

Dear Padre,

I get a lot of questions from Protestant friends about the Catholic “obsession” (as they put it) with Mary. What should I say to them?



A convert to Catholicism tells the story of a dinner he had with a friend who had a very evangelical outlook. As they talked about the new Catholic’s decision to convert, the friend asked hesitantly, “What do you think about Mary?” The new Catholic smiled and said, “I think she’s wonderful, don’t you?” The friend responded with an embarrassed “Yes, but...”

If Catholics and Protestants can begin with this premise—that Mary is wonderful—it might be possible to step back and consider why. Mary is an extraordinary human being who holds a special place in the Christian faith for two reasons: first, it was through her that God became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ; and second, she was the first to believe in Jesus’ mission and ministry.

All Catholic doctrine about Mary refers to two special relationships. She has a special relationship with God because she bore the “God-man” in her womb. She also has a special relationship with us because she was the first Christian.

*Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

[The disciples] had abandoned the Lord at his passion and felt guilty. But meeting them, Jesus did not give a long sermon. To them, who were wounded within, he shows his own wounds. Thomas can now touch them and know of Jesus’ love and how much Jesus had suffered for him, even though he had abandoned him.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2020



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Calendar

Monday
APRIL 12
Easter Weekday
Acts 4:23–31
Jn 3:1–8

Tuesday
APRIL 13
Easter Weekday
Acts 4:32–37
Jn 3:7b–15

Wednesday
APRIL 14
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:17–26
Jn 3:16–21

Thursday
APRIL 15
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:27–33
Jn 3:31–36

Friday
APRIL 16
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:34–42
Jn 6:1–15

Saturday
APRIL 17
Easter Weekday
Acts 6:1–7
Jn 6:16–21

Sunday
APRIL 18
Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 3:13–15, 17–19
1 Jn 2:1–5a
Lk 24:35–48



OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH

Wed Apr 28 is the 19th Anniversary of the dedication of Our Lady of Peace!

Thank you for supporting the **Pontifical Good Friday Collection**, as encouraged by Pope Francis. Through the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land, and you become an instrument of peace in a troubled land.

Our parishes of OLP & St. Agnes raised \$432.00

Religious Education Coordinator By the grace of God, Lori Nelson has agreed to be our coordinator for religious education. Thank you, Lori

Baby Bottles **Thank you** to everyone from St. Agnes and OLP for your contributions to this campaign. \$707.04 was collected. The proceeds will be taken to Grand Forks Women’s Pregnancy Center. God Bless

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon	4/12	OLP	NO Mass	
Tue	4/13	OLP	9:00am	Morgan Maus
Wed.	4/14	OLP	9:00am	+Paul Moen
Thur	4/15	OLP	9:00am	Thomas Guler
Fri	4/16	OLP	9:00am	Lisa Haugen
Sat	4/17	OLP	5:00pm	Nick Hylla
Sun	4/18	OLP	8:30am	For the People
lhry		St. Agnes	10:30am	+Mark, Bob & Connie

Holy Hour Sunday’s 3:00-4:00pm

OLP STEWARDSHIP 4/4

Adult	\$3058.00
Plate	\$60.00
Children’s	\$2.00
Votive	\$10.00
St. Ann	\$5.00
Mary Candle	\$40.00
TOTAL	\$3175.00

Holy Land- \$432.00

OLP prayer chain information

Julie Lipsiea 786-2138 or Julie.lipsiea@may-portcg.com;

Marge Spies 788-8775 or maggiejj@yahoo.com or

Dee VonRuden 788-3334

Mary candle– special intention



ST AGNES PARISH

FIRST COMMUNION &
CONFIRMATION



Norah Thompson, Sophie Thompson & Kennedy Hubbard will receive the sacraments of Confirmation & First Holy Communion at 10:30 Mass today! CONGRATULATIONS !

OLP & St. Agnes parishes:

Word Among Us—We still have folks asking to sign up to receive a monthly copy. Please sign your name ONLY if you have not previously signed up. We are asking for a \$20 yearly donation. Thank you

Congratulations to this weeks Calendar Cash raffle winners

\$20 1) St Agnes, 2) Scott Thompson, 3) Bryon Mitzel;

\$40 Blanche Moore

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Website: olp-stagnes.org

Office hours Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri 9am to 1pm

St. Agnes STEWARDSHIP 4/4

Adult \$725.00

Plate \$95.00

Total \$820.00

If anyone has something to share that should be included in the bulletin, please contact Lois, 874-2144, 701-238-4380, lois_ewertz@hotmail.com



Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter
(Sunday of Divine Mercy) (B)

Acts 4:32-35

1 Jn 5:1-6

Jn 20:19-31

I Want Proof

Who doesn't? It's not simply that we are children of the scientific age in which proof is essential. Concrete evidence gives us a sense of security; it helps us understand how things work. Even in ordinary human relationships, we want proof. A tune from *My Fair Lady* demands: "Don't talk of love...show me." It's very difficult to live without a certain degree of surety. Consequently, we should not be surprised at Thomas' insistence: "I want proof."

Thomas is often described as lacking faith. This isn't the full story. The reason the other disciples believed was because they had an experience of the risen Lord. Before that experience they were hiding behind locked doors. Thomas was absent; we are not told why. Whatever the reason, he also wanted an experience of the risen Lord. He was not content to base his believing on their word alone. In a sense, more was being asked of Thomas than the others.

Thomas is the patron of all of us whose faith in the risen Lord is based on the word of others rather than on our own unique revelatory experience. Who of us wouldn't want some mystical experience? We are called to believe without seeing. Yet, this isn't strictly true—we can see evidence of the resurrection. The best proof is evident in the lives of millions of people who commit themselves to God and who strive to live with integrity.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- ★ Who are the people who taught you your faith and who live it themselves? Thank God for them.
- ★ Who looks to you as an example of one who believes that Christ is alive today?

Jesus said to [Thomas],
"Have you come to believe
because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have
not seen and have believed."

JOHN 20:29

