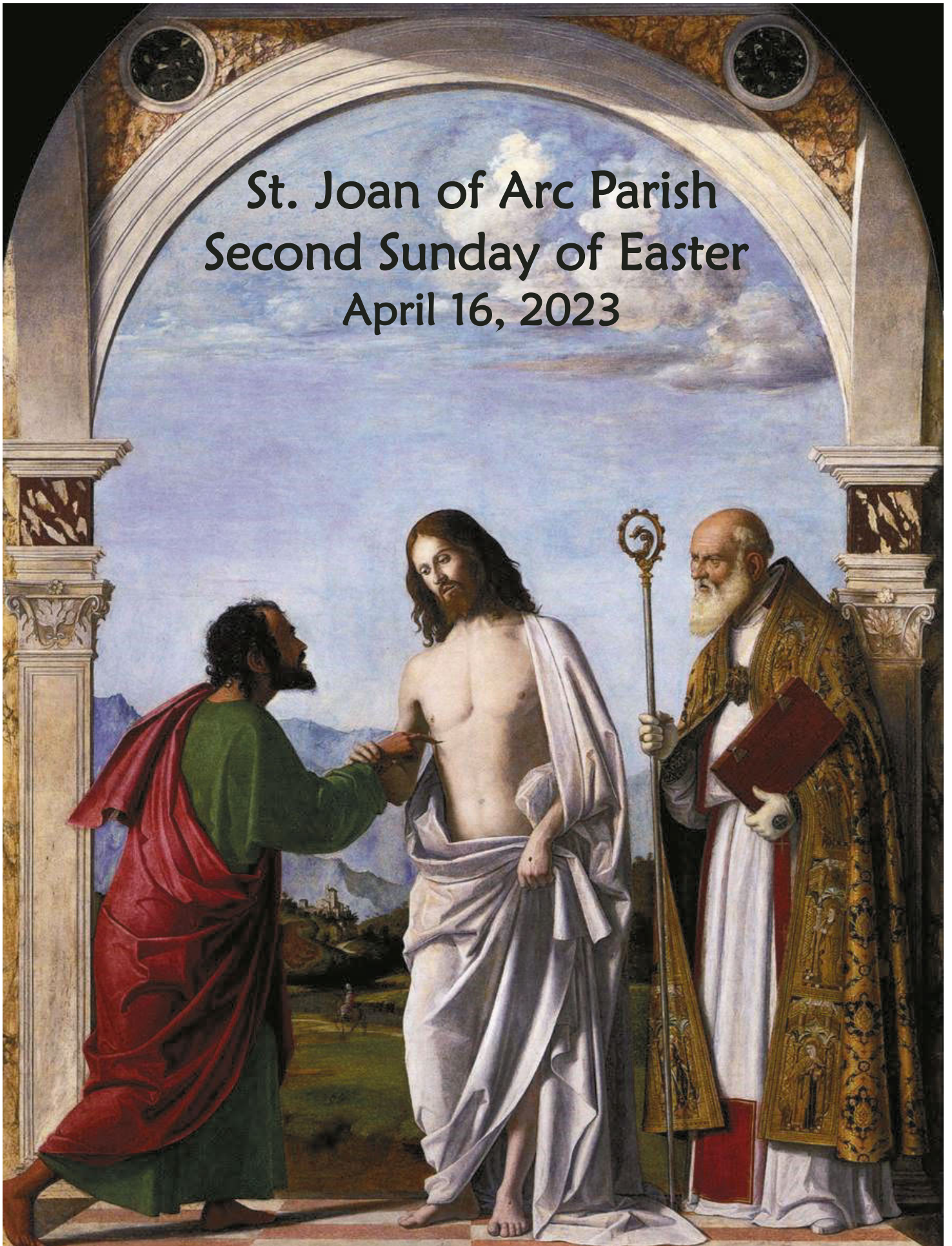


**St. Joan of Arc Parish
Second Sunday of Easter
April 16, 2023**



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat: 8:00am
Thurs: 5:00pm.

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am & 10:00am

Confession: Tues: 8:30am; Thurs. & Sat.: 4:00-4:45pm;
or by appointment—call the Parish Office

Holy Rosary: M, T, W, F, S @ 8:30am & Thurs. @ 4:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday: 9:00am—5:00pm

We thank those of you who so generously support our Parish and Parish Ministries

April 2 \$ 6,988
Good Friday \$ 1,216
Easter \$ 11,633
Retired Priests of the Diocese \$ 2,796

Upcoming 2nd Collections

April 16 - Harvest Sunday
May 14 - Harvest Sunday
May 18 - Ascension Thursday
May 21—Catholic Communications

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE and MASS INTENTIONS

April 15—April 23



Sat.	April 15	Sunday of Divine Mercy (W)
	5:00 pm	Parish Family
Sun.	April 16	Sunday of Divine Mercy (W)
	8:00 am	Patricia Titterington
	10:00 am	Special Intentions
Mon.	April 17	Easter Weekday (W)
	8:00 am	Bill Hannon
Tues.	April 18	Easter Weekday (W)
	8:00 am	Joyce Smith
Wed.	April 19	Easter Weekday (W)
	8:00 am	Edith Paolillo
Thurs.	April 20	Easter Weekday (W)
	8:00 am	Priest's Intentions
Fri.	April 21	Easter Weekday (W)
	8:00 am	Joyce Smith
Sat.	April 22	Easter Weekday (W)
	8:00 am	Carolyn Sullivan
Sat.	April 22	Third Sunday of Easter (W)
	5:00 pm	Mary & Roger Lemire
Sun.	April 23	Third Sunday of Easter (W)
	8:00 am	Parish Family
	10:00 am	Stella Olbrych

PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN Devon Manchester, Sinead McGorman, Colin Bracken, Pat Curry, Matthew Blair, Nicholas Blair

PRAY FOR THE ILL OF THE PARISH Addie Priess, Diane Roy, Julianne Sullivan, Evelyn Mullen, Pat Mangan, Mary Butler, Marguerite Forren, Jean Clark, Pat Stebbins, Bev Sarazin, Heather Lemme Rowe, Claire Mastro

PRAY FOR RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY



The Tabernacle candle is lit from April 10-29 in loving memory of

James Deleppo

PARISH INFORMATION

61 Canal Road
Orleans, MA 02653
508-255-0170
www.joanarc.org

Fr. Steven Booth, Administrator, frbooth@joanarc.org
Deacon Norman F. McEnaney
Julie MacAller Hickey, Director of Faith Formation
Art McManus, Director of Music
Lisa Scapellati, Office Manager
Nancy Rouillard, Office Assistant, frontdesk@joanarc.org
Alec Stansell, Facilities Manager
Baptisms—by appointment
Marriage—arrangements 8 to 12 months in advance
Parish Office Hours: Mon.- Fri.: 9:00am - 12:30pm
1:30pm - 3:00pm
Parish email: rectory@joanarc.org
Faith Formation email: religed@joanarc.org
Faith Formation tel: 508-255-1257

Cover artwork: *Doubting Thomas with St. Magnus*, 1505, by Cima da Conegliano



What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Each year, on the Second Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates the Sunday of Divine Mercy. In the 1930s, Jesus appeared to a humble Polish nun, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska. As Jesus continued to appear to St. Faustina, she recorded His messages in her *Diary*.

The Lord expressed His will with regard to this feast in His very first revelation to St. Faustina. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in her *Diary* entry 699:

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My mercy.

When recalling our sins, we may feel discouraged or fearful of approaching God; however, we can cling to the truth that Christ's Passion on the Cross did not end in death, but in the joy of the Resurrection. The miracle of Easter gives us the courage to face our sins, confess our mistakes, and then humbly receive God's forgiveness and accept the joy that comes with new life in Christ. In His infinite love for us, God desires nothing more than to wash away our sins and offer us His mercy. He has a prepared place in His merciful heart for each of us, and no sin is bigger than His power to forgive.

No matter how we have fallen, the Resurrection of Christ is an assurance of *hope*. Christ's mercy is constantly available to us, if only we reach out to Him in faith and confidence through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The words Christ revealed to St. Faustina, He also speaks to us: "*Lay your head on my shoulder, rest and regain your strength. I am always with you*" (*Diary*, no. 498).

Excerpts from Kowalska, Maria Faustina. *Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul*. Stockbridge, MA: Marian Press, 2000. Used with permission of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M. ([The Divine Mercy](http://www.divinemercy.org), www.divinemercy.org)

THANK YOU for JOINING WITH US TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE — at all STAGES!

We are excited to provide you with the final recap on the Baby Bottle Campaign. With the last few baby bottles coming in at the end of this week, we anticipate sending a check to Your Options Medical for over \$7,600. A remarkable and beautiful gift from St. Joan of Arc parishioners and, on behalf of Father Steve and our Parish Respect Life Apostolate, I thank you all so very much for this incredible outpouring of support and compassion.

Though this Campaign comes to a close, our work to protect life will never end. As you know, we direct much of our energy, time, and focus to protecting the child in the womb, to working with the expectant mom hoping she will choose life for her child, and walking with the mom and baby after birth. And, our work extends far beyond that because every human life is a gift from God and deserves to be treated with respect and dignity..... from the very moment of conception, through every stage of life, regardless of one's mental and physical capacities, right up to and through our natural death.

In many areas throughout our world today, legislation is being enacted that promotes the elimination of people with disabilities and the elderly as these groups are perceived as having no value in society and as being a drain on our physical and financial resources. The same philosophy is applied to the individual with a terminal illness. The practice of euthanizing the person with a terminal illness, under the guise of 'compassion for the pain they are suffering' is spreading in various parts of the world, including some states within our own nation. Educating our young and old about the tragedy and immorality of this practice is part of our apostolate.

With respect to the young members of our parish community, we are proud to play a part in the efforts of our Faith Formation program as they strive to educate our youth about the value and dignity of every human life. One way in which we will do this again will be to offer our students the opportunity to participate in the 2024 March for Life in Washington DC. This past January, thanks to the support of the Knights of Columbus, generous parishioners, and the parents who recognized the value of having their sons and daughters participate in the March and thus covered their expenses, we brought 17 marchers from SJA to the event. We look forward to sharing God's Truth again with our young parishioners in this same way next year.

Thank you again for your most generous outpouring of support.

Lisa Scapellati

Congratulations to our Parish Family members who received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion and to those newly received into the Catholic Church at our Easter Vigil Mass

Blessings and welcome to....

The Leontie Family members — Salome, Ashton, Jameson, Avery, Phoenix, Valentina
Ben Fagen
Robert Kloumann
Carol Schultz
Jacob “Jake” Solfisburg



Salome Leontie with her daughters, Avery and Valentina



Father Steve and Robert Kloumann



Robert Kloumann and Carol Schultz



Father Steve with the Leontie Family

Parish Events and Ministry Meetings

Sunday, April 16—3pm—Divine Mercy service & reception. All are invited to attend.

Knights of Columbus Board—meets 2nd Wednesday of every month @ 7:00pm in the Parish Hall

St. Vincent de Paul—meets after the 8am Mass in the Parish Hall - 2nd Fri. of every month except Feb., March & Aug.

Social Justice Committee - meets on ZOOM; contact Frank Filipowski - mayorfrank@hotmail.com for time & Zoom link.

RACHEL’S VINEYARD RETREAT

April 21-23

.....for healing after abortion

For confidential communication, call: Judy: 401-618-5377

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER SERVICE & RECEPTION

This Sunday, April 16, we will have a prayer service for Divine Mercy Sunday at 3:00 in the main church. In addition to celebrating this beautiful Feast Day of Divine Mercy, we will bring to a close the 33-Day to Merciful Love Retreat and celebrate with retreat participants at a reception immediately following in the Parish Hall.



All are welcome and encouraged to join us!

PARISH PANCAKE BREAKFAST: The St. Joan of Arc Knights of Columbus Council will be hosting their monthly Parish Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 7, 2023, after the 8 and 10 a.m. Masses in the Parish Center. The Parish Pancake Breakfasts offer blueberry, cranberry, or plain pancakes, along with sausage, juice, and coffee - all you can eat - \$7 for adults, \$3 for children under 12, FREE for children under 7, with a family limit of \$20. Come on down and enjoy the great food and fellowship! Proceeds will be used by the Knights of Columbus Council to support a variety of community programs. Thank you for your support

Thrift Shop 2023 Schedule

We are open on:
Mon., Wed., Thurs, and Fri.
10am—4pm

We are accepting donations during shop hours and on Tuesdays from 8am—12pm

FAITH FORMATION NOTICES

No classes on April 17 & 18.

See you on April 24 and 25!

Faith Formation ends the first week of May. May 1st and 2nd are the last classes for this year.

Sacraments

Please keep our Confirmation students in your prayers. Confirmation is April 29 at 11:00 AM at Our Lady of the Cape in Brewster. And please keep our First Communion students in your prayers. First Communion is May 14 at the 10:00 Mass.



Earth Day April 22, 2023

“Defense of the earth has no other purpose than defense of life.”

- Pope Francis -

Join members of the Social Justice Committee for Earth Day Beach Clean Up on Sat., April 22 at 10am at Boat Meadow, Beach Eastham. Contact mayorfrank@hotmail.com for more information.

St Joan of Arc Social Justice Ministry invites you to

A Catholic Ecological Ethic:



Racism, Poverty, Care for Creation

Presented by Matthew Eggemeier, PhD.

Professor Religious Studies, College of the Holy Cross,
Worcester MA.

Sunday April 30, 2023 3 pm

St Joan of Arc Church

St. Vincent de Paul HELPLINE: 508-255-8080

SVdP Advocates — strive to help clients in need by providing assistance with food, clothing, shelter, fuel, utility expenses, and medical needs.

FOOD PANTRY - Food donations may be placed in the food baskets by the church doors. Items needed: cranberry sauce, baked beans, beef stew, hot cereal, cold cereal, canned fruit, jello, jelly, macaroni & cheese, powdered milk, spaghetti, peanut butter, canned soup, spaghetti sauce, canned vegetables, canned tuna. Toilet paper and paper towels are also needed. THANK YOU.

GROW YOUR BUSINESS and SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Tom Blanco, from Lpi, our bulletin printer, is seeking to secure new ads for our bulletin. This is the ideal time of year for local businesses to expand their reach and grow their business in the community.

If you know of a member of the business community who wants to grow their business, encourage them to secure a print ad in our bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com. Interested parties can contact Tom at (216) 325-6825 x6285 or write TBlanco@4lpi.com.

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT OUR DOUBTS?

In today's gospel, we hear about the apostle Thomas, who refused to believe in the resurrection until he put his finger into the nail marks on Jesus' hands and put his hand into the wound in Jesus' side. Have we ever been like Thomas, demanding that Jesus give us a concrete sign of his existence and love for us? What can we do about our doubts?

In some ways, it's easy to understand why Thomas doubted the resurrection. The resurrection is hard to even imagine. And yet the gospels and other sources testify to it. All the gospels agree that the resurrection happened: that the risen Christ appeared to one or more, even several witnesses. Who these people are, and in what order Christ appeared to them, differs between the gospels. Some find these differences evidence of a conspiracy; others point to the differences as indicators of truth. After all, when a group wants to perpetrate a lie, one of the first things they say is "Let's get our stories straight."

We know from the gospel that Jesus allowed Thomas to touch his hands and side, and Thomas confessed, "My Lord and my God!" This encounter transformed Thomas. He believed so fervently that he traveled all the way to India where he was martyred. My husband and I know a couple from Southern India who trace their families and their faith all the way back to Saint Thomas. In Chennai, India, the St. Thomas Cathedral Basilica and national shrine of St. Thomas is located over his tomb. Saint Thomas is one story. All the apostles, except for John, died horrible deaths for the gospel.

The gospels transformed the world. Scholars know of 5,795 Greek manuscripts of the New Testament, dated from 30-150 years after the events described in the gospels. They know of 7,974 manuscripts in other languages dated from the early second century (100 - 150 years after the events). And they know of more than 10,000 manuscripts in Latin dated from the third century and on (300-350 years). No other ancient text has those kinds of numbers. The next closest one is Homer's *Iliad*. For that, scholars know of 1,757 manuscripts, dated 400 years from the event. ([Case-Making 101: How does the Bible compare to other ancient documents?](<https://truthfaithandreason.com/case-making-101-how-does-the-bible-compare-to-other-ancient-documents/>)) We automatically assume that Homer's *Iliad* is authentic. Do we extend the same courtesy to the New Testament?

These numbers are just data. The gospels are the word of God, living and true. The Bible is one of the main ways that God speaks to us now. If there's one thing that can help all of us to increase our faith, it's reading the Bible. Even if we just take a few minutes to review the gospel for daily Mass, it helps us draw closer to God.

Our call is not to be like Thomas, insisting on concrete signs. We have not seen, and yet we are called to believe. Now is the time to choose God, even if we have doubts. If we choose God, we can trust Him to remove our doubts.

Julie MacAller Hickey
Faith Formation Director

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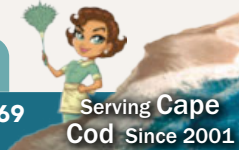
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