

PASTOR: REV. EDWARD BURBA
St. Anthony of Padua Parish
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SUNDAY April 16 Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday

MONDAY April 17 Easter Weekday
5:30pm Livia Parisi by Diana Parisi
6-7pm Exposition & Confessions
7:00pm Parish Mission

TUESDAY April 18 Easter Weekday
5:30pm Joseph Catalano by Sandy Baclowski & Family
6-7pm Exposition & Confessions
7:00pm Parish Mission

WEDNESDAY April 19 Easter Weekday
6-7pm Exposition & Confessions
7:00pm Parish Mission

THURSDAY April 20 Easter Weekday
7:00pm Mass and closing of Parish Mission

FRIDAY April 21 Easter Weekday
8:15am Tom & Carol Michalec by Elizabeth Tatton

SATURDAY April 22 Easter Weekday
3:25pm Pray the Rosary
4:00pm Nick Alexander by Mrs. Grace Scarlatelli and George & Mary Schreiner by Jeanne S. Ott

SUNDAY April 23 Third Sunday of Easter
7:55am Pray the Rosary
8:30am For the Parishioners
9:55am Pray the Rosary
10:30am Nino Usberghi by Jennie Usberghi and Elia Aiello by St. Monica Society

Please be sure to welcome Fr. Jewel Aytona, CPM. He will be leading our parish mission this week.

Opera at its finest! Announcing St. Monica Society's Luncheon Buffet Italian Opera Fundraiser on Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 1pm at the St. George Family Center, 3204 Ridgewood Rd., Ohio 44303. **Deadline is April 23rd.** Call Cheryl at 330-670-7329.

Divine Mercy

On this Divine Mercy Sunday you are invited to in learning more about the beautiful Divine Mercy devotion. There are at home study materials found on the table near the Mosser Place entrance of the Church. Each packet is meant to be used at home as you study this gift of God's mercy at a time when it is convenient for you in the comfort of your own home. The study is intended to be completed over a ten-week period so it will take you through the Easter Season and a little beyond. You may actually complete it as slowly or as quickly as you like since you are working at home, at your own pace. For those who complete the study and would like to gather for a wrap up discussion that will take place on Saturday June 24, 2023 following the 4:00PM Mass in the Rectory Conference Room.

Adult Bible Study

Our Adult Bible Study will continue looking at the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel this Thursday April 20, 2023 from 7:00-8:00PM in the Rectory Conference Room. All are welcome to attend even if you have not come to the study previously.

Join us for Coffee and Donuts on Sunday, April 23rd after both Masses.

April 9th Collection-----\$1342.00
 Easter Collection -----\$7210.00
 Holy Land Collection -----\$369.00
 Flower Collection -----\$55.00
 March Online Giving-----\$735.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Monday, April 17

School Resumes

Tuesday, April 18

St. Monica Society Meeting. (GYM) Rosary begins at 6:30pm and the meeting at 7pm.

Thursday, April 20

- Adult Bible Study at 7pm (Rectory)
- Choir Practice at 7:15pm

Thank you! To all those who helped to make our celebration of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday so beautiful—the musicians, the altar servers, and those who decorated the church: Jerry VanSickle, David & Tina Moore and Sue Manno. Thank you for your labor of love!

Looking Ahead:

On Friday, April 21st, the Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered to the young parishioners of St. Anthony. The Confirmation Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Tallmadge at 7pm. and will include Confirmation Candidates from 4 parishes in our area.

Divine Mercy Sunday 2023: A Prayer for Mercy and Respect Life Advocacy Request:

A Prayer for Mercy/ Adapted from Pope Francis (2013 Urbi et Orbi and Divine Mercy Sunday Messages)

"Loving God, together we pray to walk in faith and charity, Ever trusting in your mercy: You always wait for us, love us. You have pardoned us with your Blood, and pardon us every time we go to you to ask for forgiveness. Let us be renewed by your mercy.

Let us accept the grace of Christ's Resurrection. Let us be loved by Jesus. Let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too.

Let us become missionary disciples of this mercy, Channels through which your Holy Spirit can water the earth, protect all life and all creation, and make justice, peace, life and mercy flourish. Amen."

Toward a Culture of Life and Mercy: Support the End of Ohio's Death Penalty

Contact your state legislators: The Diocesan Social Action Office invites you to urge your state legislators to support Ohio Senate Bill 101 (and its eventual House version), the new bipartisan bill that would end Ohio's death penalty. Go to www.nodeathpenaltyoh.com/act-now to enter your address that will identify your State Senator and State Representative to email.

Please take one minute to go to www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/135/sb101 and click the name of the sponsors and cosponsors of SB 101. Share your value for all life as you thank them for their leadership and ask them to help move the bill forward in committee. Please consider sharing these links with others. Thank you for contributing to a culture of life and mercy, and building momentum on SB 101!

Join us for Movie Night on Friday, April 28 at 7pm in the school gym. "Facing the Giants"

Bulletins by locally owned businesses:

- Akron Monument & Granite Co.
Jim Leone- Owner
590 E. Tallmadge Ave, Akron 44310
Hennessy Funeral Home
Terry Hennessy II - Owner
552 N. Main Street, Akron 44310
Corner of York and Main

Dear Padre,

I am very curious why, after his resurrection, Jesus told Mary Magdalene not to touch him, but in the upper room, Thomas was encouraged to touch him.

Saint John tells us of this incident between Mary and the risen Jesus. There are scholars who say that immediately after Jesus spoke to Mary he ascended to heaven. His encounter with Thomas, then, would be after the ascension, and the feast of the Ascension we celebrate forty days after Easter is simply a termination of Jesus' earthly appearances.

There is another explanation to consider, offered by other Scripture scholars. The word Jesus uses to tell Mary Magdalene not to touch him is more like "cling" to him. She cannot cling to her old relationship with Jesus. Since his resurrection, a new relationship is necessary. Mary was looking for the Jesus she knew before the passion, not the Jesus of the resurrection. She must now come to know the risen Jesus.

Mary could not cling to Jesus because she had to see him in a new way. For Thomas, the situation is different. Jesus invites Thomas to place his hand on the wounds to prove that he is "real"—that he is really a new kind of being, a resurrected being. Thomas, in his way, also wants to cling to what he thought he knew about Jesus. Both he and Mary Magdalene were close to Jesus, but even so, there were things they still did not understand. Jesus always has the ability to surprise us. •



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 17 Easter Weekday Acts 4:23-31 Jn 3:1-8	April 18 Easter Weekday Acts 4:32-37 Jn 3:7b-15	April 19 Easter Weekday Acts 5:17-26 Jn 3:16-21	April 20 Easter Weekday Acts 5:27-33 Jn 3:31-36	April 21 Easter Weekday Acts 5:34-42 Jn 6:1-15	April 22 Easter Weekday Acts 6:1-7 Jn 6:16-21	April 23 Third Sunday of Easter Acts 2:14, 22-28 1 Pt 1:17-21 Lk 24:13-35



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Don't be afraid of doubts, because they are not a sign of the lack of faith....On the contrary, doubts are "vitamins of faith": they help strengthen faith and make it more robust. They enable faith to grow, to become more conscious, free and mature. They make it more eager to set out, to persevere with humility, day after day.

MEETING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, ATHENS, DECEMBER 6, 2021

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 16, 2023
 Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy) (A)
 Acts 2:42-47 / 1 Peter 1:3-9 / John 20:19-31



The Gift of Doubts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When people tell me they have doubts about their faith, I usually tell them that doubts can be a good thing. "Reflect on your doubts," I say. So very often the doubts bring someone to deeper faith and understanding. When people say they're not sure they believe in God anymore, often what they mean is that they don't believe in a particular idea of God, like the bearded old man in the sky or a God who "allows" children to die of cancer and "permits" wars that slaughter people.

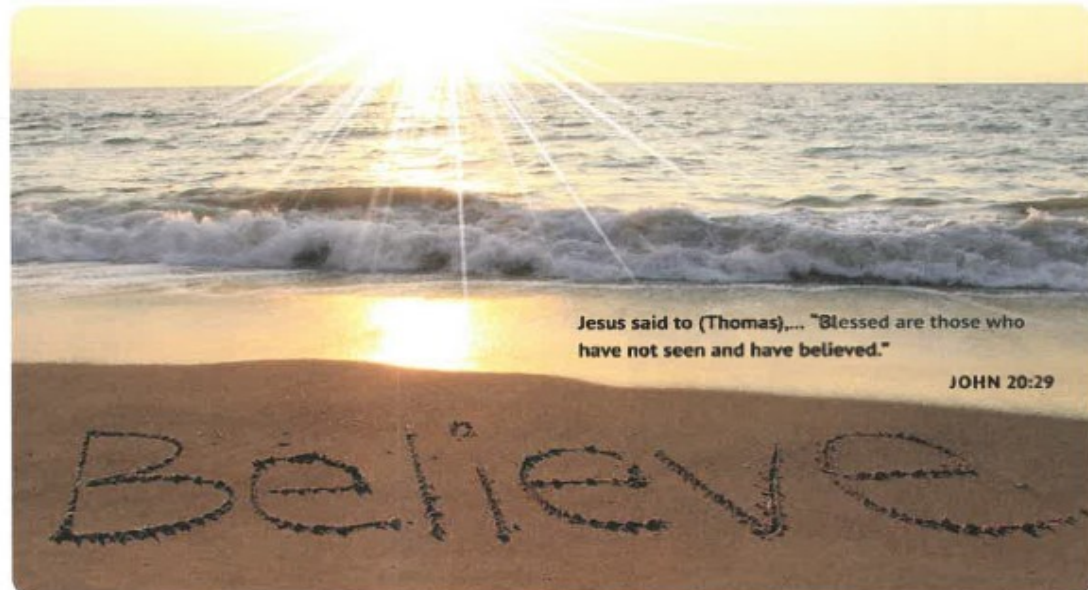
What such doubts ask us to do is to rethink our understanding of who God is. Tossing out our old idea of God does not mean there is no God. It simply means we had a faulty or immature notion of God. It may take some time to rethink who God is, but if we stay with it, do some reading, ask some questions, and pray over it, we

may come to a deeper and richer understanding of God. In short, because I don't understand how something can be does not mean that that something—or someone—is not true or real.

In this week's Gospel, Thomas, was not with the community when Jesus appeared, later could not believe that the Jesus he had known was alive. He doubted. Yet when he was with the community the following week, he discovered that the risen Lord was indeed real but in an entirely new reality. It takes a community of faith to become a believer. •

Reflect

How has your understanding of God changed over the years?



Jesus said to (Thomas)... "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

JOHN 20:29