

“Doubt no longer but Believe”

Divine Mercy Sunday

Children’s liturgy activity April 24th , 2022



VERSE OF THE WEEK

**'Happy are those who
have not seen and
yet believe.'
- John 20:29**

Gospel: John 20:19-31

In the Gospel today, we see Jesus appearing amidst the disciples who are locked up in fear of Jews. Jesus gave them Peace and presented himself living. He showed them his wounds and side. On seeing Jesus, the disciples were filled in Joy. Strengthening them in faith, Jesus commissioned the disciples saying, 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' As he said, he breathed Holy Spirit on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit, for those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven, for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

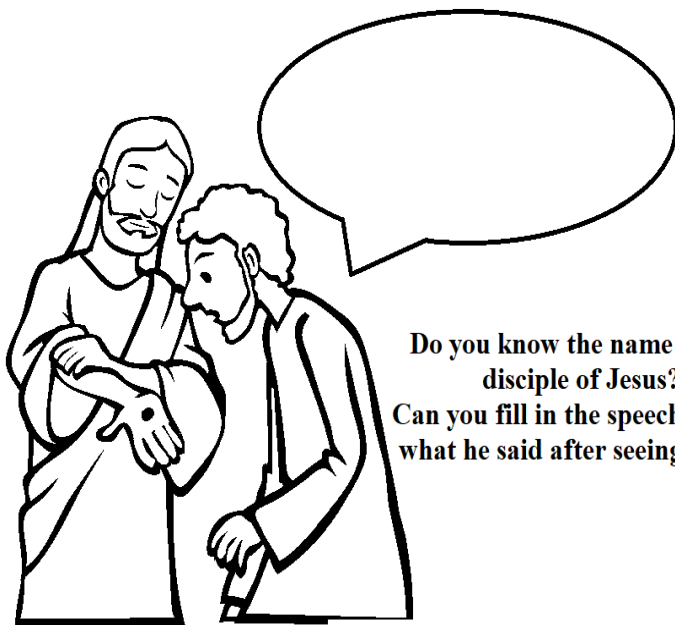
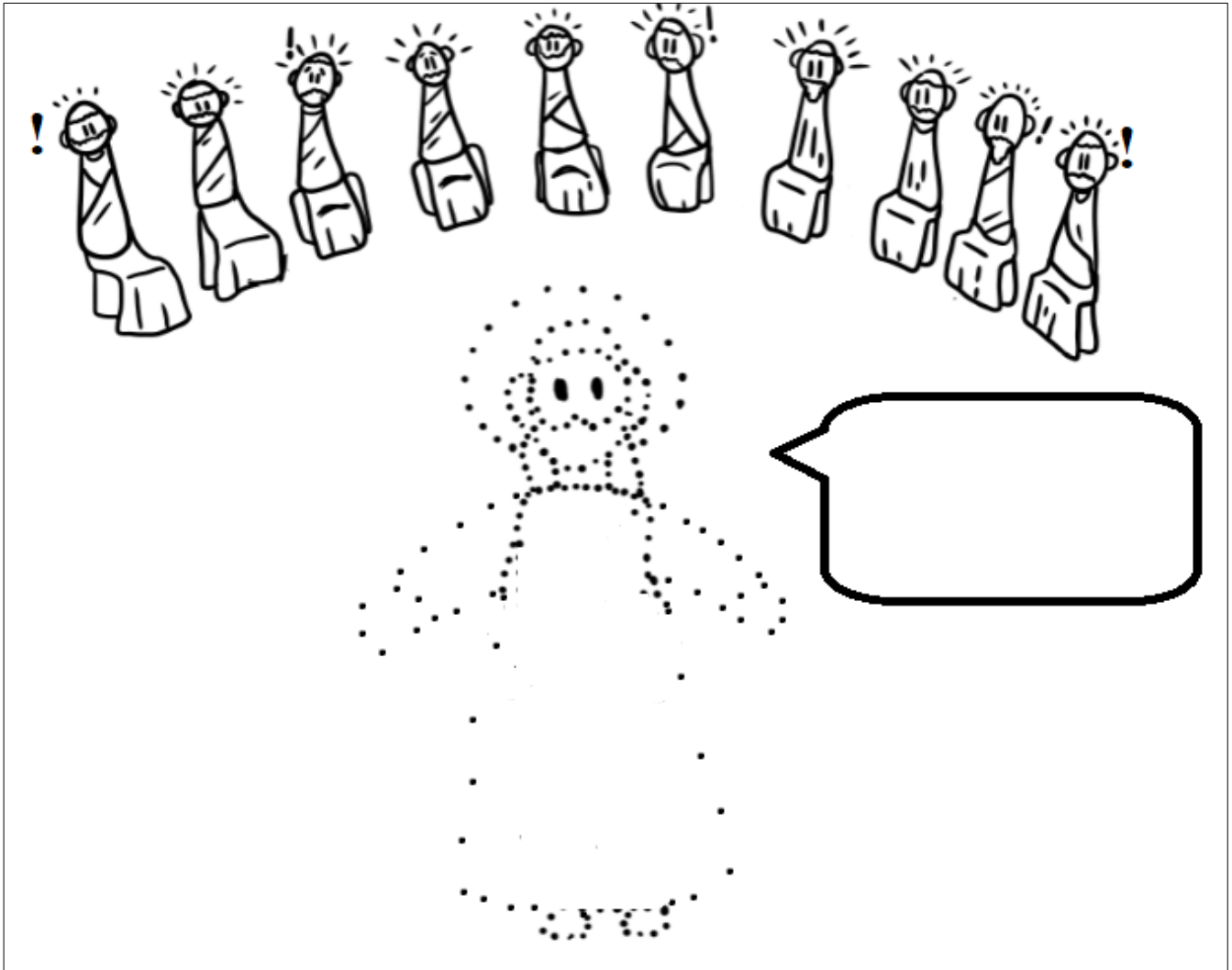
Thomas, the disciple was not with them when Jesus appeared. He refused to believe the testimony of his friends regarding the appearance of Jesus. Thomas demanded a personal experience to believe in resurrected Jesus. Jesus appeared again just for strengthening Thomas' faith. He asked Thomas to put his fingers on hands and to put his hands on Jesus' side and said not to doubt anymore but to believe. Thomas believed in resurrected Jesus. Jesus said, 'you believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen, but yet believe.' Everything is recorded in the Bible so that all may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God, and by believing all may have eternal life.

The disciples were behind the locked doors of fear. Jesus came through the locked doors, and stood among them, and said to them, 'Peace be with you!'. He showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy and peace of Christ filled them. Joy filled them and all their fears were gone. Jesus is resurrected! He has no limitations of space or time this world. His power is beyond the world. Have fear locked us in or Have our weaknesses or lack of confidence made us withdraw into a lock down mode? Jesus is telling us through the gospel that no matter how big our blocks are, he can reach us. Let us invite and desire Jesus into all our locked-up areas. He will fill us with His peace and joy amidst all trials.

Thomas, Jesus' disciple was not present when he appeared the first time. He found it hard to believe what his friends experienced. He sincerely desired to experience it personally. Jesus appeared again just for Thomas to make his faith strong. Are we feeling weak to believe in Jesus; that Jesus is alive? Are we finding it difficult to understand what others talk about Jesus? Do not worry if we are weak in faith but let our desire to know and experience the Resurrected Jesus and His power be true and sincere just like Thomas. Jesus said to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe. How blessed are we who follow Jesus even if we have not seen him or touched him in real? How can faith increase? Word of God: Faith comes from hearing word of God (Romans 10:17). Holy spirit, Sacraments, prayer, Family, church etc also enhances our faith in Christ. Let us persevere and pray to increase in faith and reach out to Jesus in true desire, surrendering ourselves in his mercy.

Amidst the trials and fears, Jesus commissions His friends just as heavenly father send him. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained. He empowers them for the mission by breathing Holy Spirit upon them. Jesus is calling us too, to FORGIVE each other just as lord forgave us and to proclaim the forgiveness in Jesus name. He strengthens us by the power of His Holy Spirit. Let each experience of our lives be transformed into missions from Jesus and accomplished in power of Holy Spirit. Let us offer all our fears and weaknesses to Jesus. His grace will strengthen us. Let the joy and peace of the resurrected lord Jesus fill our hearts. Jesus is our peace amidst all trials and fears

Join the dots and find out who appeared amidst the scaredy disciples. Fill in the speech bubble, what He said to the disciples.



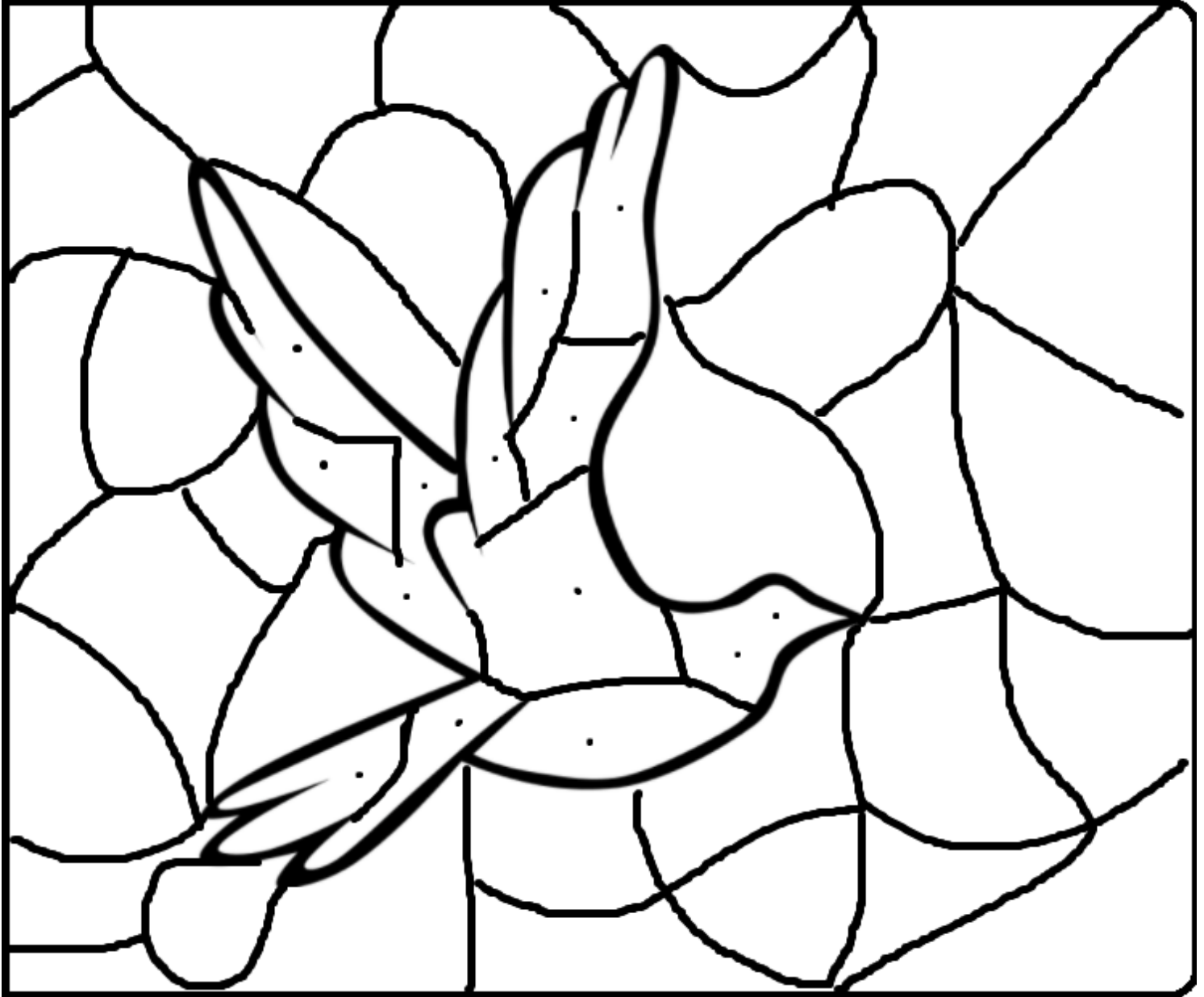
Do you know the name of this
disciple of Jesus?
Can you fill in the speech bubble
what he said after seeing Jesus?

DOUBT NO LONGER

BUT BELIEVE

'Jesus breathed on the disciples'

Colour the dotted pieces to find out what did the disciples receive when Jesus breathed on them.



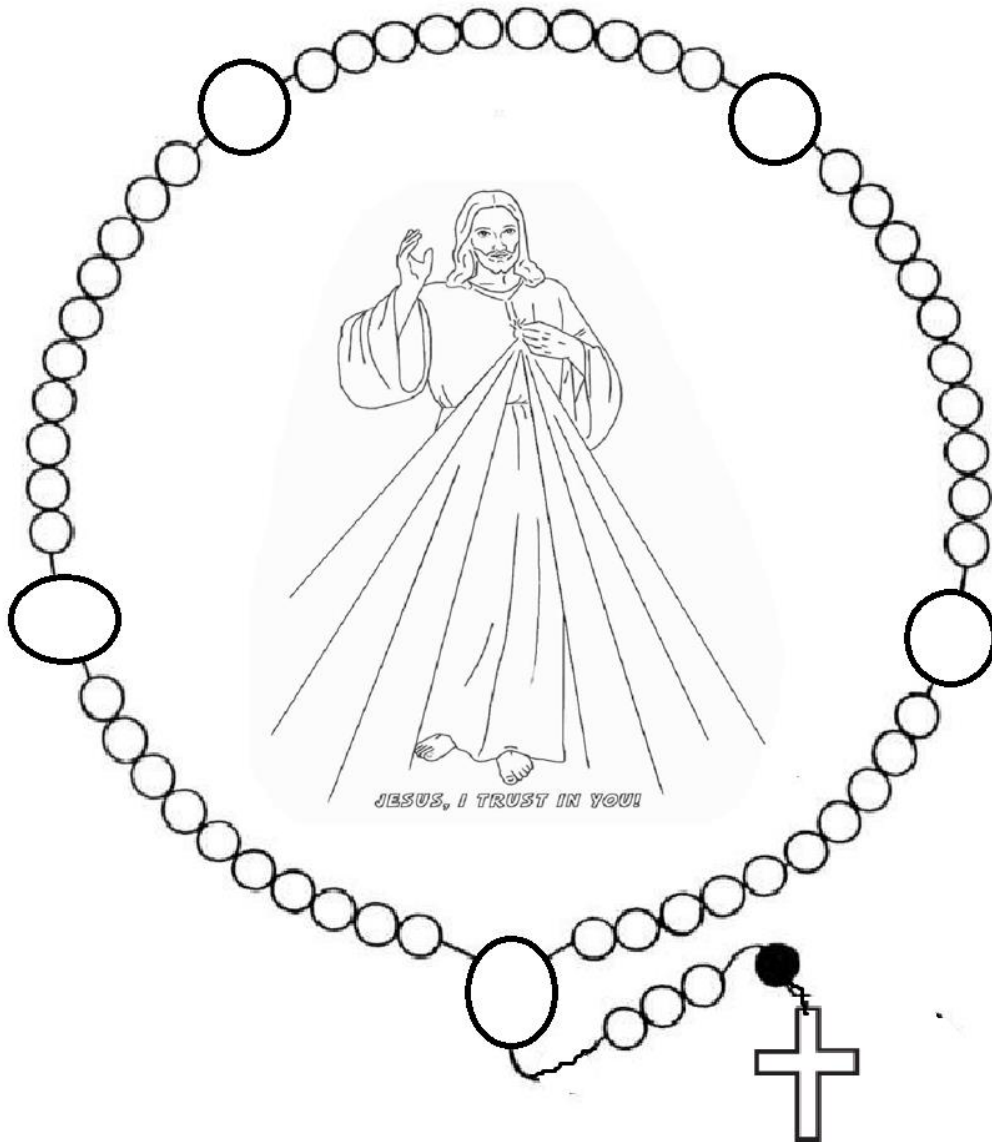
Complete the following verses from the Bible.

**'Receive the ----- . For those whose -----
you -----, they are -----; for those whose -----
you -----, they are -----.'** John 20:22-23

Feast of Divine Mercy: First Sunday after Easter

Jesus said to St. Faustina: "Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy...The graces of My mercy are drawn by the means of one vessel only, and that is trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive."

Pray as you colour the Divine Mercy Chaplet and offer the whole world for Lords Mercy.



Begin the chaplet making the sign of cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and Apostles creed.

On the Big beads pray: 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

On the small beads pray:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Once you finish the entire chain, conclude the chaplet by praying:

Holy God, Holy Mighty one, Holy Immortal one, Have mercy on us and the whole world(X3)

Closing prayer

Eternal God, in whom Mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your Holy Will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

 Let us Pray

Dear lord Jesus we offer all our fears, doubts, weaknesses, and we ourselves to your abundant mercy. Fill us with the peace and joy of your resurrection. Open our eyes to your living word to know you more and increase our faith. Fill us with your holy spirit and strengthen us to forgive and proclaim forgiveness to the world. In Jesus' name we pray amen. Jesus, I Trust in You.