

I Doubt It

Skepticism is a characteristic of a critical mind. Some claims are just too fantastic to trust: no salve can relieve you of all pain; no investment is certain to double your money; no politician can keep all promises; no one comes back from the dead. Who of us can fault Thomas for his initial skepticism?

Thomas has been known through history as “the doubter.” However, he might be considered the patron saint of all of us. Because of his absence when Jesus stood in the midst of the community, Thomas was expected to believe on the word of others. Like Thomas, we are torn between believing because of an experience of Jesus, and believing on the word of others. We all would prefer a direct, profound experience. However, that’s not what we’re offered.

But within the community we can indirectly experience Jesus—his goodness, his unselfish service to others, his desire to bring people together in peace and harmony. The first reading provides a glimpse of such a believing community devoted to “the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers” (Acts 2:42). Like our patron Thomas, we might be skeptical at first, but it is within a family or community of kindness and generosity that we can have our own experience of the risen Jesus.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Where in your family do you experience devotion to others, forgiveness, and courage? Where do you bring these attitudes?
- ★ How might you strengthen the bonds of your community so that others can recognize the presence of the risen Jesus?



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

Assumption of Our Lady



April 19, 2020

www.ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

Second Sunday of Easter – Year A

Hay River, NT

Sunday Masses

Weekday Masses

10:30 or 11:00 AM

7:30 AM

Donations may be made by cheque, email money transfer, or online.

Please visit our website for detailed instructions.



Fr. Innocent Ukaegbu: 867-875-2545

father@ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

& St. Anne, Katlodeche

Location	Live Streaming	Facebook	Watch Later
Assumption of Our Lady Hay River	Sunday Mass 10:30 AM		Facebook & our website
Diocese of Mackenzie- Fort Smith Yellowknife	Sunday Mass 11:00 AM		Facebook
Diocese of Mackenzie- Fort Smith Yellowknife	Daily Mass 7:30 AM		Facebook

Dear Parishioners,

Live streaming of our Sunday Masses continues and can be viewed live on Sundays from 10:30 am to 11:30 am approximately. You can also view the recordings of the Mass on the parish Facebook page or the website. Bulletins and announcements can always be viewed on our website. We are grateful that this keeps us connected in these times of physical distancing and isolation.

As most of you are aware, our Parish survives on the Charitable Donations made by our Parishioners. During the mandatory COVID-19 Pandemic closures we still have bills to pay.

We encourage you to continue your monetary support to the Parish by making a one time or a monthly donation by using the Canada Helps link on the website, where you can pay by credit card or Paypal. You will be able to setup a Canada Helps account so you can get your tax receipt at year end or you can print your receipt at the time you make your donation.

Donate at: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/assumption-catholic-church/>

Alternatively, you can mail a cheque to the address below:

Assumption of Our Lady
67 Woodland Drive
Hay River, NT X0E 0R8
Phone: (867) 875-2545
Email: father@ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com
Facebook: Our Lady's Assumption Church

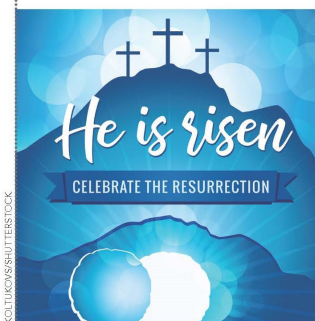
You can also send an email money transfer to:
Email: info@ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com
Password: myparish
Thank you for your support!



Dear Padre,

A friend of mine always makes such a big deal of the time after Easter. What is this Easter season all about?

These days and weeks after Easter are indeed significant. We Christians are an Easter people. The resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. Without the belief that Christ conquered death and our hope that we will share in that same victory over the grave, our faith is pointless. We celebrate with great fanfare that we are a redeemed people in Jesus Christ.



Every year our forty-day Lenten preparation of fasting and penance leads us to the feasting and joy of the fifty days of Easter. This unbelievable news that the risen Christ is in our midst draws us into a festival that cannot be contained in a single day. "The fifty days from Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one 'great Sunday'" (*The Roman Missal*, "Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and Calendar," 22).

Part of the challenge of Easter is learning again how to celebrate a fifty-day feast. Most Catholics do not think of Easter as an extended feast. We tend to see Easter, the ascension, and Pentecost as three separate, independent feast days, each with its own themes. The truth of the matter is that they are all part and parcel of the other, intertwined and borne of the same glorious fact of Christ's resurrection. This is a perfect time to remind ourselves of that joyous and significant connection.

—Fr. Joseph Ring
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

WORD FROM Pope Francis



To us also, on this Sunday, which St. John Paul II wished to dedicate to divine mercy, the Lord shows us, through the Gospel, his wounds. They are wounds of mercy... Jesus invites us to behold these wounds, to touch them as Thomas did, to heal our lack of belief. Above all, he invites us to enter into the mystery of these wounds, which is the mystery of his merciful love.

—HOMILY, APRIL 12, 2015

© 2020 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Imprimatur: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish has been granted on September 16, 2019, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this particular work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication, or a general endorsement of any author; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, call 800-325-9521, or visit Liguori.org.

Calendar

Monday
APRIL 20
Easter Weekday
Acts 4:23–31
Jn 3:1–8

Tuesday
APRIL 21
Easter Weekday
Acts 4:32–37
Jn 3:7b–15

Wednesday
APRIL 22
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:17–26
Jn 3:16–21

Thursday
APRIL 23
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:27–33
Jn 3:31–36

Friday
APRIL 24
Easter Weekday
Acts 5:34–42
Jn 6:1–15

Saturday
APRIL 25
St. Mark, Evangelist
1 Pt 5:5b–14
Mk 16:15–20

Sunday
APRIL 26
Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:14, 22–33
1 Pt 1:17–21
Lk 24:13–35