

Name:
Grade:
Divine Mercy Sunday

St. Anthony of Padua

Gospel Homework
Assignment due
May 1, 2011

Gospel Passage

John 20:19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24 Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." 26 Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Questions

1. One of the first things Jesus did after rising from the dead was to breathe on the Apostles and give them the power to forgive sins, which is what priests do in the sacrament of Reconciliation. If this is one of the first things Jesus did after rising from the dead, how important do you think it is to Him?
2. Jesus said to the Apostles, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." How could they know which sins to retain and which to forgive unless somebody told them in confession? (Do you see the importance of confessing your sins to the priest now?)
3. Jesus said to "doubting" Thomas, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." We did not see Jesus physically rise from the dead. How can we be blessed too?

You may use the back side of this sheet of paper to write more. You are encouraged to ask for your parents' help in answering these questions. This homework must be turned in to those taking CCD attendance, or, if there's no CCD, to the homework box before Mass.

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