

The People's Mass

7 April 2024
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
(Divine Mercy Sunday) / B

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, "Peace be with you," and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, "Peace be with you."

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'
After saying this he breathed 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, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, "We have seen the Lord," he answered, "Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe." Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, "Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe." Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith (Nicene Creed)
I believe in one God, / the Father almighty, / maker of heaven and earth, / of all things visible and invisible. / I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, / the Only Begotten Son of God, / born of the Father before all ages, / God from God, Light from Light, / true God from true God, / begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; / through him all things were made. / For us men and for our salvation / he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including and became man, all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, / and became man. / For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, / he suffered death and was buried, / and rose again on the third day / in

accordance with the Scriptures. / He ascended into heaven / and is seated at the right hand of the Father. / He will come again in glory / to judge the living and the dead / and his kingdom will have no end. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, / who proceeds from the Father and the Son, / who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, / who has spoken through the prophets. / I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. / I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins / and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead / and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

Sanctus
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...

After the Consecration
The mystery of faith.
Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command ...
Our Father, who art in heaven, / hallowed be thy name; / thy kingdom come, / thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. / Give us this day our daily bread, / and forgive us our trespasses, / as we forgive those who trespass against us; / and lead us not into temptation, / but deliver us from evil.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, ... Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And with your spirit.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins ...

Behold the Lamb of God, ...
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Jn 20:27)
Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon (1 Pt 2:2)
Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure spiritual milk,

that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.
In the name of the Father, ... Amen.
The grace of our Lord ... And with your spirit.

Penitential Act
Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...
A brief pause for silence follows.

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us, ... Amen.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria
Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; / and you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING (Acts 4:32-35)
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the

money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Pss 117:2-4 15-18 22-24)
R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

- Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.'
- The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. R: The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. R:

SECOND READING (1 Jn 5:1-8)
A reading from the first letter of St John.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Jn 20:29)
Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

Alleluia!
GOSPEL (Jn 20:19-31)
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord, (read on next page)

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Canon Willie Fitzmaurice P.P. 061 397231 / 086 2423 728

Email: croomchurch@eircom.net

Croom and Banogue Parish Website: <https://www.croomparish.com/>

Diocesan Web Page: www.limerickdiocese.org

Link for Live Church Services:

Croom Parish - ChurchCamLive.ie

Banogue Parish - ChurchCamLive.ie

Croom Church Eircode: V35 R972

Banogue Church Eircode: V35 WN59

Croom Hospital Mass Sunday 8 a.m. Thursday 11 a.m. Followed by Holy Hour.

Public Welcome

Last Sundays Offertory Collection: Banogue €500
Croom €1,200

Recent Deaths

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Tom O'Rourke, Birmingham and late of Glen Má, and Gerard (Ger) Moloney, Caemore Court. May their souls Rest in Peace.



We thank the Parishioners for taking part in the Lenten Trocaire campaign which provides great support for all those in need in the Third World Countries. We ask you to return all boxes by next weekend so that the collection proceeds can be sent to the Trocaire Headquarters in Maynooth, Co Kildare.



Divine Mercy Sunday – April 7th

Redemptorist Church, Limerick: Devotions 2.30pm – 5.45pm; Mass 4.45pm

Devotions include Veneration of the Relic of St Faustina

Charleville Church: Devotions begin at 3.00pm

Lourdes Pilgrimages

Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Thursday 20th to Tuesday 25th June 2024 from €899 per person, assisted Pilgrims €850, direct flights from Shannon to Lourdes. For further information please contact Limerick Diocesan Lourdes Office, St Munchins, Corbally, 061 350000.

Limerick Autumn Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024

The Limerick Autumn Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024 Tuesday 10th to Sunday 15th September 2024 from €949 per person. Direct flights from Shannon to Lourdes. Booking forms available from:

Canon Willie Fitzmaurice	Croom	Tel: 086 2423 728
Canon John O'Shea	Raheen	Tel: 087 9708 282
Canon Tony Mullins	Abbeyfeale	Tel: 087 2600 414
Mr Kieran Loughran	St John's	Tel: 087 9095 975
Eileen Irwin	Bruff	Tel: 087 6628 288
Tony Connolly	Corpus Christi	Tel: 087 2908 756

Reflection 1

Faith is a great gift.

But the story of Doubting Thomas shows just how frail is the human container in which this gift is carried.

It is very difficult to remain a believer on one's own.

We really need to belong to a believing community, whose common faith strengthens the faith of each individual.

The early Christians show us the way to go.

They supported one another by praying and worshipping together, and by offering a loving service to one another.

Reflection 2

The fact that we may have a strong faith doesn't mean that life will be plain sailing for us.

What faith does is gives us bearings, thus enabling us to live in a topsy-turvy world without getting lost or giving in to despair.

Just as swimmers trust that if they don't panic, and if they do a few simple things, then the power of the sea will uphold them, so believers entrust their lives to a power greater than themselves.

That power is the power of God, who brought his Son, Jesus, back from the dead.