



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle C - II Sunday of Easter, April 28, 2019

Acts 5: 12-16; Psalm 117; Revelations 1: 9-11<sup>a</sup>.12-13.17-19; John 2: 19-31

#### Divine Mercy Sunday - Jesus appears to His disciples

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

#### Reflection

After the crucifixion, the disciples were scared so they hid and prayed in a room. Who did they fear? (They feared the men who had Jesus crucified.) On the third day, Jesus resurrects and appears to them in the room and says, "Peace be with you." Why does He show them His hands? (He wanted them to see the crucifixion wounds so they would believe it was Jesus, himself.) Jesus repeats, "Peace be with you." Can you be scared and have peace at the same time? (No. Peace eliminates fear. In the same way, when Jesus enters our heart, He brings peace and fear disappears.) Jesus sends

them to be His messengers and to forgive sins, but with God's help. How does He give them God's power to forgive sins? (He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Jesus knows we will need His forgiveness and he gifts it to us through the apostles, the first priests. He is merciful!) With the Holy Spirit, they receive all the gifts and graces they need to proclaim the Gospel. What does Gospel mean? (The Good News that Jesus saved us). Only Thomas was missing from the room, and he didn't believe when they told him. Why? (He needed to see and touch the wounds of Jesus to believe.) Do you know anyone who only believes what they can see? Share. Jesus appears to Him and says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." To believe without seeing is to have faith. Let's pray every day that God give us more faith.

#### **Activity**

On the following page, color the picture and fill in the blanks with the words below. On the next pages, see the movie on the Divine Mercy, pray the chaplet, and color the image.

#### **Prayer**

Lord, we want our words, actions, and attitudes to show others that Your presence is peace, happiness, and forgiveness. Increase our faith and give faith to those who don't believe in You. Amen.

**Song:** The Lord is Merciful and Compassionate (Ctrl Click) <a href="https://youtu.be/3YBIka9ngKI">https://youtu.be/3YBIka9ngKI</a>

PPT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1GA3VjkPEVU7aPNCagBOVBWZCyrwFGByL/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true

Webpage: www.fcpeace.com





# JESUS EMPOWERS THE APOSTLES



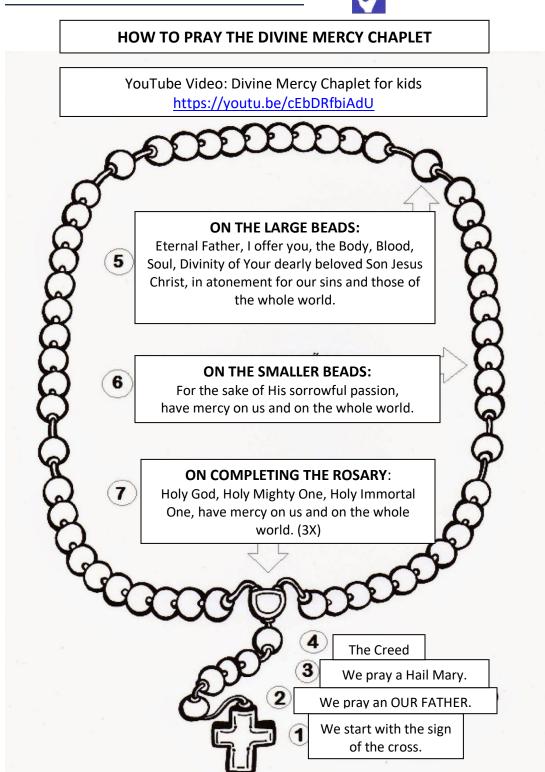
" be	with you. As the	has sent
me, so I ser	nd" And when h	ne had said
this, he	on them and	said to them,
"Receive th	e Wh	ose you
forgive are	$\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ them, and $\iota$	whose sins you
ar	e retained." John 20	: 21-23

#### Fill in the blanks with the following words:

HOLY FATHER BREATHED YOU PEACE SPIRIT SINS FORGIVEN RETAIN





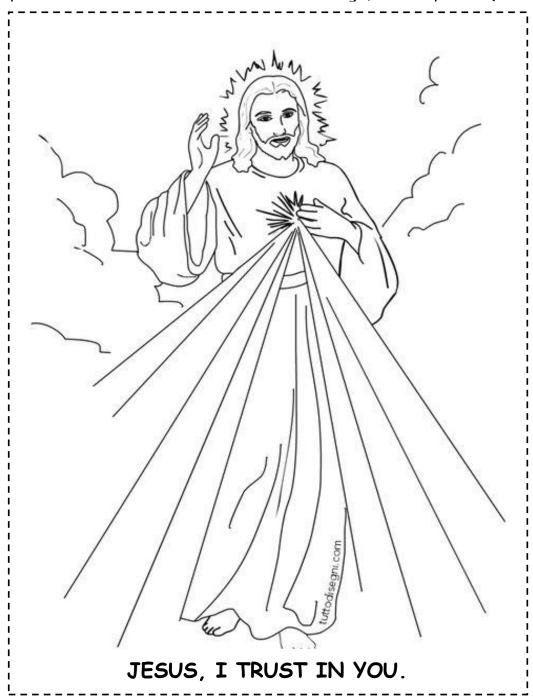






#### THE DIVINE MERCY OF GOD

I desire that this image be venerated in the whole world. I promise that the soul that venerates this image, will not perish. (Jesus)



The 2 rays signify the blood and the water that flowed from His heart when the lance pierced it. The white ray signifies the water that redeems our souls. The red ray signifies the blood which is the life of our soul.