



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15

2nd Sunday of Easter 11th April 2021

The story of “doubting Thomas” is part of the Gospel reading this Sunday. In many ways the doubts of Thomas, expressed so candidly at that moment in the room, can seem perfectly understandable and can even appear to be quite reasonable. The apostles and disciples had just lived through a tumultuous few days. In the space of a week Jesus had been welcomed with acclaim into Jerusalem, had been arrested and crucified. Now some of his followers were claiming that Jesus was alive and had appeared to them. The immediate reaction of Thomas on hearing this piece of news was to want to see the evidence for himself. A week later when Jesus appeared again to the disciples, Thomas had all the evidence he needed. As Jesus spoke to him and showed him his wounds, Thomas humbly professes his faith in the risen Jesus with the memorable words “My Lord and my God.”

The Gospel of John, as the author clearly states, was compiled to help people come to know Jesus and ultimately make the same profession of faith in Jesus as Thomas did. It is only through our belief in Jesus, risen from the dead, that we can have eternal life. This faith in Jesus is what binds people together into a Christian community.

Spreading this good news of salvation in Jesus is at the heart of the missionary work of our Church. We desire, like those first disciples, to make this wonderful news known to everyone. We attest to this belief by living in love as Jesus once lived and we look forward in hope to sharing the joy of being with the risen glorified Jesus when we will finally be called home from this earthly life.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Divine Mercy Sunday

The Sunday after Easter is also now known as Divine Mercy Sunday as we celebrate the great mercy of God revealed to us in Jesus.

Easter water

Small bottles of blessed Easter water are still available at the baptism font in the Church. You are welcome to take one for your home.

Trócaire

If you had a Trócaire box in your home for Lent, please arrange for the monies collected in it to be forwarded to Trócaire. The following options are suggested. You can open your Trócaire box, count the money collected and send a cheque for the total amount directly to Trócaire. Alternatively you can use the Donate button on the Trócaire website and pay the total amount with a card. Lastly you can return your box to the Church. For more information see www.trocaire.org

New School Term

We wish all pupils and school staff well as schools re-open this week for the final term of this school year. It has been a stressful year for everyone and we pray for the health and well-being of pupils and staff in the coming months.

Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

The annual pilgrimage will be a virtual one again this year on Saturday 24th April. Details of the day to follow.

Ecumenical Bible Week 2021

Running from **Pentecost Sunday (23rd May) to Trinity Sunday (30th May)**, Ecumenical Bible Week (EBW) is led by the Archdiocese of Dublin and the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough in collaboration with many other Christian traditions ranging from the Evangelical Alliance to Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians and support from the National Bible Society and Scripture Union. The overall theme this year is “Unlocking Faith Today: Responding to New Realities”. To **Register visit – www.bibleweek.ie**