

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

We just heard from the gospel of John about St. Thomas' doubt!

Like Thomas there has been a time in my life when I needed to touch Jesus' hands
feel the wound in his side

There has been a time in my life I needed to be reminded.

There were many of the saints. who also went through this period!

You are not alone if have had times in your lives when you could identify
with Thomas.

I am convinced that God has deliberately let the devil place many obstacles
of faith in our path.

God uses obstacles to train us--to make us strong. Doubt is one of those
obstacles

**I believe doubt comes from the devil but is one of the most important
tools that God uses to produce mighty men and women of faith.**

Our biggest one is the world view of happiness compared to the Church's
view of happiness.

But if we doubt without looking for the truth our doubts could condemn us!

This is why we need to look back on our lives in prayers or just take time to be alone with our thoughts and the Holy Spirit. My biggest help getting over those doubts was when I studied my Catholic faith and learned to journal and then looking back on them and seeing how the Holy Spirit was present.

Also reading the lives of the Saints and how they overcome their weaknesses was a strong inspiration for me. For me it was St. Teresa the little flower.

This might be why others have left the Catholic Faith for other simpler religions.

When they had doubts, they looked for the easier religion that just made them feel good!

Kind of like Forget what is the truth just make me feel good!

There is far more hope for the honest doubter than for the person who says, "Of course, I believe, I never had any doubts" and never really struggles with the meaning of life. But I do envy them.

However, in order to experience the true joy that God intends for each each of His children, there must come a time when we remove all doubts and are at peace.

You see Jesus did not condemn the prodigal son for leaving. Like the prodigal son some of us just have to hit our bottom. That is part of the maturing process. However, one lesson that we learn from the prodigal son is that we don't want to spend a lifetime in a pigpen.

Spiritual maturity comes when we are ready to put our finger in Jesus's wounds.

When we can overcome our doubts, then our faith can become stronger.

So you see this is where Divine Mercy Sunday comes in.

We are reminded of our heavenly Father's divine Mercy for us!!

Divine Mercy is our prayer that Jesus gave St. Faustina to pass on to us.

If I remember reading St. Faustina's diary, she even found it hard to comprehend what Jesus was asking of her.

But because of her love for Jesus she had the courage to convince others.

Then the words at the bottom of his picture should take on a whole new meaning for us : "Jesus I Trust In You."

It was very interesting that St Pope John Paul II would declare April 30 2000 the second Sunday after Easter Divine Mercy Sunday. Then more interesting is when he died on April 2 2005 on the eve of Divine Mercy Sunday. It was only fitting that the church declared his beatification on April 17th 2014 Divine Mercy Sunday.

So our next step would be how can we become a Saint, like St. Thomas, or St. Faustina or St Teresa and become stronger in our faith?

A good start would begin each day offering it up to God, the bad and the good. Also reading how others like us become saints.

Many of us would say, I mean well, but there just isn't enough time in the day.

That might be very true this day and age, but God wants you to at least try.

Getting up just a few minutes earlier might be all you need.

In Acts we heard Jesus did not leave this world without a visible witness to the resurrection. These communities in Acts were full of love for the world to see.

We are called to be these communities to the world around us today.

He left us to show the world, to doubt is all right, but eventually we must show the world how and why we came to believe and have faith.

Divine Mercy chaplet given to ST Faustina by Jesus himself is a very good start.

You and I need God's Divine Mercy and it's corresponding joy, now, today, tomorrow and next week and it is ours for the asking!!

Remember this picture with those words on the bottom "Jesus I Trust In You 'along with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, **was not** St. Faustina idea, it was Jesus' promise to her for anyone who prayed the Divine Mercy chaplet, especially before dying he promised them eternal happiness.

So remove all doubt and repeat those words with me:

"JESUS I TRUST IN YOU" AMEN

