

Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery Special Edition Bulletin



Happy Easter Everyone! I hope that you and your families each had a blessed Easter. It was certainly different from our experiences in each of our lives whether young or old. Sister Lydia and I decided after Easter Sunday Mass with the Croziers [via YouTube] that we would take a drive. Sedona was having rain, so we went south to Picacho Peak. It was a gorgeous day and the drive was great. When we got to the park, hardly anyone was there. We decided to find a ramada. We didn't hike as the day before a 9-year-old was bitten by a rattlesnake and a lot of warnings were issued about the rattlers coming out of hibernation. To just be out and in a different environment was so wonderful. We drove all the roads in the park...watched a hummingbird find food on an ocotillo cactus...enjoyed the fresh air...and communicated with family and friends from the park. I'm saddened to inform you that our dog, Lady, passed away on Saturday. We buried her near Lupe's thrift store. We thanked her for being our protector for the last two years. We know that these two years she received a lot of love from our community. She was 14 years old. The last 3 weeks she had slowed down and there was a place on her back that was very tender and painful. The Vet didn't know what it was exactly without an autopsy, but she was definitely ailing. Thank you for the love you each gave to her. Thank you to all who continue to donate your Sunday collection. We are most grateful. All retreats have now cancelled through the end of May. Sister Lydia, Teresa and Larry are working hard on pulling weeds in the rose gardens, grape vines, and on the sides of the Monastery. Ralph, Mike and Jimmy come twice a week to keep up with the other weeds and the grass. Thanks to all who are helping. Not hard to keep the six-foot distance on 7 acres. We greatly miss all of you and look forward to the time when we can again be together to pray, to laugh, to enjoy one another. Doctors are still trying to determine where the infection is as the white blood cell count has dropped again. This infection must be playing hide and seek! None of the four doctors can figure it out. Thank you for your continued prayers. Let us continue to pray for one another and for all who are sick and those who have passed away. Prayer power is our best defender. May God's blessings be abundant to you and your families during this very Holy Season of Easter.

Love and Prayers,
Sister Linda, OSB

Re: Oblate Retreat

Oblation and renewal will be postponed until October. We will set a date when we can plan again after the virus.

Sr. Regina

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Staying Connected

For many of us the Monastery is our community, family, spiritual center and our connection to the Divine. Staying connected is vital right now, so we are inviting all of you who are able to pray with us. This is the schedule we follow daily.

7:30 am - Morning prayer

8:00 am - Mass with the Crosiers on You tube: [here is the link: www.youtube.com/user/Crosiers1210](http://www.youtube.com/user/Crosiers1210)

5:00 pm - Evening prayer followed by reading of Rule of St. Benedict for the day from Joan Chittister

8:00 pm - Compline or Our Father

You are welcome to do all or any part of this schedule from your homes.

What Are You Doing During the Quarantine?

- Sophie Bejarano is keeping her mind and hands busy. Look at her beautiful painted rocks and raised garden. So, what grows in Sophie's garden? Jalapeños, cilantro, tomatoes, just to name a few. Looks like the start of some awesome salsa, Sophie.



aunt.bibi28@gmail.com . We will publish your ideas in our next bulletin. Thank you.

Sister Lydia's Reflection on Gospel of John 20:19-31

JESUS IS ALIVE.

There is a saying: I'll believe it when I see it.

And just when will that be? I ask myself, as I read the passage about Jesus' appearances to the disciples and then to Thomas. When will the moment come when we look up and really notice, really see the Risen Lord who stands before us in every room in our house, in every situation in our lives? He is, in fact, standing beside you right now as you read this. Have you noticed?

Just as the disciples were locked in their room, fearful. And so, we are ourselves are locked in our houses, fearful too. But Mary came and introduced this great hope into their grief: that she had seen Jesus and that he spoke to her. How could this be true? If I had been there in that locked room, I would have been thinking "I'll believe it when I see it." But the fact that I was looking down would have made that impossible. Yes, I was **looking down** when the Risen Lord arrived. There is so much we miss when we're **looking down**. These two things we would miss: We would miss our Risen Lord's greeting: Peace be with you. And we would miss his good news.

Yes, Jesus is back as promised. Here he stands in the midst of his disciples and in our midst as our hearts are troubled and afraid, he is reminding us of the gift of peace. This is the message that we don't want to miss out on simply because we are **looking down**.

If we are not looking up, we might miss the Good News. Both in this initial scene with the disciples and the one a week later with Thomas, after Jesus greets them with "Peace be with you," he shows them his hands and his side. In the second scene, he invites Thomas to touch his hands and his side.

Right now in our communities, our families, the world, fear seems to rule and we will want to make sure we are looking up this Easter Season so we can see and touch the wounds of the Risen Christ, visible signs of the ultimate victory of life over death that strengthens us for this ongoing battle.

"I'll believe it when I see it," we often say. "I'll believe it when I see and touch it," says Thomas. You can't blame him. He wasn't there when Jesus made his first visit. He wants firsthand proof that what the others have reported to him is actually true.

Sometimes we don't get it. Sometimes we yearn for more direct evidence. But all we have to go on is Faith. Fortunately, it is enough to nourish and sustain us day by day.

I take comfort in Jesus' chastisement of Thomas. "You have believed because you have seen me. It leads directly to his blessing on you and me: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

So, EVERYONE, look up!

Hallelujah! HE IS Risen

After the President's news conference was over, one of the reporters made the observation that for the first time in our nation's history we won't be celebrating Easter. Well, let me tell you one thing, he's dead wrong. We might not celebrate what Easter has become in that there may be no new clothes bought for that Sunday. We might not hide and hunt eggs in mass quantities. We might not travel home to attend church with our family. We might not see some folks at our worship services that we haven't seen since Christmas, but we're going to Celebrate Easter. As a matter of fact, every Sunday is Easter Sunday. Every time we assemble for worship, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Pontius Pilate couldn't kill Him, and the grave couldn't hold Him. You think the Coronavirus is going to stop Easter. More people this year will hear the gospel than any other Easter before. Easter is not just about special programs, it's not about the trumpet call or the mass crowds. It's the fact that we serve a living Savior who is still transforming lives today. Easter is not only about His resurrection, but our ability to rise with Him. Easter is about the hope of tomorrow and the gift of everlasting life. Yes indeed, we will celebrate. We'll celebrate what God did for all of us at Calvary. How? By remembering Him. By loving Him. By worshipping Him. By praising Him. Easter for us is every day. Let the celebration begin.

Submitted by Elsa De Moss

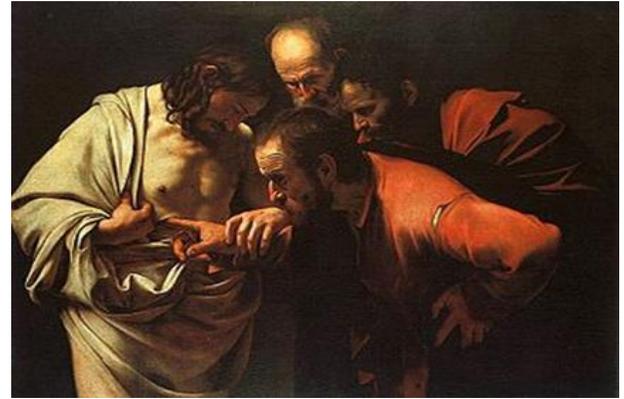


Lucy Quiroz 4/22

Martha Garcia 4/27

Fr. Stephan Bauer 4/29

Jon Ciulei 4/29



Readings for Second Sunday of Easter April 19, 2020

Reading 1-Acts 2:42-47

Reading 2-First Peter 1:3-9

Gospel-John 20:19-31



We want to thank all of you who are continuing to donate to the Monastery. Although, we are not together worshipping and fellowshiping with each other, the Monastery still needs your support. We are still doing the work of building God's kingdom, 24/7, but like always we cannot do it without your help. Many of you have asked how you can support us during this time, there are multiple ways. You can send in your donations to Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery, 8502 W. Pinchot Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85037. (Please make checks payable to Sisters of St. Benedict). You can also contribute on line <http://www.olgmonastery.com/contact-us/online-giving/>, through PayPal. We thank you for your generosity.

***Also, don't forget about Amazon Smile...every time you use Amazon you can donate to the Monastery with Amazon Smile



Lucy Quiroz
Christine Raydl
Karen Brekas
Adella Arriaga
Adella Dennett
Patricia Waitkus
Javier Chavarria
Angel Vega
Nora Porchini
Angel Garcia
Coy Christmas
Sonny Flores
Greg Torrez

Mickie Vaquera
Lyle & Helen Copono
Maria Elena Alvarez
Sister Linda
Mike Leon
Moses Bailey
Kara Warren
Steve Platter
Paula Garcia
Donar Jordan
Alma Jones
Aaron Calhoun
Sisters of the Precious Blood

Let us pray for all those affected by the coronavirus, all those who will be affected, all the elderly and vulnerable, all the health care workers on the front line of this illness and all of us. Our Lady most Holy, pray for us.

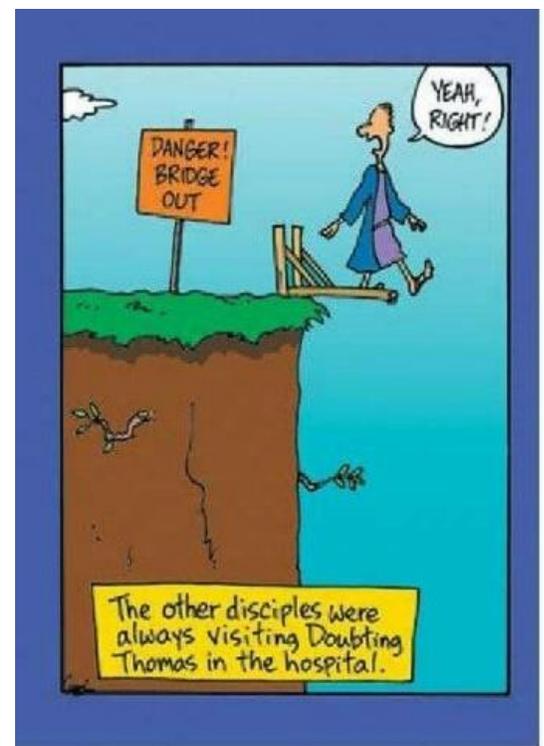


Jesus I Trust In You

Divine Mercy Sunday celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter is based on the private revelations of St. Faustina Kowalska. When she was canonized in 2000 under the direction of Pope John Paul II, he proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday. The celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday is an opportunity to reflect on the theme of how God's mercy can overcome sin and, is "a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come."

Jesus, I trust in You, right now, in these unprecedented times, can we speak this invocation with true trust. It is not easy, is it? Our world is put on hold as we wait...wait to see what our leaders will do, wait to see when things will get back to normal, wait to see when the fear will go away. So, while the world waits, our longing for Jesus increases. We hunger for the Eucharist, we thirst for a sacramental confession, we long for our community...gifts so often taken for granted in our previously busy lives. How many times have we prayed "Lord, stop the world just for a second" ...guess what? prayers answered, BIG TIME! Can you believe, a lot of us, now, have time to slow down, to live in the today, to breathe? And in the waiting, there is peace. So often, in the waiting, I see the merciful Heart of Jesus giving me time to find Him in the solitude. In the quiet I can embrace His call to listen with the ears of my heart. In the isolation I have come to trust in mercy, in Him. Jesus, I trust in You.

There is a partial indulgence associated with devotion to the Divine Mercy; faithful are required to pray, a legitimately approved invocation to our Merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you) with a contrite heart, (many pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet), make a Sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion, pray for the intentions of Our Holy Father, the Pope, in order to obtain this indulgence. Unfortunately, we will be unable to comply with all these requirements, however, we trust in God to see our desire.



Looking Ahead



Readings for Third Sunday of Easter April 26, 2020

Reading 1- Acts 2:14, 22-28

Reading 2-First Peter 1:17-21

Gospel-Luke 24:13-35

