



# DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

## APRIL 19TH 2020

Second Sunday of Easter,  
 "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

### GET REAL!

Those of us who flatter ourselves that we have a "realistic" view of the world may listen to the first reading today and say, "Get real!" when we hear Luke's account of the early, Elysian days of the Christian movement. All seems to be rosy, lots of wonders are performed, everyone shares selflessly, they eat together in "exultation," and the Lord added to their numbers? Well, who wouldn't be attracted to a group like this? From the wind that swept through the upper room at Pentecost as the Spirit of God blew over the face of the waters in Genesis, and the fire that appeared over each disciple as the light appeared at the dawn of creation, Luke's intent in Acts is to show a new creation, a restoration of creation's original goodness through the working of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who continues to make us into the Body of Christ. We may occasionally, like Thomas in the Gospel, say, "Get real!" but our ultimate reality in the Spirit is to work continually to make our Christian community a new creation, one in which others will find God's joy and beauty.

#### St. Regina's Church Staff

**Pastor:** Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

**Secretary:** Patricia Humble

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#### Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,  
 Emanel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,  
 Louis Humble Sr. , Joy Williams,  
 Martha Jo Neuenschwander ,  
 Mary Taylor

#### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

**Psalm** — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

**Second Reading** — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

**Gospel** — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17;  
 Mk 16:15-20

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11;  
 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

#### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

One of the great Easter traditions is "mystagogy," an ancient word meaning "reflection on the mysteries." It is a style of catechesis, or passing on the faith. People who have shared an experience, in this case those who have been baptized at Easter, are urged to recall their experience, reflect on its meaning, and apply their insights to their new way of life.

There is an aspect of an experience that is simply not available until you've had it. For example, you may think you know weddings inside out; you've been to dozens, seen hundreds in the movies or on television, but until you've said "I do" to another, there is a certain knowledge unavailable to you. Those who go down into the waters of baptism as adults have similar experiences; they have all taken baths before, but not like this one! Mystagogy helps such persons to uncover the deep meaning of the experience, their sense of a new beginning, of God's abundant love, of forgiveness, of community.

It takes time for the power of the Easter Vigil to work its wonders for us. Those who are newly baptized are called "neophytes," meaning "newly planted." The tender buds of spring need care and nurturing, and our new brothers and sisters need your prayer and your faithful example.

Please pray for all of the people in the nursing homes and hospitals suffering from the coronavirus and their caregivers.

Church council meeting for April 22nd has been canceled



Offertory 4/12/2020  
**BUDGET \$1351.00**  
**ACTUAL \$800.00**  
**-\$531.00**