



CELEBRATING THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL  
WVC SUN 24TH APRIL 2022, DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

# JESUS IS ALIVE

John 20:19-31

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.

## "HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN AND YET BELIEVE"

We weren't there. We didn't see. We didn't even arrive late, like Thomas! We won't ever understand how, or why, and we will never possess the vocabulary to explain the mysteries of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. We will doubt the historical evidence, and what's written in the Bible because our lives will be hard and we won't be able to believe in something so good. The darkness will seep in, and we will find ourselves filled with doubt. This uncertainty separates us from God. Mother Teresa was once asked to pray for a man to develop clarity, and her response was "I have never had clarity, what I have always had is trust. So I will pray that you trust God."



## Divine Mercy

In the 1930s, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina Kowalska, a humble, Polish sister. During these visions, Jesus asked specifically that the Feast of Divine Mercy be established so that all people would turn to Him and find refuge in the depths of His mercy. Jesus stressed to St. Faustina that we can love our neighbors through our actions, our words, and our prayers. In the Divine Mercy image, Jesus is portrayed with one hand outstretched blessing the world, while his other hand rests on the side wounded by the soldier's spear shortly before his death. Flowing from the wound is blood and water. Below most images of the Divine Mercy are the words, "Jesus I Trust in You."

**O BLOOD AND WATER, WHICH GUSHED FORTH FROM THE HEART OF JESUS AS A FOUNTAIN OF MERCY FOR US, I TRUST IN YOU!**  
*"We do not need to be afraid of questions and doubts because they are the beginning of a path of knowledge and going deeper; one who does not ask questions cannot progress either in knowledge or in faith." - Pope Francis*

<p><b>MASS READINGS</b>          1st Reading: Acts 5:12-16  <b>The people were loud in their praise</b>          Psalm: Psalm 117:  <b>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</b>          2nd Reading: Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19  <b>I was dead, and now I am to live for ever</b>          Gospel: John 20:19-31  <b>Doubt no longer but believe</b></p>	<p><b>THIS WEEK</b>          Wednesday 27th: 8.25am Morning Prayer          Friday 29nd: 8.15am Mass celebrated by Fr. Peter for the intentions of the Technology Department</p> <p><b>WE PRAY FOR...</b>          All those we know who are sick and housebound, those in care or in hospital, and those who have recently died.</p>
--	---