



Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said

to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
- Jn 20:27-29

Readings for the Week of March 30, 2008

Sunday:	Acts 2:42-47/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31
Monday:	Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday:	Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
Saturday:	Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21
Next Sunday:	Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
John 20:21

Our Lord comes to us in our fears, to bring peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends us now to love one another in a world hungry for His love. Loving God, now is the time for me to share freely with the world that love you have so generously given to me.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Adults: When I experience doubts, what helps me strengthen my faith?

Children: How can my faith in Jesus be of help to others?

RCIA

RCIA will meet Tuesday, April 1st at 7pm in the parish office.

Religious Education

religious
education



Home Schooling Families: Our next gathering is Thurs. April 3rd, 6:30-8pm in our parish office.

Our next **Grade Level Mass** hosted by Grades 1 & 9 will be on Sunday, April 6th at our 10am St. Ann Mass.

Retreat for Grade 9 Confirmation Students: Monday, April 7th, 5-9pm in our parish school.

Bicentennial Prayer

All loving and gracious God, we thank You for the gift of your son, Jesus Christ. For two hundred years we have journeyed together as members of His church in the Archdiocese of Boston. We have tried to live the Gospel message in service to one another. Continue to walk with us as we seek to be receptive to Your grace in word and sacrament. Send us Your spirit to enlighten our minds, strengthen our wills and open our hearts. By our witness may others know You. Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, may the church in Boston journey together in Christ. With courage, joy, peace. Amen.

Reflections by Father Bullock

The standard take on today's Gospel is that only Thomas doubts Christ's resurrection and needs a special visit in order to believe. Do we really think any of the other Apostles (John excepted) would have behaved any differently had he, rather than Thomas, been missing? After all, none of them was anywhere to be seen once events heated up late Thursday night and early Friday morning. What now makes them the guys in the white hats and Thomas the only one in a black hat?



You could make the case that during these days the others were a community sharing and building together. They were locked in a room "for fear of the Jews", but this also allowed them to share their feelings, fears, doubts and failures with one another, to feed off one another. Without realizing it, they were seeing Christ in and through each other. So, when He comes, they are more prepared to recognize and welcome Him. For Thomas, off on his own, it will be more difficult.

Faith is more than an intellectual exercise; it is a journey that depends on others. Relationship nourishes faith, and can do so without conscious awareness. A religion teacher teaches truth – but teaches self in the process and in doing so provides a growing field for faith. The finest text book is a living, breathing teacher, radiating faith by his or her very being. A group meeting after Mass is faith-building without any contrived intent or plan of action.

The upper room protected the apostles from those hostile to them. No upper room can protect us from the storms that surge about us – in the church, in the mid-east, or throughout the world. Whatever creates community, whatever encourages relationships, can be a means of helping one another in such times. It is something we should remember.

Permanent Memorial in Memory of Rev. Myron Bullock

Friends of Fr. Bullock are raising funds to purchase and donate a Kranich & Bach piano to St. Ann Church in his memory. This piano, which was used at the 1893 Worlds Fair, is valued at \$100,000. The actual purchase price is \$30,000. **This is a private endeavor and parish funds are not being used.** The piano will be a gift to the parish. If the necessary funds cannot be raised, the piano will be returned to the owner.

Catholic TV Bicentennial Special

Catholic TV's live program, "This is the Day", airing April 8th at 10:30am, will be expanded to one hour to honor the bicentennials of four US archdioceses, Boston, Louisville, New York and Philadelphia. April 8th is the actual date in 1808 that the four dioceses were established. "This is the Day" hosts Fr. Reed and Jay Fadden will welcome quests Cardinal Sean O'Malley and Archbishop Joseph Kurtz of Louisville. Also scheduled to appear are representatives from New York, Philadelphia and Canada as well as Fr. Dan Hennessey from the Archdiocese of Boston's vocations office. The show will rebroadcast at 8pm, and again on Wed., April 9th at 6pm and Thurs. April 10th at 11am. "This is the Day" can also be viewed on demand at CatholicTV.com.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



Memorials & Donations

Holy Family Parish gratefully acknowledges the following donations in memory of:

- Adam Corrao**
Francesca Piraino
- Jennie Laidlaw**
Joe & Grace Curcuru
- Augusto Prudenzi**
Josephine & Tony Taormina



We commend into God's care those who were buried from our Parish recently

- Jennie Laidlaw Yvonne Levielle
- Emma Trotter



Host & Wine

The Host & Wine for March was donated in loving memory of:

- Bessie Tortorici**
From Family



VBS

Please consider joining us as a team leader for this summer's VBS. The program is for children ages 5-12 and will be held the week of July 21st – 25th. Our theme this year is Friendship Trek, Jesus is our Friend Forever! We are looking for team leaders to lead crafts, games, music, story time, snack, decorations and opening and closing prayer. If you are interested in joining our team please come to a VBS meeting on Tuesday evening,



April 1st from 6:30-7:30pm in the parish office.

Congratulations Students!

We celebrate the following students who were initiated as full members of Holy Family Parish this Easter Weekend:

- Edward Mahoney**
- Camilla States**

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The **Clothes Closet** located in the basement of St. Ann School, corner of Prospect and Pleasant Streets, is open Wednesdays from 6-8pm and Saturdays from 10am-1pm. Stop by and see what we have to offer. Through the efforts of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, proceeds benefit the everyday needs of families in our community.



Food Pantry Needs

- Canned Vegetables, Cereal, Crackers,
- Peanut Butter & Jelly

Holy Spirit Prayer Group

The Holy Spirit Prayer Group meets **Thursdays at 7pm in St. Joachim Church, Rockport.** Questions? Call Louise 978-281-3645.



Rosary

The Rosary is being said Wednesday nights at 5pm in the Mother of Grace Club (48 Washington St., Glou.). Please join us!

Eucharistic Adoration

- Mondays – 7 – 9pm (St. Joachim Church)**
7:30pm – Chaplet of Divine Mercy
8pm – Rosary
- Thursdays 9:30am – 1:30pm**
7 – 9pm (St. Joachim Church)

To sign up or for more info, call Angela 978-283-5701.

Nursing Home Mass Schedule

Golden Living Center – Mass, March 31st – 3pm

Mass Intentions

You may reserve Mass intentions for the second half of 2008 beginning at **10am Friday, May 9th**. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Please feel free to contact the parish office 978-281-4820 with any requests or questions at that time-**or better yet, stop and see us!**

St. Ann School

St. Ann School is accepting registrations for the 2008-2009 school year. Visit our new website at www.stannsschool.com or call 978-283-3455 to schedule a visit

Shaw's Receipt Program

St. Ann School is still collecting receipts for the Shaw's Receipt Program. To date, we have collected \$2500 due to your generous participation. Thank you and please continue your support by dropping off Shaw's receipts at the church.

Divine Mercy Service

All are welcome to attend Divine Mercy Sunday TODAY **March 30th beginning at 1 pm in St. Joachim Church.** Refreshments will be served immediately following in the Rockport Community Center.

CURSILLO ULTREYA

The Cape Ann Cursillo Community will be hosting their next Ultreya on Sat., April 5th at St. John the Baptist Church in Essex. All are welcome and need not have been on a Cursillo Encounter Weekend to attend. There will be Mass at 4pm followed by a pot luck supper at 5pm with the Ultreya starting at 6pm. Please come, bring a friend and a dish to share. For more information call Al Mitchell at 978-281-0536.

