##  **St. Bonaventure Religious Ed**

 **Remote Lesson 12**

 **Sunday April 11, 2021**

 **2nd Sunday of Easter ~ Sunday of Divine Mercy**

 **“You believe because you have seen me.**

 **Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.”**

* **Preface**

We often judge people by one mistake. We never let them forget it. Further, we never let the world forget it. When we think of David, we think of his sin. We forget what a great man he was in spite of his failure. When we think of Jacob, we think of how he stole his brother’s birthright. When we think of Peter, we remember his denial. Shakespeare said, *“The evil that* *men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones.”* This is what happened to Thomas. No doubt he showed great faith many times, but we remember him because of his doubt. Today when someone is skeptical, we call that person a doubting Thomas. In reality, Thomas was one of the most steadfast and loyal apostles among the Twelve. *How many times we have wrongly judged someone!*

* **Begin by reading the prayer as a family:**

Lord,

We find ourselves in the locked doors of ourselves.

just as the disciples were behind closed doors.

We too are afraid, perhaps for a different reason than theirs.

But we too need the breath of the Holy Spirit to take away our fears.

so that we can come out from behind these locked doors.

Lord, we are like Thomas with our questions and our doubts.

We sometimes need to see in order to believe,

we need you in order to have faith. Amen



* **Read todays Gospel below as a family:**

**Gospel John 20:19-31**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples[\*](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/20#51020019-2) were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.[\*](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/20#51020020-1) The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the holy Spirit.  Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.”

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

Now a week later his disciples were again inside, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be with you.” 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.”

 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

* **Please complete the lessons below as a family or individually, then share what you have learned.**
* **Each lesson, activity or video is geared to age levels.** *(RED - younger kids, BLUE – older elementary to HS, GREEN – adults or adult supervision to explain.*

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fOsA5MTO9AQ**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fOsA5MTO9AQ) **The Story of Saint Thomas** (12:31 min.)

[**https://www.pursuegodkids.org/the-story-of-doubting-thomas/**](https://www.pursuegodkids.org/the-story-of-doubting-thomas/) (3:07 min.)

Discuss the following questions with your family:

* *What’s your favorite part of the video? What’s one thing you learned from it?*
* *Make a list of outrageous things people say they’ve seen but can’t prove. (UFO’s, BigFoot, Unicorns)*
* *Why were the 12 disciples important to Jesus?*
* *What is your nickname? How did you get it?*
* *If you were around in Jesus’ day, how would you have responded to hearing that he rose from the dead?*
* *Why do you think Jesus doesn’t get mad at us for our doubts? What does he want us to do with them?*

# *Read*[*Psalm 9:10*](https://www.bible.com/bible/116/psa.9)*:* Those who know your name trust in you,     for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.

* *Why is God worthy of our trust? What does this verse say God will never do?*
* *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

**https://lifeteen.com/blog/10-ways-that-doubting-thomas-is-all-of-us/ 10 Ways Doubting Thomas is all of us -** text & video out takes

[**https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/homily/peter-john-and-thomas/5117/**](https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/homily/peter-john-and-thomas/5117/) **Bishop Robert Barron podcast – Peter, John and Thomas** (13:53)