**“Doubting Thomas”**

Doubting Thomas, is a phrase we use when somebody does not believe us or doubt’s our sincerity. Have you wondered why God allowed Thomas not to be with the other ten Apostles when Jesus appeared to them? As we know, for those who love Him, God always bring greater good out of bad things that happens to them in life.

When we want to do things our way, and not in God’s way, God would allow us to have things in our way. He gave us His gift of free will, and He would never mess with it or take it away from us. However, whenever we realize the misery we brought upon ourselves by our choice, we repent and have a conversion of heart, then God in His mercy, would bring us back to grace.

Thomas was not with the rest of the Apostles who were probably praying together when Our Lord appeared to them. Thomas probably went fishing. But Thomas’ main problem was his doubt that the Lord had risen. You might say he had the makings of our modern day non-believing Atheist-Scientists who would like to see prove and be able to replicate an experiment. Thomas just didn’t want to see, he wanted to experience the real presence of our Lord. He wanted to touch and feel the wounds of our Lord. At the time, Thomas had little faith.

However, God used Thomas’ doubt to bless all who belief and all who would belief in His resurrection. We who are here today and all who worship Him from their hearts are the recipient of that blessing. As usual, God brought greater good out of one man’s lack of faith, by blessing many for their faith in His resurrection. It is reasonable to say, this is why God allowed Thomas to be absent on the evening of that first day of the week.

Just as Thomas had doubt about the resurrection of the Messiah, so do some have doubt about the precious gifts He left us. There are some who do not believe in the Eucharist. They do not believe it is the actual Body and Blood of our Lord. But at the same time, they say they belief in Jesus. How is that possible! How can they doubt if Jesus Himself tells us, “This is my Body… This is my Blood. Who would dare to question it and say it is not His Body and Blood?

It is very fundamental to our faith that we belief in His words. It is crucial to our faith that we know what we are receiving is the true Body and Blood of Christ. In John 6:53, when Jesus was speaking to the Jews, Jesus told them, **“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.”**

Most of the Jews could not stomach it. They did not want any part of Him. They thought Jesus was asking them to practice cannibalism. So many of His disciples left Him. However, instead of Him calling them back and telling them, no, no, I was only speaking figuratively. He instead, turn to His Apostles and ask them, if they would leave Him too.

In the Eucharist, Jesus is giving us His true Body in the symbol of bread and His true Blood in the symbol of wine. When we receive either or both of the species, we become one with Him and we become bearers of Christ, sharing in His divine nature. Whatever our sense may tell us, unlike Thomas’ initial response, we must be strong in faith to know and belief that what we receive is what He told us He is giving us. So should we have the utmost reverence during the consecration of the Eucharist!

As we come to receive Him, let us receive Him with the utmost reverence.