: [office@stjosephsakron.org](mailto:office@stjosephsakron.org)

\* Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM (Tuesday, Wednesday)

# Dear Padre,

## What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Pope John Paul II declared Sr. Faustina Kowalska a saint of the Church on April 30, 2000, and in a decree dated May 23, 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that “throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that [we] will experience in the years to come.”

Saint Faustina was born in 1905 and spent most of her life in Poland, in the Congregation of the Virgin Mary of Mercy. She experienced an extraordinary union with God. She received exceptional graces, revelations, visions, hidden stigmata, the ability to read souls, and the gift of prophecy.

One of the images that was revealed to Faustina was that of the merciful Jesus, touching his Sacred Heart, from which beams of red and white light came forth. This image and her devotion to the divine mercies gathered thousands of supporters throughout the world. We still see the traditional image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in many of our churches today. In some churches, we might see the newer image, inspired by the saint. Saint Faustina Kowalska died in 1938 at the age of thirty-three, leaving an impressive mystical legacy. She is a disciple of God’s divine mercy for the twenty-first century. ●



*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 8	April 9	April 10	April 11	April 12	April 13	April 14
<i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>
Is 7:10–14; 8:10 Heb 10:4–10 Lk 1:26–38	Acts 4:32–37 Jn 3:7b–15	Acts 5:17–26 Jn 3:16–21	Acts 5:27–33 Jn 3:31–36	Acts 5:34–42 Jn 6:1–15	Acts 6:1–7 Jn 6:16–21	Acts 3:13–15, 17–19 1 Jn 2:1–5a Lk 24:35–48



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*The story of Thomas is in fact the story of every believer. There are times of difficulty when life seems to belie faith, moments of crisis when we need to touch and see. Like Thomas, it is precisely in those moments that we rediscover the heart of Christ, the Lord’s mercy.*

HOMILY, ROME, APRIL 24, 2022



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