

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, April 11

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Monday, April 12

Monday of the 2nd Week of Easter

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Tuesday, April 13

Tuesday of the 2nd Week of Easter

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Wednesday, April 14

Wednesday of the 2nd Week of Easter

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Thursday, April 15

Thursday of the 2nd Week of Easter

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Friday, April 16

Friday of the 2nd Week of Easter

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Saturday, April 17

Saturday of the 2nd Week of Easter

Mass at 7:00 a.m.

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Sunday, April 18

Third Sunday of Easter

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection

3/29 – 4/4

Easter & Sunday Offering	\$ 13,259.04
Weekday	\$ 1,456.45
Online Giving	\$ 1,258.52
Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 311.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 10.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 752.49
Good Friday	\$ 1,421.00
Total Offertory	\$ 18,468.50

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 123.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 35.00
Holy Land	\$ 1,680.12
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 2,288.47
Others (Gallery, Candles, Intention etc.)	\$ 1,732.00
Total	\$ 24,327.09

Living the Liturgy

- Find someone who has had the experience of “living in common,” such as by sharing their material goods with others who were not immediate family members, and ask them to describe their experience — good and bad, pros and cons.
- Identify something you believe in without ever having seen it, like ghosts, atoms, bacteria, planets, aliens, and so on. Discuss with someone why you don't need physical evidence to persist in your belief.
- Celebrate this Sunday of Divine Mercy by inviting each family member to perform a secret kindness for someone who has hurt or aggravated them. Consider saying special prayers for someone, tucking a small gift in a coworker's mail slot, picking up trash in a neighbor's yard when they aren't home, or another small act of generosity.

Sharing the Faith

- Jesus greets the apostles three times with the words “Peace be with you.” Peace can't exist where there is fear. Why is peace so necessary for the Christian life?
- Have you ever considered yourself as belonging to a “community of believers” (Acts 4:32)? What difference does it make that you have sisters and brothers to support you in your faith?
- The disciples hid in a locked room, yet Jesus came into their midst. When have you felt hidden or locked away, only to find Jesus in your midst?

Quote of the Week

“Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” (1 John 5:5).

April 11, 2021 – Second Sunday of Easter

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Acts 4:32-35 | Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 | 1 John 5:1-6 | John 20:19-31

The earliest Christians identified themselves as a “community of believers” (Acts 4:32). Faith was the glue that bound them, not politics or shared interests. And it was enough, because that faith held them together through danger and persecution. It inspired them to sell their worldly goods and surrender the proceeds to the Apostles. It taught them that nothing else in life is more important — they even defined *victory* as *faith*. This faith flipped everything upside down. No longer was success or victory defined by wealth or power or influence. Suddenly, only faith mattered. The things of this world were exposed for what they are: transitory and hollow. Yet we persist in thinking that in the end “the one with the most toys wins.” If you had given “toys” to these first disciples, they would have sold them and shared the money with the other believers. Something greater than worldly riches and power caught their hearts. It claimed them and they surrendered freely. Possessing it meant everything. Their mantra would have been: “In the end, the one with *faith* wins.”

They learned their lesson from Christ himself. See what Jesus says to Thomas: It is good that you saw and then believed. But it is even better that many will never “see” and yet believe. When he says this, he is speaking of us. And the name he gives us is “blessed” (John 20:29).

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Next Sunday's Readings: “Third Sunday of Easter”

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 | Psalm 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 | 1 John 2:1-5a | Luke 24:35-48

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

“My Lord and my God!” John 20: 28

Our hearts continue to give praise and honor to our Risen Lord, who suffered, died, and rose from the dead to bring us goodness and life. I extend my Easter greetings to all, and I hope and pray that you had a great celebration with your family.

We are on the Second Sunday of Easter, and we are presented with an amazing story of Jesus' appearance to His disciples. Thomas, one of the Twelve, only came to believe that Jesus rose from the dead when he touched Him and saw the marks on His hands. He remarked the words ***“my Lord and my God”*** to claim his belief in the Lord. Jesus said to him, ***“Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”***

The story of Thomas and his fellow disciples is a story of faith. It is the faith of the apostles believing in the Risen Lord. How blessed were the disciples, for they could see Him in person after all the things that happened to their Master? He endured so much pain despite the many good works He had done.

When he appeared to His disciple the first time, Thomas missed the opportunity to witness the Risen Lord narrated by the evangelist John. When the other disciples told him that they had seen Him, he became skeptical about the news. He claimed that he would only believe if he would be able to see and touch Him. When the disciple gathered again after a week and Thomas was with them, Jesus appeared. In all humility, he dismissed his unbelief and claimed his belief in the Lord.

Easter is so much filled with mystery. The whole event in Jesus' life had been enveloped with all goodness that included His suffering, death, and resurrection. We have so many questions to ask and answers to uncover. We may not be able to grasp all of them, but in the eyes of faith, we understand everything because of God's immense love for all of us. He wanted us to reform our lives, turn hatred into love, sadness into joy, despair into hope, and suffering with Him into a means of salvation. These are all made possible when we bow down our heads and learn intently in and through Jesus. In one of his Easter messages, Pope Francis helps us understand that we can enter into the mystery of Easter through the virtue of humility. He said in his message, ***“the mystery of Easter cannot be understood – and the Christian faith cannot be lived fully – without humility.”***

The celebration of Easter is a celebration of faith and life. When we joyfully celebrated Easter Sunday last week, it does not imply that the celebration is over. We continue to cherish the gift that the Lord has given to us. Let us nurture our faith. Though we have not seen the Lord as the disciples did, let our faith be a living testimony that Jesus indeed is risen. Let this faith move us to continue spreading the Good News of the Lord, for as Jesus said, ***“Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”***

Your friend in Jesus,
Fr. Pascual