

## The Thomas Dilemma

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**ill is a widower, now in his eighties. He calls every once in a while, partly to talk but really wanting to know how he can convince his grown children and grandchildren to come back to church. He tells me they're good people, but he would like them to have faith. It's been a mainstay in his life, he tells me, something that has gotten him through many difficulties. He loves his family but says their life would be so much richer if they had an active faith life. I try to tell Will he can't argue them into faith. At most he can share with them how faith has been a blessing in his life, hoping that it might then spark an interest in them.

The disciples in the Gospel story about "Doubting Thomas" experienced Will's dilemma. They were unable to convince Thomas that the Lord had risen. He insisted that he would only believe when he could put his fingers and hands into Jesus' wounds, which of course is just what happens the next time they are gathered. For Thomas, words were not enough; he needed the experience.

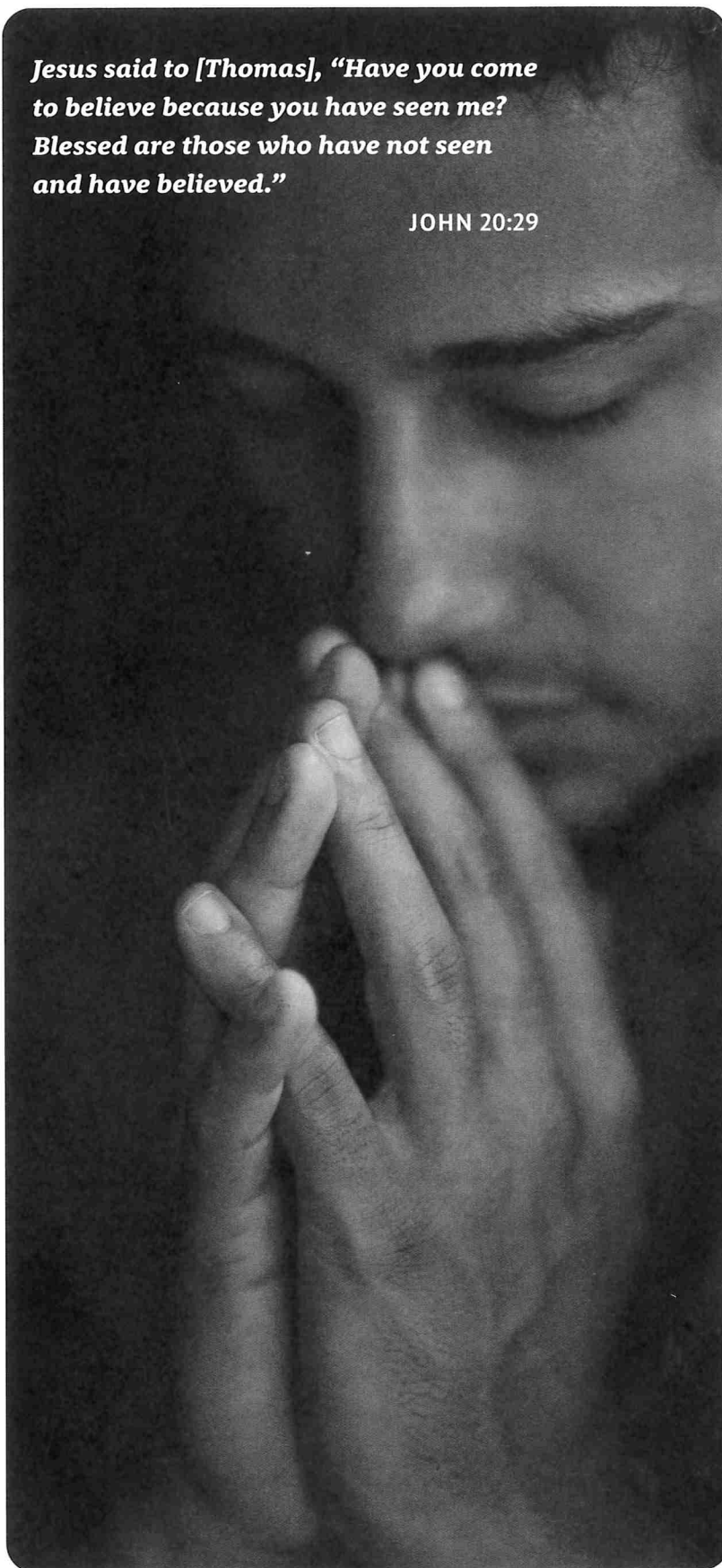
Sometimes that's true for us. We've heard the truth, but we haven't experienced the truth as real or relevant or something we cannot live without. The experience of grave need and then surrendering to God is what many need to remain faithful. Meanwhile, the faithful pray for those who do not believe, especially those we dearly love. ●

### Reflect

***Have you ever surrendered to faith even when you were filled with doubt?***

***Jesus said to [Thomas], "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."***

JOHN 20:29





## Custer County Catholic Communities

St. Joseph, Broken Bow

St. Anselm, Anselmo

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
Sargent

Father Jim Hunt, Pastor  
Rashelle Ryan, St. Joseph DRE

Lori Klein, St. Anselm DRE

Laura Kipp, St. Mary DRE

Jessica Burnett, Financial Secretary

Kate Morse, Parish Nurse

Lance Bristol, Office Administrator

1407 South E Street, PO Box 405

Broken Bow, Nebraska 68822

Office/Parish Center (308) 872-5809

Office/Rectory (308) 872-5716

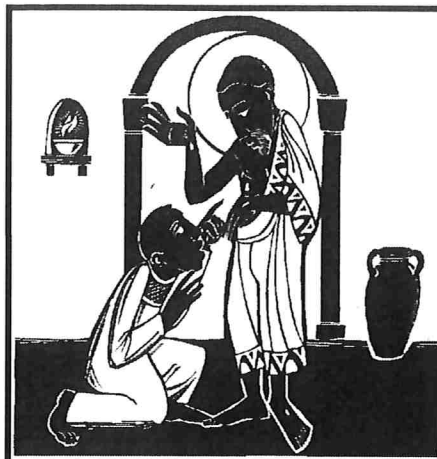
Parish Nurse (308) 527-3357 or (308) 872-5809

www.stjoecatholic.org

E-mail: stjoecatholic@msn.com

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm



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!"

**Second Sunday of  
Easter  
Divine Mercy Sunday**



## Events This Week

### Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Anselmo  
First Communion  
Coffee and Rolls after Mass  
10:30am Broken Bow  
First Communion  
3:00pm Hour of Mercy  
Prayer Service at  
St. Joseph's  
7:00pm KofC Mtg. in  
Callaway

### Apr. 8<sup>th</sup>

7:00pm CDA  
St. Joseph Parish Ctr.

### Apr. 9<sup>th</sup>

6:30pm Anselmo  
Parish Council Mtg.

### Apr. 10<sup>th</sup>

Religious Education Classes  
6:30pm Anselmo  
6:30pm Sargent  
7:00pm Broken Bow

### Apr. 11<sup>th</sup>

6:30am Broken Bow Men's  
Bible Study Parish Ctr.

### Apr. 13<sup>th</sup>

4:00pm Broken Bow  
6:00pm Sargent

### Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Anselmo  
10:30am Broken Bow

## Stewardship

Last  
Weekend's Collections

### St. Joseph

Easter: \$3,701.00  
Holy Land: \$1,051.00  
Rice Bowl: \$1,445.19  
Easter Decorations:  
\$20.00

### St. Anselm

Regular: \$3,626.31  
Holy Land: \$485.11  
Rice Bowl \$836.25  
Bake Sale: \$295.00

### Blessed Virgin Mary

Regular: \$1,935.00  
Holy Land: \$233.35  
Rice Bowl: \$755.80

*Thank you very much for  
your generosity  
each week!*

## Mass Schedule: Apr. 8<sup>th</sup>—Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>

Mon.	6:30 pm Broken Bow	Steve Kaps†
Tues.	6:00 pm Anselmo	Mark Wells†
Wed.	10:00 pm Brookestone	Jim Lepant†
Thur.	9:00 am Broken Bow	David Snyder†
Fri.	No Mass	
Sat.	4:00 pm Broken Bow	People of the Parishes
	Servers: Bayler & Kolten Clay	
	6:00 pm Sargent	People of the Parishes
	Server: Brent Morse	
Sun.	8:30 am Anselmo	Norma Blakely†
	Servers: McKenna Clark & Makenna Miller	
	10:30 am Broken Bow	People of the Parishes
	Servers: Eliana Myer & Tyler Nozicka	

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays from 3:00pm-3:30pm at  
Broken Bow  
or anytime on request.

April is St. Anselm's month to contribute to the Food Pantry. Items needed are non-perishable food, paper products, and toiletries. Your donations can be left in the designated area of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

## RUMMAGE SALE

Melham Medical Center  
Auxiliary Spring Sale

April 14-18th

Broken Bow Municipal Building

Bundle Days-No Sales  
Bring your good, used items to donate  
Sun., April 14th - 1:00pm - 5:00pm  
Mon., April 15th - 8:00am - 6:00pm

Sale Days  
Tue., April 16th - 8:00am - 7:00pm  
Wed., April 17th - 8:00am - 7:00pm  
Thur., April 18th - 8:00am - 1:00pm

**CLEAN ITEMS ONLY  
NO LARGE ITEMS**

\*Volunteers are needed! If you would like to help, please call Auxiliary President Jan Duggins at 308-679-0801.

Sponsored by Melham Medical Center Auxiliary. All proceeds go to healthcare scholarship fund and improvements at Melham Medical Center.

2023/2024 Diocesan Appeal  
Blessed & Grateful

**St. Joseph-Broken Bow-**

Parish Goal: \$16,638.00

Total Raised: \$15,440.00

**Assumption of BVM- Sargent-**

Parish Goal \$6,485.00

Total Raised: \$6,467.00

**St. Anselm-Anselmo-Merna-**

Parish Goal: \$7,142.00

Total Raised: \$7,195.00!

**All checks need to be made  
payable to the Diocesan Appeal.**

Congratulations to  
St. Anselm's Parish for  
reaching their 2024  
Diocesan Appeal Goal!

**Congratulations to Gael Emiliano Corona Martinez**  
son of

Bricia Marlen Corona Martinez  
who was baptized at St. Joseph's on  
Saturday, April 6, 2024.  
We rejoice with you and welcome you!!!



**Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O LORD:** We remember Clarence Carr, former St. Joseph parishioner, who passed away March 27, 2024. Funeral services will be held on Monday, April 8, 2024 at St. Joseph Catholic Church with burial at a later date. Clarence is survived by his wife, Mary Lou, daughter Linda Bryant, son Randy and granddaughter Cheryl Kensell.

**May the joy of the Resurrection bring  
comfort to those who mourn and hope to all  
who grieve...**



**RCIA 2024—Congratulations and Welcome!**

Back Row: Keegan Clark (Sponsor) Dee Dee & Jim Christen  
(RCIA Coordinators) Fr. James Hunt

Front Row: Mickey Clark (Sponsor) **Sheila Clark** (New Member)  
**Kayla Haberstick** (New Member) **Casey Edelman** (New Member)  
Chris Henderson (Sponsor)



Congratulations to our children on receiving Christ  
through the sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first  
time this weekend.

Children receiving the sacrament at St. Joseph:  
**Kennedy Cooksley, Joseph Coufal, Maria Garcia-Gutierrez,**  
**Bexley Hoff, Kamdyn Johnk, Aliyah Lopez-Guido,**  
**Beckam Moyer, Shelton Scott, & Mya Wetovick.**

Children receiving the sacrament at St. Anselm:

**Kyler Potter, Braxton Hempstead & Charlie Schmidt.**

Children receiving the sacrament at Assumption of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary: **Calvin Ernesti.**

Thank you to their catechists **Sarah Russell, Stephanie Potter**  
and **Kristi Grint** for helping them understand the significance of  
receiving Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

**A Message from Fr. Jim:** Jesus 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." As we continue our celebration of Easter, we  
are taken from the empty tomb of Easter morning to the  
Upper Room that same evening, where the disciples see the  
Risen Lord for the first time with their own eyes. The only  
problem was that Thomas was not present with the other  
disciples and refused to believe the testimony of the other  
disciples. Unfortunately, through the ages Thomas has been  
saddled with the moniker "Doubting Thomas." Yet this  
resurrection account is not about Thomas, but rather Jesus.  
The point of this story is that Jesus gives Thomas, and the  
other disciples, what they need to believe. Just like Thomas,  
we were not present at Jesus' first appearance to his  
disciples, but he continues to give us what we need to bring  
us to believe and sustain us in faith. Today in our three  
parishes we joyfully celebrate with our First Communicants  
as they receive the Body and Blood of our Lord in the  
Eucharist. Each time we receive the Eucharist we are given  
proof of the Risen Lord. Today as a Church we celebrate  
Divine Mercy Sunday a reminder of God's unconditional love  
in our lives. It is another sign of the Risen Lord abiding in us.  
Like Thomas, what conditions do I set on my faith? Does  
Jesus give me what I need to believe?

St. Mary's Altar Society members may pay their yearly dues of \$25 to  
Marlene Sasek or deposit them into the Altar Society account at the  
Sargent bank. Thank you for your continued support.

**START YOUR SPRING CLEANING!** St Joseph PCCW is having a  
sale during the Broken Bow Citywide Garage Sales. Please consider  
donating good, gently-used items or new/never-been-touched-in-  
years items from your home to this fundraiser to help raise monies  
which are used to support activities at our parish and our diocesan  
seminarians. Donation days will be May 29-30 and sale days  
May 31-June 1. Volunteers are also needed and can sign up in  
the back of the church or by calling/texting **Jess McCaslin**  
at 308-870-4894.



Sunday, April 7, 2024—3:00pm  
Hour of Mercy Prayer Service  
at St. Joseph's.

**The 2024 GIDCCW Spring Assembly is planned for Monday  
and Tuesday, April 15-16 in Broken Bow at St. Joseph's  
Catholic Church.** All PCCW members are invited to attend.  
Registration forms for the Spring Assembly are available in  
the church office.

# Dear Padre,

## What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Pope John Paul II declared Sr. Faustina Kowalska a saint of the Church on April 30, 2000, and in a decree dated May 23, 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that “throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that [we] will experience in the years to come.”

Saint Faustina was born in 1905 and spent most of her life in Poland, in the Congregation of the Virgin Mary of Mercy. She experienced an extraordinary union with God. She received exceptional graces, revelations, visions, hidden stigmata, the ability to read souls, and the gift of prophecy.

One of the images that was revealed to Faustina was that of the merciful Jesus, touching his Sacred Heart, from which beams of red and white light came forth. This image and her devotion to the divine mercies gathered thousands of supporters throughout the world. We still see the traditional image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in many of our churches today. In some churches, we might see the newer image, inspired by the saint. Saint Faustina Kowalska died in 1938 at the age of thirty-three, leaving an impressive mystical legacy. She is a disciple of God’s divine mercy for the twenty-first century. ●



*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 8 <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i> Is 7:10–14; 8:10 Heb 10:4–10 Lk 1:26–38	April 9 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 4:32–37 Jn 3:7b–15	April 10 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 5:17–26 Jn 3:16–21	April 11 <i>St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr</i> Acts 5:27–33 Jn 3:31–36	April 12 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 5:34–42 Jn 6:1–15	April 13 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 6:1–7 Jn 6:16–21	April 14 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 3:13–15, 17–19 1 Jn 2:1–5a Lk 24:35–48



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*The story of Thomas is in fact the story of every believer. There are times of difficulty when life seems to belie faith, moments of crisis when we need to touch and see. Like Thomas, it is precisely in those moments that we rediscover the heart of Christ, the Lord’s mercy.*

HOMILY, ROME, APRIL 24, 2022