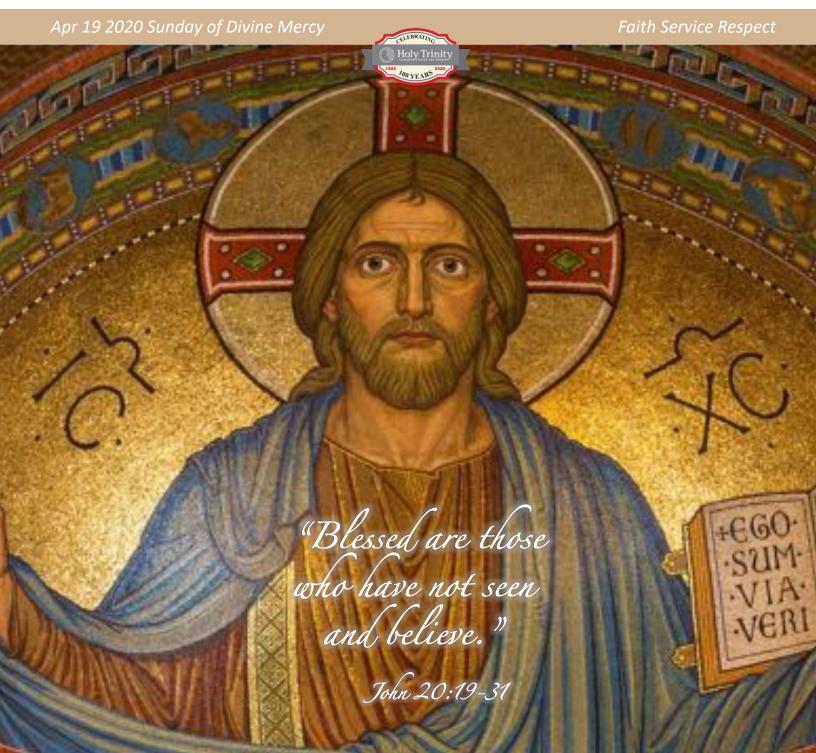
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ALL PUBLIC MASSES CANCELED - WATCH ONLINE HERE



FROM FATHER MARK APR 19 2020

GREETINGS

I wanted to provide you with another update.

First, I hope all had a happy and Holy Easter! Thanks to all those who joined our Easter liturgies and all who join us each day. I hope you had chance to connect with family and friends in some fashion on Easter. For my family, my siblings and I had a video chat. It was interesting, in that as I was the "host", I had the ability to mute the others. As the youngest in the family that was rarely the case growing up. I was usually the one being "muted." I was able to restrain myself from muting anyone....this time.

Here at Holy Trinity, Distance eLearning continues for our parish school students. Our faculty, administrators, students, and all of our families are doing a great job! Our faith formation team continues pushing information out to our families, as well as our parishioners who must now stay home as much as possible. Thanks to all for your continued efforts to help keep our parish family connected!

We also ask our higher risk parishioners to take advantage of our Shopping and Delivery Services: we have volunteers who can physically shop for and deliver groceries or pharmaceuticals. Contact us at 255-3162 if you need help.

We continue with online Masses. I am also continuing with my bible corner segments on Facebook and will also continue with some more lighthearted pieces as I try more recipes.

We continue to conduct parish business. Thanks to all who have been able to continue their tithing support. Your generosity is deeply appreciated! Thanks also to our school families who are continuing to support our school. Our teachers are working hard every day to provide all our students with a high-quality education in this very trying time.

As you have probably seen in the news, there are new government assistance programs available for small businesses during this emergency. We are working with the diocese on this and are pursuing a number of avenues to help us through this time. We do not yet know if we will be able receive any of this aid, as so many organizations are in serious need and there is only so much aid to go around. This is a work in-progress and I will keep you updated. At present, our finances are stable here at Holy Trinity.

In our Gospel passage this coming Sunday we will hear that the apostles were locked in a room out of fear. Sounds familiar. But we will also hear that Jesus came through the locked door with a simple message... "Peace be with you." We are clearly being told that nothing can keep us from God, and nothing can keep God from us. I hope we can all take comfort in this knowledge as we await the "all clear."

Take care and stay healthy

God bless us all and God Bless Holy Trinity.

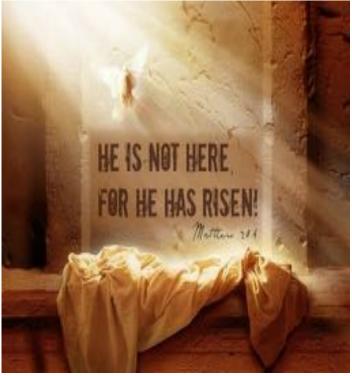
Fr. Mark

FR Manh

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NOTES FROM THE CHURCH APR 19 2020



CORONAVIRUS: FROM THE DIOCESE AND BISHOP JOENSON

- ALL CATHOLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS CLOSED
- All PUBLIC Masses in the Diocese of Des Moines are cancelled until further notice. Catholics are relieved of their Sunday obligation. The CDC is asking for no gatherings of more than 10 people.
- COVID-19: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW Here's some basic information from <u>MercyOne</u> about what this coronavirus is and precautionary measures to take.

PRAYER RESOURCES

Prayer for the Sick (English & Spanish)
Prayer for Spiritual Communion (English & Spanish)
Liturgy of the Hours (USCCB)
Daily Reflection Video

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS! **To advertise contact Andy Negrete** 255-3162 ext. 129 or andyn@holytrinitydm.org

HELP FOR HT PARISHIONERS

We are so appreciative to all those volunteers who have reached out to help their fellow parishioners in this uncertain time with the COVID-19 Virus. We have been so touched by your generosity!

DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE? Please call the Parish Office at 255-3162 x124 or email parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org if you are an individual that could use assistance.

- We have volunteers ready to make deliveries of groceries or essentials for parishioners who should not be exposed to this virus at the stores.
- We also have volunteers available to pray with parishioners or just chat on the phone or by Facetime...whichever you prefer. This is a way for our community to catch up and stay close during this challenging time.
- If you are a parishioner that would like a pen pal, we have families that are looking to connect. So many wonderful stories have been shared.

You can always go to our website https://holytrinitydm.org/coronavirus-updates for more information. Again, thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday Apr 19 Bonnie Fitzgerald/For the Parish For those on the Front Lines Monday Apr 20 Tuesday Apr 21 Ruth & Jim Wright Wednesday Apr 22 James Mahoney Thursday Apr 23 Mary Steinke Friday Apr 24 **Barb Hans** Saturday Apr 25 Dale McCormick Sunday April 26 Chris Crawford/For the Parish

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED...

Tim McDonald, son of Marty and Lisa McDonald of our parish

Jim Mahoney, parishioner at Holy Trinity

Also all those who have died of the Coronavirus



FINANCIAL BLESSINGS ENDING WEEK OF APR 5 2020

Budget - July 2019 - June 2020\$1,008,000YTD Overage (Deficit)\$(1,802)YTD Budget through Apr 5\$788,360Tithing for the week ending Apr 5\$17,071YTD Actual Tithing through Apr 5\$786,558Number of Donations Received63



NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL APR 19 2020

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Governor's STEM Advisory
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for Vex Robotics training and materials for 7 educators (grades 4-8) for the 2020-2021 school year!

https://www.vexrobotics.com/vexiq

This is Holy Trinity's SIXTH opportunity!

ENROLLING NOW

Holy Trinity Catholic School is enrolling new students for the 2020-2021 school year right now. We invite all families to visit our school and discover the Holy Trinity Catholic school difference. Our students experience a robust curriculum that includes religion, reading, language arts, handwriting, spelling, math, social studies, science, physical education, technology, art and library programs. For your child, Holy Trinity Catholic School provides an exceptional learning environment filled with faith, academic excellence and exceptional teachers. To enroll your student, please go to our website https://holytrinitydm.org/school/enroll/enroll-now/ or contact Delaney Lynch at dlynch@htschool.org

Get \$1500 TOWARD TUITION If you transfer from a public school for the 2020-2021 school year for grades 1-7—to find out more **contact us at dlynch@htschool.org.**

EARLY EDUCATION CLASSES ARE ALMOST FULL! We have limited spaces open for our 2020-2021 school year. Don't hesitate—ENROLL TODAY—you can go online to enroll at https://holytrinitydm.org/school/enroll/enroll-now/ or contact Delaney Lynch at dlynch@htschool.org



OUR FACEBOOK PAGE IS PUBLIC -- NO ACCOUNT REQUIRED

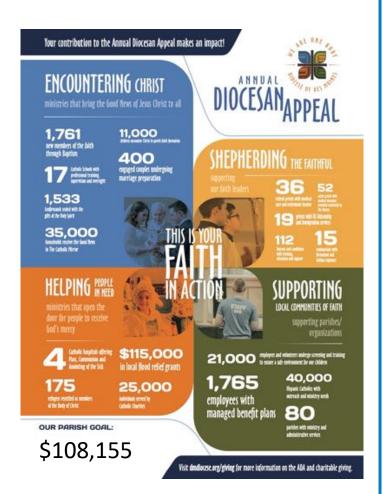
SCHOOL BUILDINGS
ARE CLOSED NOW
THROUGH APRIL 30



DIOCESAN | COMMUNITY | EVENTS APR 19 2020



Mark your calendars now for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society's 2020 Chip in Fore Charity Golf Fundraiser, Join us Thursday, May 21, 2020 at Copper Creek Golf Club. Registration & details on our website www.svdpdsm.org



THANK YOU ALL WHO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GIVE



FOOD PANTRIES REMAIN OPEN... BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

During this time of closures and social distancing we have established a protocol allowing us to continue providing pantry essentials to those in need.

Both pantries are open for business by appointment only. Pantry appointments and pickup times are Monday-Friday, 9AM – 5PM

As needs run high, supplies run low. We would like to ask that as a friend of SVdP that you participate in our #foodpantrychallenge. Just think, if you donate \$10 then either tag on social media or challenge 3 friends to do the same, we will generate enough funds to not only keep the pantries open during this dangerous time, but also continue with our mission to provide healthy food choices to our clients.

Donations can be made on our website at www.svdpdsm.org.

If you know someone in need, appointments can be scheduled by calling the numbers below:

1426 6th Avenue: <u>515-282-8327</u> Ext. 14

520 SW Army Post Road: <u>515-282-8328</u> Ext. 30

It is because of friends like you that we have been able to continue serving clients during this stressful time, and we are grateful for your continued support.

Can we count on you?



NOTES ON THE MASS APR 19 2020

Easter Unbelief

So what was the trouble with Thomas? His doubts have echoed through history. We often assume that he was just a tough guy who had trouble trusting. But it would help you and me in our own doubts if we could understand more about this man who wouldn't believe the resurrection.

Doubting Thomas.

First, who was he? The Aramaic name Te'oma (Thomas) meant twin, and he was also called Didymus, which meant the same thing in Greek, twin. So he probably was an actual twin.

What else?

Well, he might have been a bit glum. For instance, he gave a practical but gloomy response when Jesus' wanted to go back to Judea after Lazarus died. None of the disciples wanted to return because they knew the Jewish leaders had tried to stone Jesus there (John 10:24-30). Jesus gave them some high-minded talk about what the disciples might learn by going, but Thomas ignored these reasons and said to the others, "Alright, let us also go die with him." A dour and cynical statement (John 11:16).*

Here Thomas reminds me a bit of Joe Btfsplk, the famous Al Capp cartoon character who walked around with a perpetually dark rain cloud over his head!

Just before the passion Jesus had said, "Where I am going you know the way." This was a spiritual statement about going to the Father, but Thomas took it literally. "Master, we do not [even] know where you are going; how can we know the way?" (John 14:3-6). Again, a very matter-of-fact question, but with an emotional backdrop. "You haven't even told us anything! Are you going to leave us like this?" Thomas loved Jesus doggedly but moped about the dangerous situations Jesus was always walking right into. Thomas' practical nature looked frankly at these and drew out the pessimistic conclusion. He had twin emotions, as his name implies. Love and loss.

Is it any wonder, then, that in this Sunday's Gospel Thomas laid down his requirements for believing in the resurrection? His worst misgivings had come true on the cross: Jesus actually was killed. To deal with his sorrow Thomas resolved to accept the death stolidly, no matter what it felt like. He would never slip and talk about his departed friend in the present tense, as people sometimes do when a beloved friend has died. Thomas the pragmatic knew that beloved Jesus was dead and gone. Suddenly the apostles reversed the field. "Didymus, Jesus is alive! When the doors were locked, suddenly he stood there among us!

He talked to us!"

NO. NO. Thomas' heart could not accept it. Too much was at stake.

"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

This is exactly in character for Thomas/Didymus. The tough words are really a protection for a heart that would break in half if given still another false hope. "The only way I would believe such nonsense is if you give me very practical proof." Jesus gave it. Fingers in nail marks. Hand into side.

In spite of his cynicism, Thomas had always belonged to Jesus. When he got the practical proof he needed, he sank to the ground. "My Lord and my God."

What a great story for Eastertide.





BRING THE GOSPEL HOME APR 19 2020

READING I: Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

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

READING II: 1 Peter 1:3-9

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

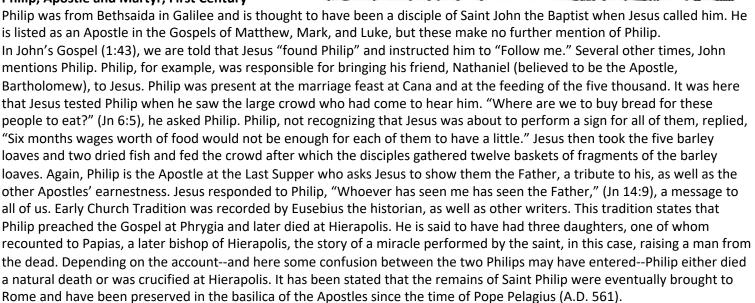
Question for Children: Even though you can't see him with your eyes, how do you "see" Jesus in others?

Question for Youth: Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit and gave us the power to forgive sins. How do you offer forgiveness to your friends and family? How do you seek forgiveness for yourself?

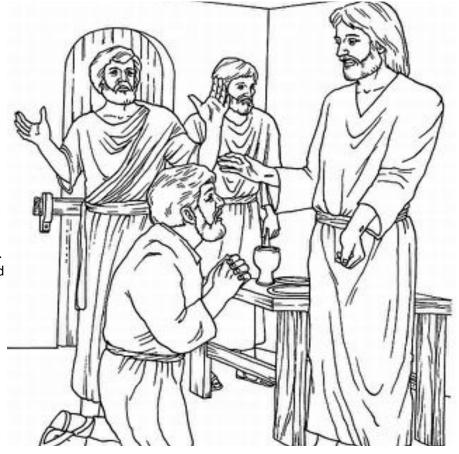
Question for Adults: When and how do you experience the "new birth" which we are given in Christ? When someone has forgiven you? When you have forgiven others? When you celebrate reconciliation? At other times?



Philip, Apostle and Martyr, First Century



Philip's message today: Just as he tested Philip about feeding the crowd, Jesus sometimes tests our faith with adversity. While these trials can seem overwhelming, we should remember that God is with us even when we cannot feel his presence. Do you trust that God is with you when you experience hard times in your life? Renew your trust that God is always with us.





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