

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter(B) (Divine Mercy)

Wouldn't it have been great to have lived back in the Apostolic Times, and maybe even have been part of that communal life described in the Acts of the Apostles, who met in the Temple and broke bread together. To hold all things in common and spend our time praising God, and proclaiming the risen Lord and bringing others to believe in Him, adding to our number. As St. John says in his letter, "To conquer the World, by our Faith."

Of course, there was no indoor plumbing and transportation was by camel back or on your own two feet... But it would almost have been worth it to have been one of those first believers.

Or Better Yet!!! To have been with Peter and the other disciples in the upper room, and to have actually SEEN the Resurrected Jesus Christ. To have fallen at his feet, and To be able to proclaim him, like Thomas—My Lord and My God.

Wow!! That would have been great!

But..... That was 2000 years ago, and even though we have hot and cold running water and Toyota Corollas, we can't be in the presence of **that** body with nail holes and a pierced side.

But we CAN imagine... In fact, Let's all do that, right now. Close your eyes..... and imagine Jesus in the upper room. What does Jesus look like in your minds eye. Can you see him?

Does He look like St. Faustina's vision?.....

Is He wearing an ankle-length robe, with a gold sash around his chest.... Are there blue and red rays shining from His heart?

In addition to the Second Sunday of Easter, You know What else we are celebrating today?

Divine Mercy Sunday.

Perhaps Faustina's vision was of Christ at this very occurrence in the Gospel, because this is where Divine Mercy Begins-----This is where Jesus breathed on the Disciples and the Church and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit---Whose sins you forgive.... Are forgiven them.

Folks.... Do you believe that? That your sins are forgiven? Or are you a doubter, like Thomas?

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who have NOT seen.... And have believed." And Peter wrote, "Although you have Not seen Him.... You Love Him!"

Do you Believe you will see Christ face to face in the next world?

Well, You know What?

We don't have to be transported back to that upper room in Jerusalem, and we don't have to wait to die either. We can be in the presence of the Lord..... Today.

This church is our Temple where we come together to praise the Lord. We are the continuation of that first Apostolic community. We are part of those added number that is being saved by Divine Mercy. And We are about to break bread together, Because at the Last Supper, Jesus left us a memorial of himself, and is among us every time we celebrate that memorial in the Holy Eucharist.

Jesus will soon be here on this altar. Bread will become His glorified body. Wine will become the blood that poured from the pierced side into which Thomas put his hand.

Are WE.... really ready .....to meet HIM?

Do you BELIEVE?