

Sunday of the
19th April Divine
Mercy Sunday
(2nd Sunday of
Easter)

RE Home Learning



Sunday Gospel (John 20:19-31)

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.'

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

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

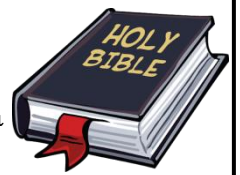
'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes 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

In the Gospel, one of Christ's disciples, Thomas, said that he wouldn't believe Jesus had really come back from the dead, unless he could see Him and touch Him physically. Well, Jesus showed up, and there was no more doubting or denying His resurrection. He told Thomas that he was believing after seeing. But Jesus said that people who believe without seeing are especially blessed.

Who might that be, believing without seeing? Well, that's us! We haven't seen Jesus on Earth, and we can't see God with our eyes. But we believe that Jesus did come to live, die, and rise again. And that gives us joy and hope. Even when things are uncertain and we don't know what the future holds, we know who holds the future. We know that God is in control. We know that even when things are scary, a bit like they are at the moment, or when we have done something wrong or when something bad happens, God will care for us and love us. God is much greater than anything! He loves us enough to send Jesus to die on the cross to defeat any fear or worry we have! We know that our trust in Him will protect us, no matter what.

God's love conquers and gets rid of our fear. He is all loving and all forgiving. But we must trust that God is in control. We haven't seen Jesus, but we know the effect His work has on us. And we know it gives us life.

Prayer

Dear God,
Thank you for the life
of Jesus
And thank you for your
promises
We believe in you and
trust you
Even when we can't see
you
Help us not to be afraid
And to remember that
you watch over us
Thank you for your love
We love you, God!
Amen!

Reflection Tasks

Nursery and Reception

We can't see God physically on Earth but we see him through the way in which we act. Draw or paint a picture of a time that you have seen God at work or God's love on Earth. This might be through people being kind, or siblings sharing their toys. It could be right now when we are seeing our whole community helping each other – that's God work in action.

Key Stage 1



One way we can show our faith and belief in God is by praying to Him. We can pray for lots of different things. Sometimes it's for forgiveness, for the care of people, to say thank-you or to ask God to watch over us. Create your own Prayer hands where you can write different prayers and add to them over the coming weeks.

Key Stage 2

Create an image of Jesus appearing to the Disciples and then, if you like, write a prayer to help us develop and strengthen our faith.

