**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Then he said to Thomas, “do not be unbelieving, but believe.” Thomas answered and said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

 **Mass Schedule and Intentions**

**Saturday, April 15, 5:00 p.m. Mass – Prayers and Healing and for the well – being of Alexa Smith by Elizabeth Wilson**

**Sunday, April 16, 9:30 a.m. Mass – Pro -populo**

**11:00 a.m. Mass - Prayers and Healing and for the well – being of Barry Richard by Elizabeth Wilson**

**Thanksgiving and the well – being of the Ricafort Family members by Eufrosina Ricafort**

**Monday, April 17, No Mass**

**Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m. - Healing Mass**

**Thanksgiving and Blessings for Dr. and Mrs. Edet on their25th Wedding Anniversary by Dr. and Mrs. Edet and Family**

**Wednesday, April 19, 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Thursday, April 20, 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Friday, April 21, 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Saturday, April 22, 5:00 p.m. Mass – Third Sunday of Easter**

**For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter’s**

**Sunday, April 23, 9:30 a.m. Mass – Pro - populo**

**11:00 a.m. Mass Thanksgiving and Blessings for Dr. and Mrs. Edet on their25th Wedding Anniversary by Dr. and Mrs. Edet and Family**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER REFLECTION: The Gospel of John provides an account of the appearance of Jesus to the eleven in the upper room and a second account one week later (eight days in Hebrew reckoning). Jesus brings the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus, who has died for sinners, ensures the gift of forgiveness for all those who will seek it, the forgiveness available to us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The reluctance of Thomas provokes Jesus' praise for those who believe without seeing. But Thomas should also be remembered as the one who gives the fullest declaration of faith in Christ found anywhere in the gospels: 'My Lord and my God!' Do we treasure the gospel as showing the way to faith and life? How does the experience of Thomas provide encouragement for believers? We pray for a deeper appreciation of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We pray for all those plagued by hesitation and doubt.**

 **SHOW ME: In many areas of life, we indulge our natural cynicism, pessimism and doubt. It’s easy to be skeptic because there is so little we can be absolutely be certain of. Whether we’re talking about history, science, love or even our faith, doubt is always there. Thomas the Apostle, the centre of attention in today’s gospel passage, gives a classic example of uncertainty, about the most fundamental fact of his faith: the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In this instant, Thomas, truly earns that nickname of “twin”, to us. We can relate with his reaction to the stories of Christ’s Resurrection, because we, too, are a mixture of fear and doubt, of cynicism and trust, of belief and unbelief. We have all been swamped by the same deadly doubt. But joyously as well, we can be twinned with Thomas as his faith is made new. As he kneels before Jesus proclaiming “my Lord and my God” may we too find that the doubt which first shakes our faith, can be the very stuff which strengthens it as well.**

**Preparation Classes for the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion will start next Sunday, at the parish. Enrollment Mass of Welcome to the Parish Community for all candidates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation will be held next Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. Mass.**

**CHILDREN’ S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Children’s Liturgy of the Word is back! Please join us at 9:30 a.m. Mass every Sunday. Parents are welcome to participate with their young children. We ask that masks be worn at this time.**

**The 32nd, annual, Action Life – Hike for Life**, **will be held Saturday, April 29 th, 2023. James Wilson, will be participating in this year’s walk representing St. Peter’s and pledge sheets will be at the back of the church area starting this weekend for those who wish to sponsor his participation. Pledge sheets will also available for those who wish to participate as well. The 9:00 am Hike begins and ends at St. Patrick Basilica downtown. Please see Mr. Wilson for more information at back after mass.**

**EASTER’S WONDERFUL PROMISE:** **In the ordinary course of life we dream and plan hoping our lives will go smoothly. It is a shock to be reminded of how quickly dreams and hopes can be shattered. In a moment when we experience life and death standing side by side, we are jolted into the reality that our certainties are not so certain. After the exhilaration of the Easter Sunday affirmation, “Christ is Risen”,” the Second Sunday of Easter gives way to the fear and doubt of the broken hopes and dreams of Jesus’ disciples. Their fear was contagious, producing doubt within us. But our doubt is productive search for the truth and the answer to our question “Did Jesus rise from the dead?” opens us to recognize the risen Lord. As we seek the Lord, He comes to us, blessing us with the peace, sending us forth to continue His mission, and empowering us with the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

 **ARCHDIOCESE’ S NEW WEBSITE:** **The Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall has launched its brand-new site and created a new opportunity for parishes to promote their events. Though the Friday Facts will be ending soon, this site will promote events in the diocese to the public. Click the link to visit the Events page to see what is happening in the diocese: https:// ottawacornwall.ca/allevents/. For national or international groups and movements, visit our Resources page: https:// ottawacornwall.ca/resources/ or Opportunities to Meet Christ: https://ottawacornwall.ca/opportunities-to-meetchrist/.**

**DIOCESAN NEW SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS: The Diocese invites you to take advantage of their new social media platforms. You will find prayers, inspiring messages, photos, videos, and even quizzes! Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are updated several times a week in both official languages. They invite you to share your comments on the posts, send them your stories, and encourage those you know to register. Instagram: tps://www.instagram.com/ottawacornwall/?hl=en Twitter: https://twitter.com/OttawaCornwall Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ottawacornwall YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@archdiocese-archidioceseot854 LinkedIn:** [**https://ca.linkedin.com/company/ottawacornwal**](https://ca.linkedin.com/company/ottawacornwal)

**Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass**: **For those celebrating 60 (or more), 50, 40, 30, 25 and 20 years of marriage. At Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica on Sunday, April 30, 2:30 pm. The registration form is available at https://forms.office.com/r/jpBDLwD0Kg. Please register before Easter to ensure your spot.**

**The Legion of Mary (Ottawa Regia) Celebrates 350th Birth Anniversary of St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort**: **At Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 435 Montreal Rd., Ottawa, Fri., Apr. 28, 4-6:30 pm. Mass celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Yvan Mathieu, S.M. Legion of Mary prayers and Rosary, Holy Mass, followed by a procession with a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Reception to follow. All are welcome. Info: http://legionofmaryottawa.com/events.php;** **legionofmaryottawa@proton.me****.**

**Women's Cursillo Weekend:** **Are you, or someone you know, looking to grow closer to God and to live your faith in community with others? A Cursillo is a short course in the form of a retreat where participants learn, share and have fun together! The next Cursillo for women will be held Thurs. evening – Sun., Apr. 27-30 in Plantagenet. Info: Angiolina (613-299-4818). Register: https://form.jotform.com/10084457319. Cost: $280.**

**Spiritual Motherhood of Priests (SMOP): An invitation to any Catholic woman interested in becoming a Spiritual Mother of Priests. Formation Weekend and Induction/Renewal Promises Mass—June 2, 3, 4, 2023 at Holy Redeemer Parish, 44 Rothesay Dr., Kanata. Details on www.spiritualmotherhoodofpriests.ca. Please register by email to spiritualmotherhoodottawa@gmail.com by Wed., May 24. More info: 613-254-7220.**

 **THANK YOU TO OUR HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS! We want to express our deep gratitude to all who worked so hard and who selflessly devoted their time and efforts to making sure the liturgies of Holy Week were beautiful, reverent and prayerful. It takes considerable planning and commitment many weeks ahead of time to execute these important once-in-a-year liturgies. All of our liturgical ministers, which includes the choir and music ministers, lectors, servers, sacristan, counters, cleaners and all those who we may have missed helped execute the liturgies so prayerfully. There was a lot of work behind the scenes leading up to the Triduum, which enabled us to have everything we needed to enter into these sacred mysteries. To all of these important individuals, thank you!!! We were very moved by the large numbers of parishioners who gathered to celebrate these sacred days. Thank you for prayerfully assisting in these liturgies as the Body of Christ. I truly hope that what we experienced in these recent days will help us to rejoice in the Lord’s Resurrection in the 50 days of the Easter Season ahead. Sincerely Yours in Christ, St Peter’s Paris Family.**

 **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – April 16th**: **The Lord promised to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment for the soul that will celebrate the Feast of the Divine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter. Thus, to fittingly observe the Feast and gain the indulgence we should. Place our complete trust in Jesus! Sincerely repent all our sins, Go to confession within a week of the Feast, Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast or the Vigil, Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the intentions of the Holy Father, Be merciful to others, through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf. The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday.**

 ***Christ is Risen ……. ALLELUIA!***