

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

April 16, 2023

St. John the Evangelist Church
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503
www.stjohnsaltoona.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com
 Rev. Brian Norris - bnorris@dioceseaj.org
 Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net
 Jena Bowman - Business Manager
 stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net
 Deborah Johnson - Director of Music/Pastoral Associate
 dj219@msn.com
 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
 stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net
 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
 iristat38@gmail.com
 Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
 mark.krepich@gmail.com
 Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

MASS SCHEDULE

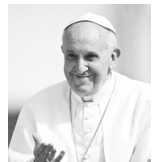
MONDAY - 8:30 AM • TUESDAY - 8:30 AM
WEDNESDAY - 6:00 PM
THURSDAY - 8:30 AM • FRIDAY - 8:30 AM
SATURDAY - 4:00 PM
SUNDAY - 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

April Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

For a Culture of Peace

and Non-violence

We pray for the spread of peace and
 non-violence, by decreasing the use
 of weapons by States and citizens.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Apr. 22 - 4:00 PM - David Langguth, Maria Spayd
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 11:00 AM - Jim Campbell, Patrick Schurr

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Apr. 22 - 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 8:00 AM - Chloe Turscello, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 11:00 AM - Aidan Schurr, Lexi Tatar

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Apr. 22 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Bob Olson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Apr. 22 - 4:00 PM - Karen Moughemer, Dennis Moughemer,
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 8:00 AM - Ed Stoltz, Lou Ann Clark, Ray Kennedy,
 Mary Truesdale
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 11:00 AM - Wendy Campbell, Patrick Podoletz,
 Peg Madden, Walter Bloom

SACRISTAN

Sat. Apr. 22 - 4:00 PM - Ray & Mary King
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Apr. 22 - 4:00 PM - Becky Merilli, Christopher Palazzi
 Sat. Apr. 23 - 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. Apr. 23 - 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

A Few Words from the Pastor:

EASTER ISN'T OVER! Easter lasts for a total of 50 days, from Easter Sunday until the feast of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit comes upon the apostles, Mary, and the first followers of Christ. Christ's victory over sin and death has been accomplished, but the work of restoring the human family and the healing of a wounded and broken world remains. As an Easter people, our work of building up God's kingdom will take a our sacrificial and compassionate efforts!

AN "EASTER OF WAR" - Pope Francis lamented an "Easter of War" as he prayed for peace in Ukraine and around the world. In his Easter Vigil homily, Pope Francis spoke of bringing Christ's light into days "marked by the horrors of war" through gestures of peace and acts of compassion. "Let us make Jesus, the Living One, rise again from all those tombs in which we have sealed him. Let us bring him into our everyday lives: through gestures of peace in these days marked by the horrors of war, through acts of reconciliation amid broken relationships, acts of compassion towards those in need, acts of justice amid situations of inequality, and of truth in the midst of lies."

HELPING THE HOME MISSIONS! The last weekend in April the Catholic faithful across the United States will "strengthen the Church at home" by giving to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. The annual collection through the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) supports dioceses in the United States and its territories that are unable to sustain basic ministries without outside financial help. To learn more about the appeal and those who benefit from this appeal, visit www.usccb.org/home-missions. More information will be included in next week's bulletin.

"OUR SUNDAY BEST" - This expression has its roots in the way churchgoers prepare themselves to worship Christ the King! We put on our "Sunday Best" as a sign of the honor with which we acknowledge Christ the Risen One. We certainly do it for Easter Sunday, when "we come dressed for an audience with the Living God." The Church teaches us that **every** Sunday is Easter! Every Sunday when we come to celebrate the Eucharist, we are urged to come in our "Sunday Best."

OUR BULLETIN'S PRAYER LIST - No doubt you have noticed the long list of names given in our weekly bulletin as our prayer list. Often names are submitted but we are not notified to remove a name after a person has gotten well. The list has become a bit unwieldy. We are going to review the list and start FRESH at the beginning of May. Please contact the office if you wish to have someone included for our May prayer list.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE PARISH? One way to know is if you receive regular communications from us, such as offertory envelopes, robo calls or mailings. If you do not receive at least one of these, then perhaps you are not registered here, you may want to check with the parish office staff. Office hours are from 9 to 3. 814-942-5503.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: The next session of Adult Faith Formation begins this Sunday, April 16th and continues through Sunday, May 21st. The Easter Season is a perfect time for us to delve into The Acts of the Apostles. During the Easter Season we read from the Acts of the Apostles, where we learn about the early church and how it is propelled into mission, just as we are today. All are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and faith on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:30 in the St Johns school cafeteria. For more information call Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

LONGWOOD GARDENS: There are seats still available for the Longwood Gardens bus trip on May 15th. Cost is \$115. Call the Parish Office for reservations or more information.

CHICKEN BBQ: The Hollidaysburg and Altoona Knights of Columbus councils are joining forces for their 2nd Annual "Working Together" Chicken BBQ which will benefit St. Jude's Hospital. This will be a drive thru event at the Star Council Hall at 324 Bedford St., Hollidaysburg on Sunday, May 7, 2023. Tickets are \$10 each and include 1/2 BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Applesauce and a roll. Contact Chris Ringkamp (814-330-4074) or see any Knight for tickets.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT AT BISHOP GUILFOYLE: Bishop Guilfoyle will be hosting the 'Eucharistic Miracles' exhibit put together by Carlo Acutis, an Italian teen who died in 2006 and is on the path to sainthood. The exhibit includes dozens of displays of amazing Eucharistic miracles from around the world, along with a 15-minute documentary on our own Servant of God Fr. Demetrius Gallitzin. Eucharistic adoration will also be available in the chapel. Freewill offering of \$5 per adult requested to benefit our chapel restoration project; bake sale also available. Come and stay as long as you'd like to explore the world's great Eucharistic miracles! **Held at Bishop Guilfoyle on Friday, April 21st from 6-9 pm and on Saturday, April 22nd from 1-5 pm!**

Schedule for the Week of April 16

Sunday, April 16 - Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

8:00 AM - Mass for *Alex Marchi*

11:00 AM - Mass for *Charlie Moore*

Monday, April 17 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Fr. Wilbur Thomas* requested by
Becky, Heather & Nick Reed

Tuesday, April 18 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Helen Baca* requested by
Family

Wednesday, April 19 - Easter Weekday

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by
Marilyn Bevan

Thursday, April 20 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Robert E. Reeder* requested by
Bob & Ginny Reeder

Friday, April 21 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Regina Seidel* requested by
Joe & Pattie Fromknecht

Saturday, April 22 - Vigil of Third Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Sunday, April 23 - Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Mass for *Frank Ringkamp* requested by
Ginger Cooney

11:00 AM - Mass for *Patricia Ward-Johnson* requested by
Bob & Janet Nearhood

FRIENDS OF LONG STANDING: Hollidaysburg natives



CONCERT
© J. S. Paltuch Co., Inc.

James White and Robert Long, who have been friends and musical collaborators for more than forty years, will present a recital at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church on Friday, April 28, at 7:00 PM. The program will include sacred

works as well as musings about baseball. The centerpiece of their musical offering will be the premier of "Let's Marry Said The Cherry," a setting of whimsical poems by N. M. Bodecker with music by Bruce Trinkley (Professor Emeritus of Music Pennsylvania State University). The Concert is free and open to the public.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21;
Lk 24:13-35

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: The Christian steward approaches life with an "Easter vision" rooted in gratitude for the salvation our Lord has won for us. We can have complete trust in the mercy of God to lead us, step by step, to heaven. This is challenging when things like job stress, family crises, health troubles, and political strife loom large on the horizon. We can find ourselves becoming cynical like Thomas, in the Gospel. He was beaten down by the events of the last several days, and refused to believe that the others had indeed "seen the Lord." Thomas stubbornly does not believe their story until he placed his finger into the nail marks and his hand into the Lord's side. These doubts actually drew Jesus to Thomas in an extraordinary way. Jesus recognized Thomas' pain and disappointment. Jesus calmed his doubts and fears, by allowing Thomas to touch those Sacred Wounds. What amazing grace! When we are tempted to give into doubts about our faith, all we need to do is seek the Lord and He will restore our "Easter vision" through prayer, in the sacraments, and through the encouragement of our Christian communities. Our Lord is mercy itself.
(www.CatholicSteward.com, 3/15/2023)

April 1/2

Envelopes	\$ 5,410.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 967.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 10.00
Parish Development	\$ 50.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 20.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 65.00
Catholic Education	\$ 95.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 105.00
Good Friday Holy Land	\$ 70.00
Easter Offering	\$ 190.00
Easter Flower Offering	\$ 55.00
Food Bank Donations	\$ 35.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,923.00
Total Offertory	\$ 6,8995.00

2023 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal - \$41,761

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023

Gifts/Pledges \$ 30,035

Pledge Balance (Not yet received) \$ 50

Total Gifts/Pledges (Received) \$ 29,985

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL: "Whose sins you forgive, are forgiven" means the grudges we carry only make us miserable. The Kingdom of God begins in your home where children learn the paths to peace promised in today's gospel through merciful and forgiving demonstrated by their parents. *Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.*

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at ginny.reeder@gmail.com to add or remove someone from the prayer list. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

**Aiden • Seth Alexander • Janine Anna • Joshua Banks
Bernie Beiswenger • Diane Blyler • Scott Brenneman
Dan Burley • Cari Ann • Michelle Cooney
Ron Cunningham • Flo Dancho • Mary Lee DeStefano
Michael DeStefano • Charlie Elder • Kathy Felty
Leann Frazier • Ed Garlena • Gerry Gonsman
Sherryl Hartman • Bill Hoefler • Don James
Nancy James • Lisa Jimenez • Tim Jimenez
Marianne Jones • Neveah Langenbacher • Lisa
Elsie MacCullagh • Sherri Maffettone
Genevieve Mathias • Angela Mazzei • Susie Miller
Karrie McCall • James McLaren • Sylvia Louise Mills
Donna Moyer • Ailani Myers • Deacon Gene Neral
Patricia Olson • Linda O'Sullivan • Sara Parrish
Mary Rajnish • Ryan Raybuck • Allison Recker
Bette Richards • Vicki Riley • John Rita • Carol Rodgers
Olga Romerowicz • Mike Rudolph • Bruce Shank
Anne Showalter • Betsy Slat • David Sunderland
Patty Swanson • Rick Swanson • Tim Temofonte
Marion Tessitore • Mary Truesdale • Kathy Wagner
Lois Werfel**

GRIEVING IS LONELY: Consider joining other adults who have experienced loss for **Sharing the Journey**. We meet on the **third Tuesday** of each month. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, April 18th** at the Parish Center from 6:00 – 7:30. These are informal gatherings intended to provide the opportunity to share, or to listen, and to open our hearts to Jesus. There is no need to pre-register. You are welcome to come as often as you would like. If you have questions call Mary Petrak, 814-502-6076

CASH BASH: Our Knights of Columbus is holding a Ca\$h Ba\$h at the East Freedom Fire Hall on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Tickets are \$40 each and include two dinners, beverages and one entry in the drawing. A basket raffle, multiple 50/50's and pull-tab tickets will also be offered throughout the evening. Cash and prizes valued at over \$2,500! Contact Chris Ringkamp (814-330-4074) or see any Knight for tickets.

GARVEY MANOR SALE: From now until May 9, friends of the community at Garvey Manor, will be collecting items for a sale that will benefit residents on the campus. If you have household items, garage items, decorations, books, paintings that you want to donate, take those items to the Sarina house between 8 am and 5 pm. **No clothes or shoes.** Please share this with friends.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

April 16: 9:15 - 10:45 AM Class
April 23: NO CLASS
April 30: 9:15 - 10:45 AM Class
April 30: 2nd Grade First Communion Retreat (All 2nd Grade Catholic & Public School Students/Parents)
May 7: 9:15 - 10:45 AM Last Class
May 7: May Crowning & First Holy Communion at the 11:00 Mass

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net.

NEWCOMERS: Welcome to our parish family! If you wish to participate fully in our parish life, please register in the office Monday-Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. or complete a Parish Registration Form provided in the Gathering Space and return it in the offertory collection. To volunteer for parish ministries or discuss how St. John may be present to your faith journey, kindly call 814-942-5503 to schedule a meeting with Monsignor Becker.

NIGHT AT THE RACES: Sat., Apr. 22, in Holy Trinity Middle School Gymnasium. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Dinner is at 6:00 PM. Horse Races start at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$50 per person and include food, drinks & ownership of 1 horse, jockey or trainer. Bets will be accepted in \$2 increments. To purchase tickets, scan the QR code.



EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE: JUNE, 2024: Msgr. Becker will be leading a sacred pilgrimage to Rome, Lisbon, Fatima, Lourdes and Paris from June 3rd to the 16th, 2024. This pilgrimage will include the celebration of daily Mass at each site, with a papal audience in St. Peter's Square. In addition to the shrines of Fatima and Lourdes, our pilgrimage will take us to the beautiful Sacred Heart Cathedral in the heart of Paris. The full itinerary can be found on the St. John's website (stjohnsaltoona.org.) For further information, contact Mr. Jim Roccio, of Festival Travel (814.241.1641), or Msgr. Becker at mbecker253@aol.com

PARISH MISSION OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

CHURCH: 806 11th Street, Altoona, PA 16602

April 24th thru April 27th

Theme: A Journey To Belong In Jesus

Daily Mass on April 24, 25, 26, 27 at 9 AM followed by Continental Breakfast

7:00 pm - Evening Prayer and Preaching

April 27, 7 pm - Closing Mass followed by social

Conducted by Fr. John Petrikovic, O.F.M. Capuchin

Friars, Province of St. Augustine

ALL ARE WELCOME AND INVITED!!!

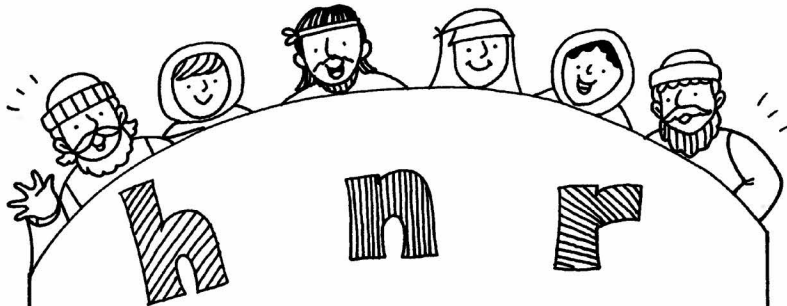
God's Word for Children

Acts 2:42-47 tells us how the believers lived.

They took care of each other.

Decide which of the letters will complete this sentence about them.

Write that letter in the blanks.



T _ e y s o l d w _ a t
t _ e y _ a d,
t _ e n s _ a r e d
w _ a t w a s
m a d e .



© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. • 800-566-6150 • Year A • Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

Scripture excerpts from the New American Bible, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, D.C. and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All rights reserved. No part of the New American Bible may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

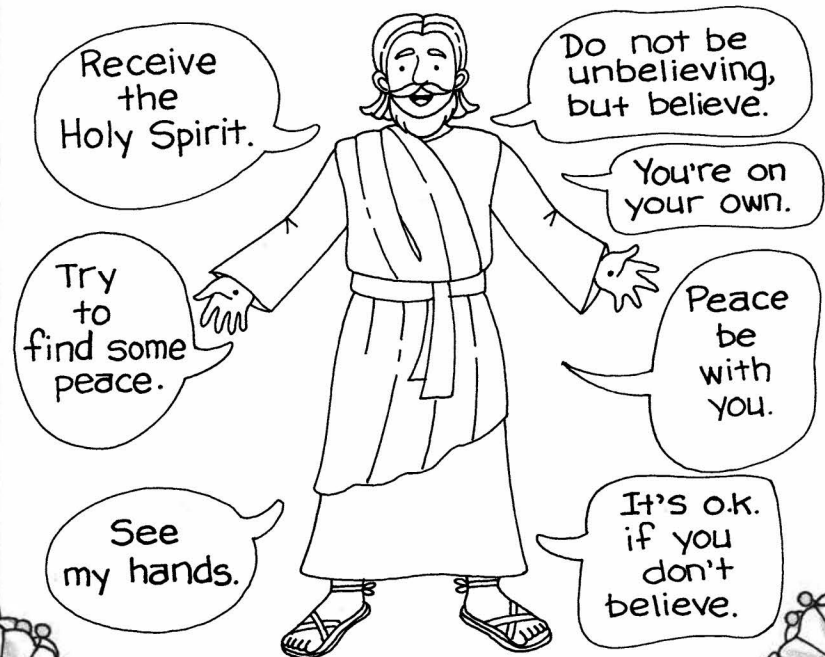
Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

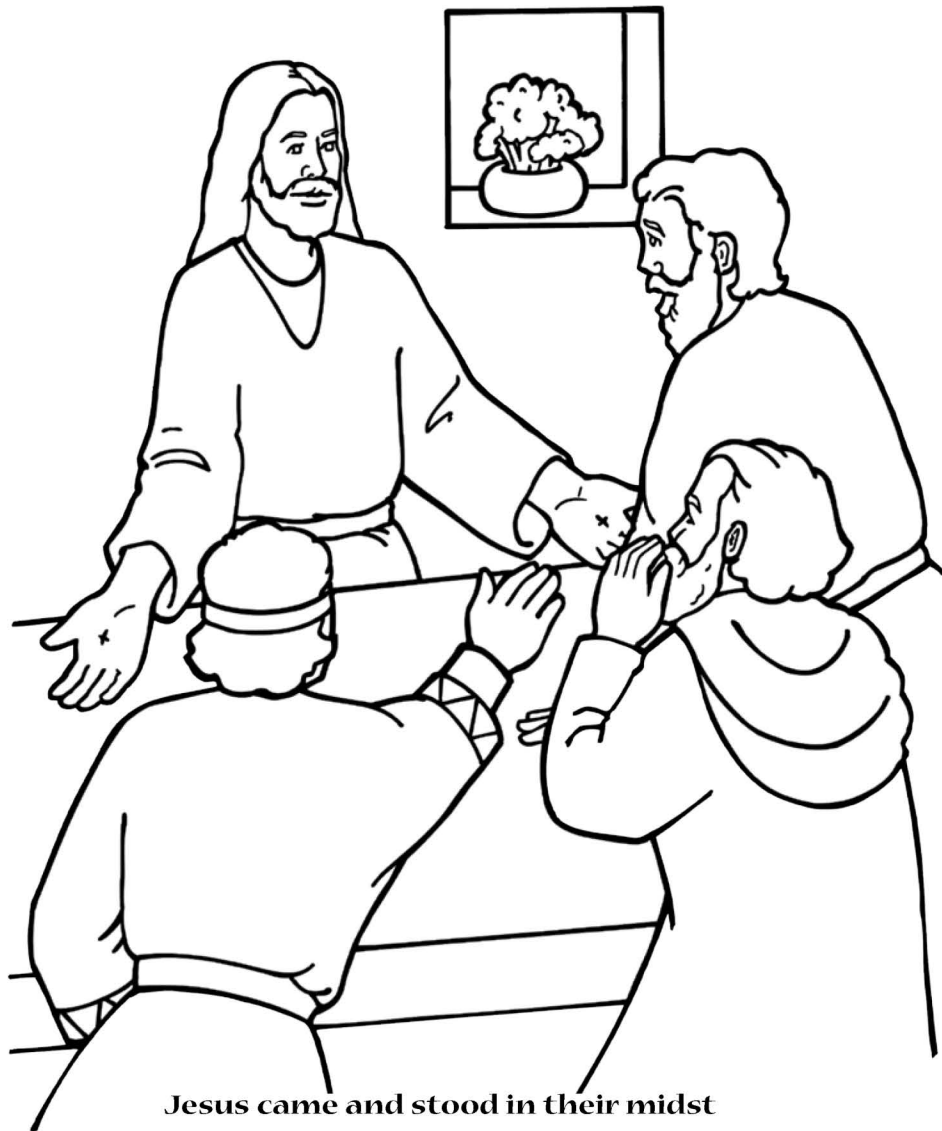
After his resurrection Jesus appeared twice to his disciples in a locked room.

Cross out the speech bubbles that

do not tell what he said during these visits.

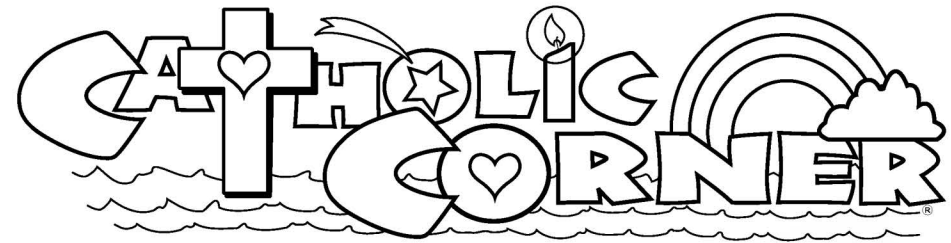
You can read the story in your Bible at John 20:19-31.





**Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, "Peace be with you."**

John 20:19



DIVINE MERCY

Today's first reading (Acts 2:42-47) presents a beautiful account of life among the early followers of Jesus, the people known as Christians. This list of the things they did showed people that they were continuing the work of Jesus. Next to these descriptions from the Acts of the Apostles, write how you continue that work today.



- They gathered for the breaking of the bread.

I do the same when I _____

- They prayed together.

I do the same when I _____

- They offered what they owned to help those in need.

I do the same when I _____

- They lived their lives praising God.

I do the same when I _____



This second Sunday of Easter is also called Divine Mercy Sunday. One of the most important characteristics of a Christian is the ability to forgive. Jesus even forgave those who put him on the cross. He told his followers that they must do the same. Jesus also forgives us when we find it too hard to do what he asks.

- The early Christians forgave one another.

I do the same when I _____

- The early Christians were not afraid to ask forgiveness. They knew that Jesus was full of mercy.

I do the same when I _____