



Caravaggio "The incredulity of St Thomas" (1601)

Eight days after Easter is always dedicated to this Gospel passage, as Jesus appeared to Thomas eight days after he rose from the dead.

Scripture Reflection: Easter 2026

Divine Mercy Sunday: Thomas Sunday. April 12th

(John 20: 24-29) "But Thomas (who was called the "Twin") one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So, the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord" But he said to them "Unless I see the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said "Peace be with you", Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe",

Easter Gospel Reflection:

In this Gospel, Thomas the Apostle says, "I need to see before I believe."

And Jesus responds in two ways:

- First, he gives Thomas what he needs - he shows him the wounds.
- Then he says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe".

It can sound confusing but its really quite simple.

Jesus meets us where we are - but he doesn't just leave us there.

Thomas begins by needing proof. That's okay. Jesus doesn't reject him for it.

But Jesus gently points him -and us- toward something more: a trust that doesn't depend on having everything explained.

Because in real life, we rarely have complete certainty. So, the message becomes:

- Its okay to have questions
- Its okay to need reassurance
- But at some point, we are all invited to take a step forward.

Not with all the answers - but with enough trust to move.

A simple way to understand it, is to start where you are - but don't get stuck there.

That's the journey Thomas makes. And it's the same journey many of us are on.

Saint Thomas went on to be the "Apostle of India" . He built many churches in South India, Chennai, in Tamil Nadu, and was martyred whilst praying on a mount which now has a shrine to him there. He is the patron saint of Architects because of his great building work. He is known as the "Father of Indian Christianity". His Cathedral is in Mylapore, Madras.

