

# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY



2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

24 April 2022 - Year C

**“After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.”**

### Something to Think About

You cannot ‘see’ the wind, but you know it is there if you watch the leaves moving in the trees. You cannot ‘see’ love, but you know if somebody loves you by their words and actions. Can you think of some things that you believe in, but cannot see?

### The Story

After Jesus’ friends watched him die on the cross, they were afraid. They locked themselves in a room, filled with fear and sadness. All of a sudden, Jesus appeared in the room with them and they were very happy. One of the disciples, Thomas, was not there when Jesus appeared. When his friends told him what had happened, he refused to believe until he saw Jesus for himself. When Jesus did appear to the disciples again, Thomas was with them and he believed! Jesus said that those who believe without seeing him are the ones who are really blessed.

### The Scriptures

**A reading from the holy gospel according to John**

**20:19-29**

The disciples were afraid of the Jewish leaders, and on the evening of that same Sunday they locked themselves in a room. Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group. He greeted them and showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they became very happy.

After Jesus had greeted them again, he said, "I am sending you, just as the Father has sent me." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they will be forgiven. But if you don't forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven."

Although Thomas the Twin was one of the twelve disciples, he was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them. So they told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But Thomas said, "First, I must see the nail scars in his hands and touch them with my finger. I must put my hand where the spear went into his side. I won't believe unless I do this!"

A week later the disciples were together again. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came in while the doors were still locked and stood in the middle of the group. He greeted his disciples and said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands! Put your hand into my side. Stop doubting and have faith!" Thomas replied, "You are my Lord and my God!"

Jesus said, "Thomas, do you have faith because you have seen me? The people who have faith in me without seeing me are the ones who are really blessed!"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Video

Click to watch the video: [Jesus Appears to Thomas](#)

## Group Discussion

Just like Thomas, we can sometimes forget that Jesus is really with us because he is hidden from our sight.

What helps you to believe in Jesus, even though you cannot see him?

Who are some faith-filled people that you know?

## Praying For Others

*Leader:* Gathered as one with all creation, let us pray for the needs of the world:

*Reader 1:* We pray for those who care for us. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 2:* We pray for peace in the world. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 3:* We pray for people who need a friend. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 4:* We pray for all of God's creation. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 5:* We pray for courage to believe in Jesus always. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

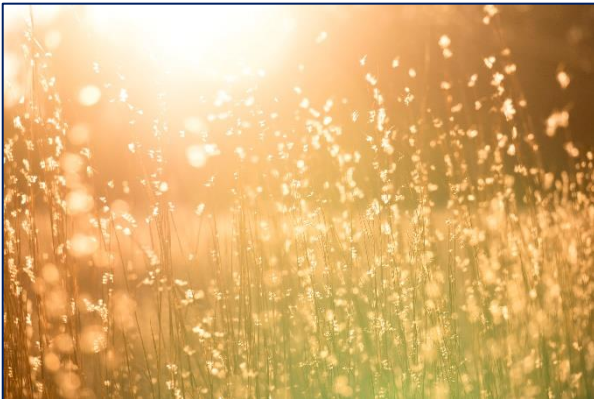
*Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.*

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## Prayer



Dear Jesus,  
We trust that you are with us always.  
Teach us to bring your peace and love to  
the world.  
Amen.

## Group Activity

### Make a Bookmark

You will need: Template photocopied onto construction paper or cardboard, coloured markers, scissors, glue.

Optional: glitter glue.

- 1) Colour and decorate your bookmark
- 2) Fold along the dotted line.
- 3) Glue the two halves together to make your bookmark.
- 4) Place this bookmark in your favourite book and talk about the words on the bookmark with someone in your family.



Jesus is Alive!

No Doubt!

*“...blessed are those  
who have not seen  
and yet have believed.”  
John 20:29*

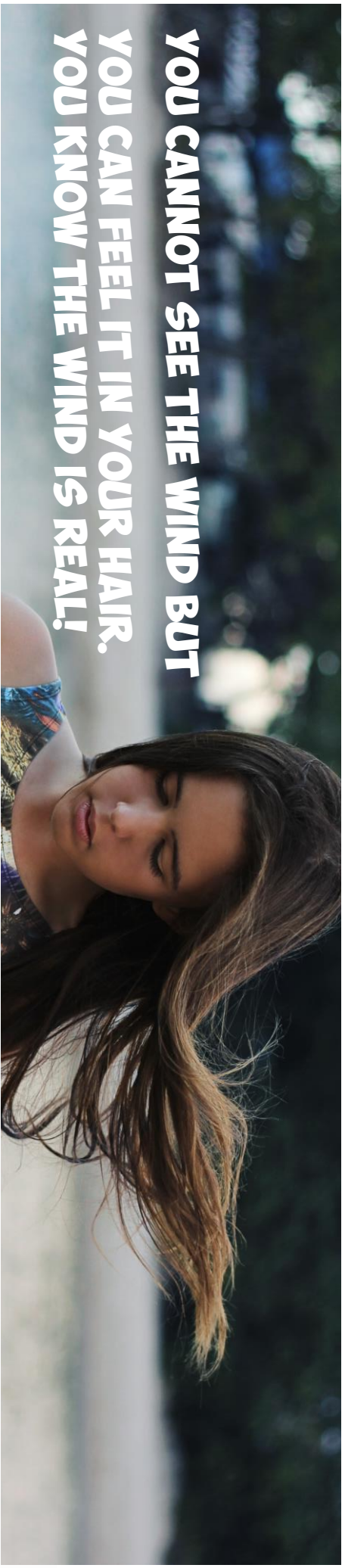


**THOMAS SAW  
AND BELIEVED**

**HE SAID: "YOU ARE MY LORD AND MY GOD!"**

**JESUS SAID: "THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN ME  
WITHOUT SEEING ME ARE REALLY BLESSED".**

EASTER 2 – YEAR C



**YOU CANNOT SEE THE WIND BUT  
YOU CAN FEEL IT IN YOUR HAIR.  
YOU KNOW THE WIND IS REAL!**

**CAN YOU THINK OF OTHER  
THINGS YOU CANNOT SEE  
... BUT WHICH YOU KNOW  
ARE REAL?**

