

*THOMAS SUNDAY 04/12/26*

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) For the Parish Family

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✨ Andy Simkovitch (req. by Andrew Simkovitch &amp; Christine Skidmore)

11:00 AM (E) ✨ Ron Riel (req. by Mary Jane Carson)

*SUNDAY OF THE OINTMENT BEARERS 4/19/26*

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✨ Jean Ferko (req. by Mike Ferko)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✨ Paul and ✨ Ethel Pangratz (req. by Paul Pangratz Family)

11:00 AM (E) For the People of Ukraine

**OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:**

04/05/26

**\$1987.00****CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD APRIL COLLECTION – Canned Tuna***Proverbs 14:31 – “Anyone who oppresses the poor is insulting God who made them. To help the poor is to honor God.”***EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION**

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: [www.godwithusononline.org](http://www.godwithusononline.org) This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

**AN EASTER PRAYER**

*Lord Jesus, the great feast of Easter reminds us that you came to bring new life to all of creation and share with us your own eternal life. Open our hearts to embrace all your gifts so we may be transformed in your image to become all that you want us to be. May these days of the Easter Season strengthen our trust in your promise of eternal life and our resolve to seek your will in all things. Amen*

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!  
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!**

**PASCHAL TROPARION: Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled death; and to those in the tombs he granted life.**

**THOMAS SUNDAY**

Today, John’s gospel says the apostles are huddled in the upper room, hiding behind locked doors for fear of their enemies, finding courage and protection in numbers. Strange, isn’t it, that Thomas isn’t with them? Did he need the security of numbers and bolted doors. Apparently not. He was somewhere on the outside, all on his own. He was just that kind of person.

The Lord makes His unscheduled visit, and the apostles are hysterical with sheer joy. When Thomas returns, they shout in unison: “We’ve seen the Lord.” Thomas calmly seems unimpressed and simply says that he wants to see the wounds before he shares their ecstasy. When Jesus invited him a week later to see and touch the convincing wounds, he offered no apologies and did not try to “explain” his need for further proof. He saw no need for any mental squirming. The truth was now present and typically he said what he felt: “My Lord and my God.” That’s the great statement that should be remembered rather than his previous lingering doubts.

*Beyond Human Understanding*

In the prologue of the Gospel of John, the Evangelist gives us a breathtaking opening statement that declares three extraordinary truths about Jesus Christ.

1. He was eternally existent – “In the beginning was the Word.”
2. He had fellowship with God – “and the Word was with God.”
3. He was God – “and the Word was God.”

In that same prologue we read, “Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made” (John 1:3). The same truth is reaffirmed in the Pauline text of Colossians 1:16. Jesus is declared to have been an Agent of Creation. Before He ever came to earth, His hands tumbled solar systems and galaxies into space. He set the stars on their courses. He kindled the fires of the sun. He scooped out the giant beds of our mighty oceans.

**BE PATIENT WITH YOURSELF**

St. Francis de Sales said it this way: “Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections but instantly set about remedying them – every day begin the task anew.”

We shouldn’t be dismayed that we must work on patience every day. If we are growing, learning, and living life to the fullest, then we will also be starting over, stumbling, and seeking better and higher ways. Making mistakes and falling down are both part of the process of growing up in the spiritual life.

Take courage and carry on.

**FOR REFLECTION**

Discipleship is a lifelong endeavor, but it is lived out one choice at a time. Our fidelity to God takes place moment to moment, day to day. It expresses itself in our decisions, large and small, and in doing the right thing now while we still have the chance.

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*JESUS PRAYER – Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner*