



The Thomas Dilemma

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Will 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.

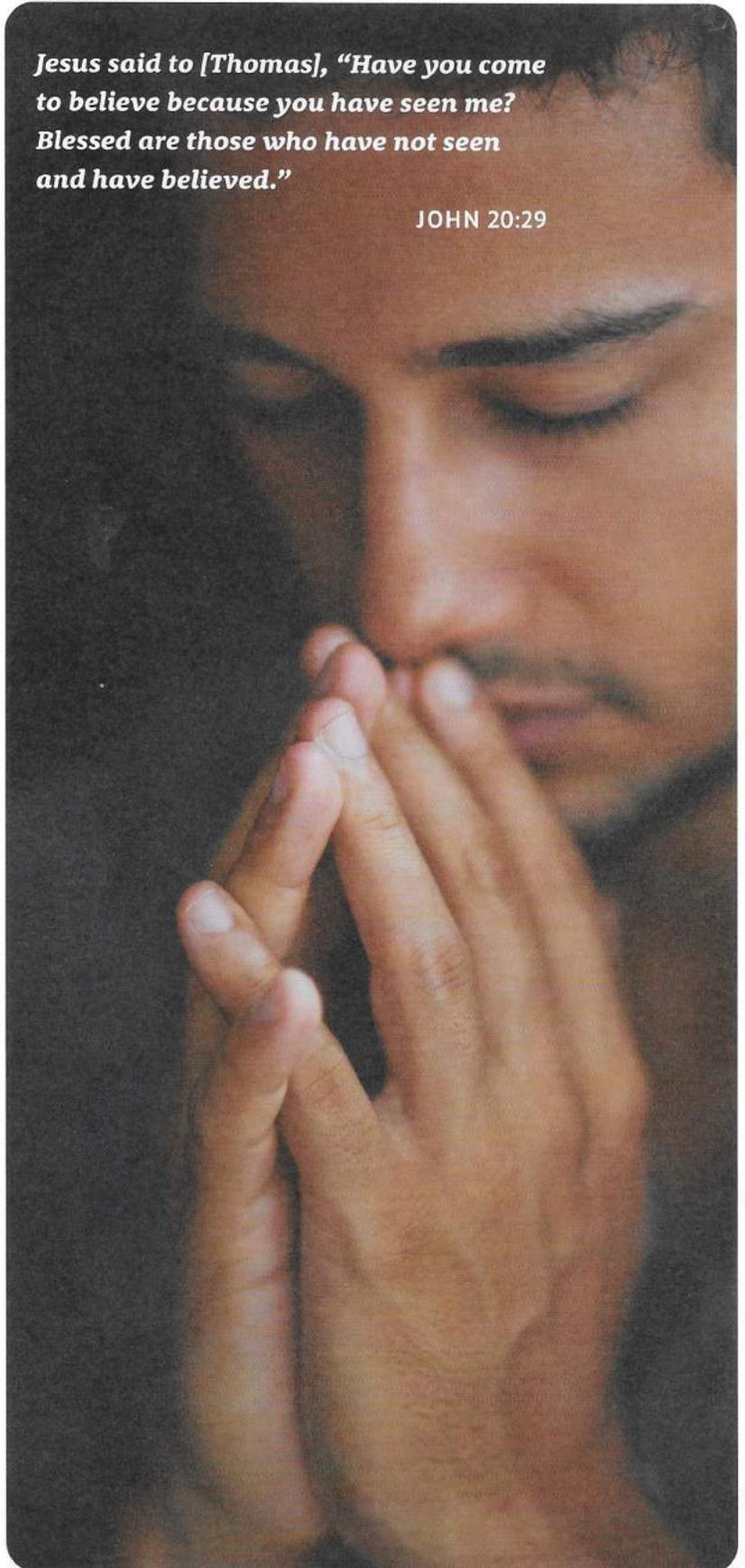
Sometimes that's true for us. We've heard the truth, but we haven't experienced the truth as real or relevant or something we cannot live without. The experience of grave need and then surrendering to God is what many need to remain faithful. Meanwhile, the faithful pray for those who do not believe,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



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

APRIL 6 & 7, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 6- 6:00 PM

✠ Mario A. Lijoi by Natalie & MaryAnn Lijoi

Sunday, April 7- 9:00 AM

✠ Michael Rogers by Danny & Ann Robinson

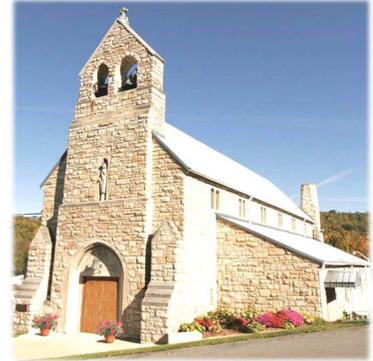
Saturday, April 13 - 6:00 PM

✠ Fr. Greg Lyttle by Fred Butler and Deborah Garton

Sunday, April 14- 9:00 AM

✠ Pro Popula

***There will be No Daily Masses
while Fr. Sebastian is Out of Town***



Office Hours: 304-327-5623

Monday- Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

Food Pantry Hours:

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 1-19: Fr. Sebastian Out of Town ~No Daily Mass

April 7: Handbell Choir Practice 4:00 pm

April 8: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 pm

April 9: St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11:00 am

April 10: RCIA Meeting at 5:00 pm

April 11: Adult Catechism Class 4pm

April 22: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 pm

April 25: PPC Meeting 6:00 PM

May 3: First Friday Mass 6 pm

May 4: First Saturday Reconciliation 10-11 am

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, Assoc. V.E., V.F.
sdevasya@dwc.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.
julia@sacredheartblfd.org

YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR: Wendi Aiello
w.aiello@yahoo.com 304-320-2150

PARISH SECRETARY: Lucy Brinegar
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

PARISH BOOKKEEPER: Kim Hickman
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

NEWMAN CENTER: Paul Krause
pkrause@dwc.org 216-402-1450

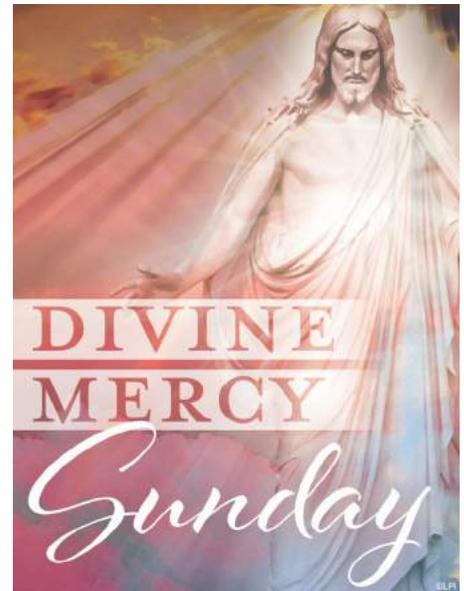
*To our non-Catholic friends, we extend a warm invitation to for you to come forward
and receive a Blessing when our Catholic brothers and sisters come forward to receive Holy Communion.*

*Please come up to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister with your hands folded across your chest,
so we will know that you wish to receive a Blessing. We are grateful for your presence.*

How to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet

Using the Rosary

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and The Apostles' Creed.
2. Then, on the Our Father beads, say the following: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
3. On the 10 Hail Mary beads say the following: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (repeat step 2 and 3 for all five decades).
4. Conclude with (three times): Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.



Sacred Heart's Adult Catechism Class

The Dramatic Changes Brought About By Vatican II



Sacred Heart Invites you for fellowship and enlightenment with our new class with Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu!

These sessions will focus on the changes that were brought about by the introduction of Vatican II.

Come to our first session and see if you like it!

You can sign up with Deborah Garton via email at dkgarton43@gmail.com or there will be a sign up sheet in the back of the church.

April 11, 2024 4:00 PM Church Lounge

welcome

FR. BILL PETRO

PLEASE WELCOME FR. BILL PETRO
AS HE FILLS IN FOR FR. SEBASTIAN
AND PRESIDES OVER WEEKEND MASS.



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Spring of 2024

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you.” Matthew 11:28



The schedule through May 2024:

- April 7, 14, 21 ~ Regular Sessions
- April 28 ~ Last Sunday of Faith Formation
- May 5 ~ First Communion Sunday

Please Pray for Our First Communicants ~ Brayden Farmer and Jillian West

RCIA



Next RCIA meeting is Wednesday, April 10th at 5:00pm in the school.

HANDBELL CHOIR

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

- Sunday, April 7th at 4pm
- Sunday, April 14th at 4pm



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Annual Seminarian Support Raffle



Tickets available from any
Knights of Columbus member
Donation \$5.00

- 1st Place - \$1,000
- 2nd Place - \$500
- 3rd Place - 3 \$100 Winners

YOUTH MINISTRY



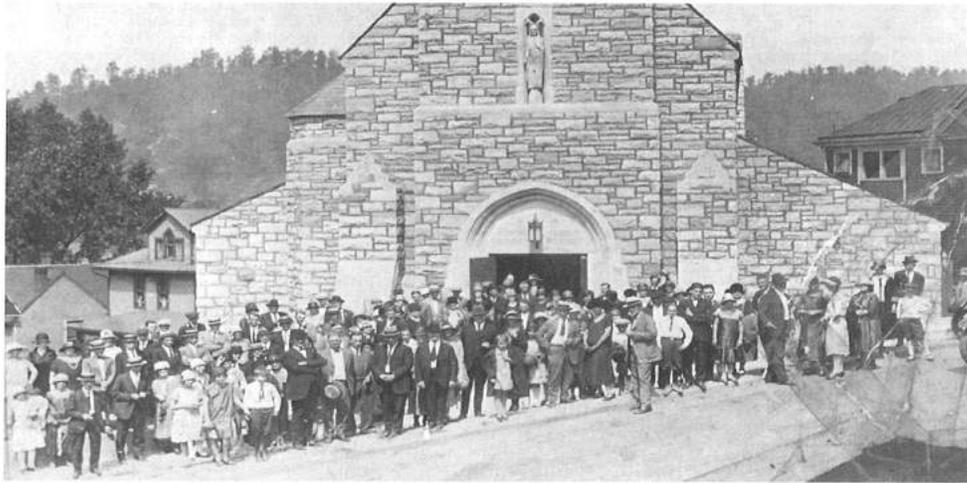
April 14th ~ 6-7:30 pm
Meeting at Wendi's House
Dinner provided, Games, Fun, and More!
Bring a Friend!

May 19th
Youth Sunday



SACRED HEART CHURCH BUILDING CENTENNIAL

Part IV: The 1920's Prosperity and Setbacks for Sacred Heart Church



Sacred Heart Church Dedication, September 6, 1925

The 1920's was a period of growth for Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Largely due to the influx of European migrants to the area, the town of Bluefield grew in population and prosperity. It was Fr. Burke's hope that the church construction debt would be paid off in record time. Unfortunately, the Great Depression of 1929 ended the financial stability of the church as well as the nation. To help relieve the church of its dire financial situation, Fr. Burke paid off the church debt using his own financial resources. On September 6, 1925, Sacred Heart Catholic Church held its dedication which was presided over by Bishop Swint. Our beautiful church will forever serve as a memorial to Fr. Burke and his personal dedication and sacrifice to the construction of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Fr. Burke served as pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church for 12 years. He died on July 9, 1938 while visiting friends and family.

FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry Report for March 2024

Date	Adults over	Children un-	Total Clients	New	Clothing	Hygiene	Total # of Distribu-
6-Mar	117	40	157	4	156	251	73
13-Mar	130	44	174	6	102	101	82
20-Mar	142	57	199	5	182	183	81
27-Mar	176	71	247	7	103	69	95
Monthly	565	212	777	22	543	604	331
Y-T-D	1618	656	2324	46	1706	1426	983

April 2024 Ministry Schedule

Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters (Sundays)
Sat. 4/6 6:00 pm	J. McCloud	T. Lowery	A. Peretti E. Peretti	TBA	1.L. Mariotti 2.C. Saunders 3.J. McCloud	The Pascasio's	Randy Albert Cindy Albert
Sun. 4/7 9:00 am	The Winfree's	A. Torrez	C. Tran	R. Albert	1.T. Lampert 2.S. Copolo 3.TBA	B. Buzzo	
			A. Froy	A. Torrez			
Sat. 4/13 6:00 pm	TBA	V. Hager	D. Kelley	F. Moran	1.TBA 2.V. Hager 3.T. Hager	J. Monaco	David Duritz Rocky Malamisura
Sun. 4/14 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	L. Ajulo	H. Wills	C. Ott	1.C. Havens 2.K. Kidd 3.K. Kirk	R. Malamisura	
			K. Wills	T. Bales			
Sat. 4/20 6:00 pm	J. McCloud	L. Ajulo	A. Peretti E. Peretti	M. Zalduondo	1.J. McCloud 2.T. Behrmann 3.TBA	The Pascasio's	Delores Shumate Marilyn McCoy
Sun. 4/21 9:00 am	The Winfree's	T. Lampert	T. Brown	B. Buzzo	1.TBA 2.M. Malamisura 3.T. Lampert	S. Copolo	
			A. Froy	R. Ciccolini			
Sat. 4/27 6:00 pm	T. Lowery	T. Lowery	TBA	A. Peretti	1.D. Garton 2.V. Hager 3.T. Hager	J. Monaco	Wendi Aiello George Aiello
				C. Saunders			
Sun. 4/28 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	B. Musolin	R. Aiello	A. Rebuck	1.W. Aiello 2.G. Aiello 3.C. Stacy	R. Albert	
			A. Zinsmeister	M. Rebuck			



Thank you to all those who helped with the decorating during Holy Week. A special thank you to Sherry Ciccolini for directing and organizing the decorations.

A big Thank You to the Bereavement Committee for the wonderful job on the dinner for the Romano Funeral and thanks for all the times you have overseen great meals for our beloved Sacred Heart. Thanks to the director Linda Mariotti & all the volunteers!



Attention Parishioners

We have refreshed our prayer list, if there is anyone you would like to add to our new list, please call the parish office at 304-327-5623 or you may email Lucy at lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

Sacred Heart Prayer List

Parishioners: George Bowling, Mary Bruch, Ron Ciccolini, Donella Crigger, Benny Disibbio, Angie Genovesi, Daniel Kirk, Claire Lampert, Sharon Rothausen

Homebound Parishioners: Linda Angelelli, Richard Canterbury, Tony Colobro, Alex Ercoline, Joanne Ercoline, Lou Ercoline, Mary Claire Keenan, Sue Mazol, Joan Monaco, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Puckett, Kathy Richards, Rosalie Rochetti, Mitzi Romeo, Miriam Salaita, Anna H. Switch, Joan Zingale

Friends & Family: Teddy Bradshaw, Chuck Comer, The Family of Lisa Dalton, Christina Easton, Fr. Chapin Engler, Steve Hamm, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Bob Mahood, Chase Miller, Leanna Smith, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom

Catholic Sharing Appeal

We have raised \$18,860

which is 77% of our goal of \$24,620.

Please continue to donate if you can. You can mail in your donations to
Catholic Sharing Appeal
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston
P.O. Box 230
Wheeling, WV 26003

Weekly Donations	Mar 28-31	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	4,982.00	64,852.10	60,000.00
Loose Offertory	694.00	6,612.00	6,000.00
Total Contributions	\$ 5,676.00	\$ 71,464.10	\$ 66,000.00
Dioc: Holy Land	928.00	2,248.00	1,000.00
Attendance:	Holy Thur: 84	Good Fri: 104	
	Vigil: 87	Easter: 166	

*The Altar Flowers were Donated by Orpha Welch
In loving memory of the Anniversary of
Tom & Orpha Welch*



IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND A PRIEST IS NEEDED, PLEASE CALL:

Parish Office (304) 327-5623

Princeton Office (304) 425-3664

In case of serious or life-threatening sickness or the actively dying: {Please consider, with Fr. Sebastian out of town, it will take longer to contact a priest. Please call the church office as soon as you can} The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

In case of Illness: Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the

Nursing homes & Hospitals: are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call 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 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