

Gospel Meditation
Sunday of Divine Mercy

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope’s chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, “Holy Father, why do you get that special chair?” The group chuckled nervously at my friend’s audacious chide.

The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, “What do you think of my chair now?” My



friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them. Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires. — Father John Muir

Today’s Readings

First Reading: 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. (Acts 4:32)

Psalms: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118)

Second Reading: 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. (1 Jn 5:3-4)

Gospel: 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.” (Jn 20:19)

Bible Study

The Rosary and Bible Study group will meet on Thursdays during Lent. We will study the Sunday gospels for and say a rosary.

Social Hour!

Come to Annie’s Kitchen to share fellowship and a light snack afterwards **every 3rd Saturday of the month.** If you are inclined and would like to host a social hour, please notify the parish office and

they will put you on the calendar! Thank you.

Painting Fund

Thanks to you, the church painting is complete. However, the men and women’s shower house needs new painting. We hope to complete the painting of the facility in



the fall. We humbly ask for your participation in these projects by donating either online or physically at Mass. On the church website, click on the St. Anne On-Line Giving tab. It will take you to the **Painting Fund link.** Thank you for your support!

Online Giving

“Save Time and Donate Online!”

If you would like to enroll in Online Giving, please visit



mountaincatholic.org and click on the Online Giving tab on the upper right side. Please call our parish office or email dave.esquer@gmail.com. with questions.

Inspiration for the Week

We find unfathomable mercy and everlasting love in the wounds of Christ — even when we are skeptical, even when we carry doubt. God meets us there in the confusion. He reaches for our hand and places them at his side. We just have to call his name.

Written in the Wounds

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
For all the condemnation Thomas the Doubter has received in 2000 years of



Kate Helfrich	Tina Winters	Valerie Zuniga
Preston Leslie	Justin Hodges	Gloria DeMent
Stella Witczak	Kathy Hefner	Alek Brown
Francine Coyne	Bev Dunivent	Scott Sranke
Vada Godwin	Celine Thivodeau	Monica Gierz
Jody England	Sue Vasby	Greg Somes
Don Hunt	Jeff Frantz	Jane Black
Betty Lewis	Nathan Godwin	Helen Fontaine
Jesse D. Johnson	Melanie Hopkins	Pam Shea
Elaine Benton	Patty Lowdermilk	Glenn Warren
Stephanie Millika’a	Tina Uyehara	Melissa Carlson
Les Payne		

If you know of anyone who needs our prayers or anyone whose name can be removed from our prayer list please submit their name.

homilies, I think there’s something to admire in him.

Thomas is not unique. We all waver at some point, overcome by hesitation, distracted by the clamor of the world which seeks at every turn to shout above the whisper of the divine.

Thomas knows what he saw on Good Friday: his friend nailed to a cross, a sword driven through his body. He saw the blood and the water. He saw these things with his own eyes, eyes given to him by God, eyes which have never failed him before. And God doesn’t ask us to suspend reality to believe in Him. He only asks us to be discerning about how that reality is interpreted in our hearts.

Thomas knows the man before him is either a fraud, preying on the hopes and anxieties of the traumatized disciples, or he is the Christ, the Savior of the world, accomplisher of impossible things. But where to look, to tell the difference?

Satan once appeared to the great mystic saint, Teresa of Avila, disguised as Jesus. She knew instantly that he was a fraud. Enraged, he demanded to know where his deception had failed. “You have no wounds,” she told him simply. Could we have accepted a savior who did not bleed? I don’t think we could, because sooner or later, we would all stand before him and say, “Here is where the world hurt me. Here, and here, and here. What about you?” Christ can point to his hands, his feet, his side. “Here, and here, and here,” he can say. “And I overcame them all.”

It’s the wounds, you see. The truth is in the wounds.

Thomas answered and said to him, “My Lord and my God!” — John 20:28

- Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday**
After the 11:30 a.m. Mass at **Our Lady of the Lake TOMORROW, Sunday!**
- Holy Rosary & Veneration of First Class Relics of St. Faustina & St. Pope John Paul II
 - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 - Confession 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - 3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Benediction

Questions of the Week
First Reading: We hear how the early Christians lived in unity and holiness, bearing witness to Jesus, and living in

community as friends. Which of these traits do you see at work in your faith community?

Second Reading: John teaches his community that our faith in Jesus helps us “conquer the world.” What struggles are you facing that you need to confront and defeat?

Gospel: The risen Jesus meets Thomas in the midst of his doubt and encourages him to believe. Who could you encourage this week to have faith in the resurrection of Jesus?

Prayer for the 2nd Sunday of Easter

Dear Jesus,
As you greeted your disciples after you rose, fill us, too, with your peace.

As you breathed your spirit on them, breathe on us, too.

As your presence was known to Thomas, make it known to us, too.

Help us to live in your peace, power, and presence.

Amen.



**St. Anne in the Mountains
Catholic Church and
Retreat Center**
P. O. Box 2400
30480 Fredalba Road
Running Springs, CA 92382

Phone/Fax (909) 867-2832/4250
Rev. Michal Osuch, C.R.
Pastor - (909) 337-2333
Deacon: Michael Juback

Parish Registration: Please call parish office. If you move or change your address, please notify the Parish Office at 867-2832.

Mass Schedule: Saturday, 4:00 p.m.,
Confession at 3:30 *before* Mass.

For all Sacraments, Sacramental preparation, and Religious Education, please call Our Lady of the Lake at (909) 337-2333.

Church Website
<http://mountaincatholic.org>

 **Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/StAnneinthemountainsChurchandretreatcenter/>

Knights of Columbus
Contact: Les Payne (661) 902-3280

Family Assistance Program
Directors: TBD, please call the church office.
Food Program, 3rd Thursday from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Visitors to the Sick
CeCe & Ron Hartt

Divine Mercy Sunday
April 7, 2024

Mission Statement
It is the desire of St. Anne Christian Community always to be a reflection of the beauty which surrounds us. In the true spirit of the gospel, we will strive to dedicate ourselves to the service of others.

May we never miss the opportunity to extend a kindness -- remembering always that what we do for another we do for Christ.

May we never knowingly contribute to the suffering in the world -- but rather, always be a positive force in each life we touch.

May we freely share our joys and sorrows with one another, thus strengthening the bonds of our friendships, and enriching our lives.

May all our actions be aimed at bringing others closer to God.

May the welcome we extend to visitors make them truly aware of our love for them – for there is no such thing as a stranger, but only a friend we haven't met as yet.

