

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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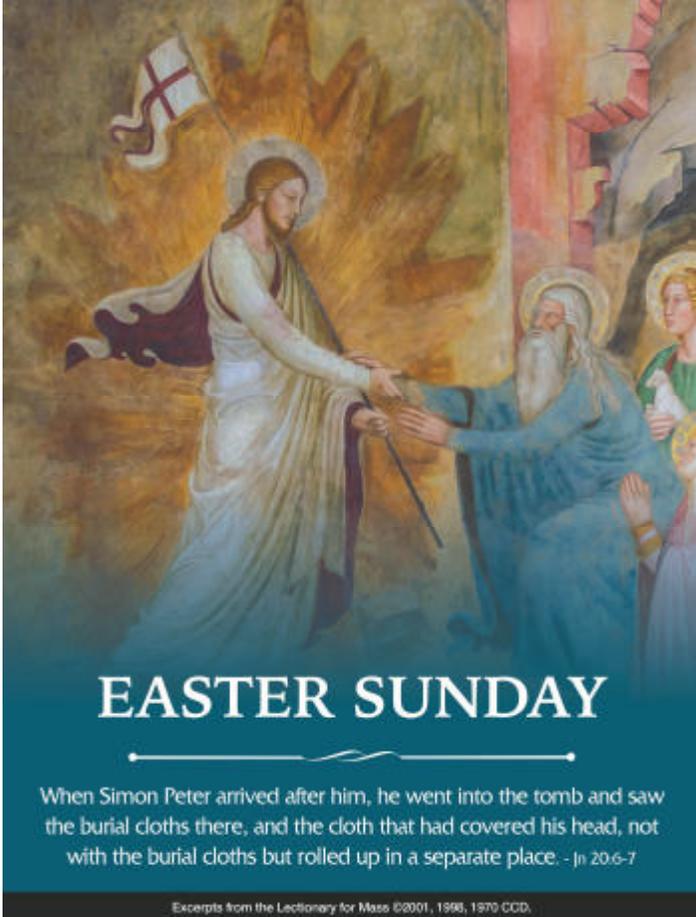
www.stthomascamas.org

office@stthomascamas.org



APRIL 4, 2021

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



MASS SCHEDULE (SIGN UP NECESSARY)

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:30am & 11:00am

Daily Masses

Tuesday: 6:00pm

Wednesday thru

Saturday: 8:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday after our 6pm Mass and

Saturday after our 8:30am Mass

or by appointment with Fr. Jim

PRIVATE PRAYER

The church is open for private prayer:

Tuesdays, 1 to 3pm, and Wednesdays & Fridays,

10:30am to noon.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

By telephone only

Mon-Thu: 9:00am-12:30pm, 1:00-5:00pm

Fri: 9:00am - noon

Closed weekends and holidays

MISSION STATEMENT

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”

Matthew 28:18-20

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Easter Monday, April 5**, our parish office will be closed
- **Divine Mercy Sunday**, April 11
- **Please pray for our six RCIA participants** who entered the church at the Easter Vigil
- **Use SignUpGenius for all Sunday Masses.** Link is available on the parish website each Monday for the coming weekend. See details in this bulletin for additional information

Follow us on Facebook: St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

or on Instagram@stthomascamas



From the desk of Lorrie Conway

Bothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy Easter!!!! As I write this, it is snowing outside my office window. Unseasonal and unexpected, but beautiful none-the-less. One final hurrah as we move out of the cold winter days and look forward to warmer brighter spring days. The new spring lambs bouncing around the snow-covered pasture clearly shows the juxtaposition between seasons. The end of the dark chilly season signaled by the new life of the bright and hopeful spring season. How appropriate for this Easter week.

At the beginning of Lent, we provided a link for Dynamic Catholic's "The Best Lent Ever" with Matthew Kelley. These short daily video clips shared wonderful little tidbits of meditation throughout Lent. If you also watched them, you might have noticed that Matthew Kelley kept going back to 'just 10 minutes per day' as a concept for our prayer life. He challenged us to start there by just talking with our Lord daily for 10 minutes.

Yesterday, I read a wonderful reflection on how to make more time for God in our lives and this reflection suggested that we have allowed ourselves to be so consumed with *things and stuff* that we spend so much time taking care of, that it leaves little time for God.

I do not know about you, but for some reason, every year during the winter, we seem to accumulate. I am not sure how that happens because we typically work hard at not keeping extra stuff in our lives, but every spring I start to feel crowded, and it is not just crowded with stuff; my schedule is also more crowded. Somehow, over the winter months, I have managed to overcommit to things and by the time spring comes, I am on overload. The meditation that I read yesterday also suggested the 10-minute approach to simplifying your life; start with just 10 minutes of decluttering per day. Have three boxes: Toss it (recycle if you can), Donate it, Keep it. Each day take 10 minutes to chip away at the excess in your life to clear the clutter that overloads you.

Now that we are in the Easter season, it is time for some spring cleaning! I am letting go of those dark, chilly days of Lent and replacing them with the hopeful, bright sunny days of Easter. The hopefulness of new life given to us by our risen Christ is really all we need, isn't it? This spring I am planning to adopt the 10-minute approach to chip away at the excess of obligations and stuff in my life throughout the Easter season to make more time for God. I think I will take my Lord along for some good conversation and directions. It might not be our *deepest* conversation, but who better to have with me when deciding what I really *need* in my life.

If you are like me and needing to do some spring cleaning, I would invite you to consider the 10 minute a day approach and spend some time with God while you do it.

I know that soon enough, the unseasonal snow will be gone, and the little lambs will be basking in the sun taking in all the goodness that spring has to offer. I hope you have a beautiful first week of Easter and praying that you can really shed the darkness of Lent and bask in the bright hopefulness of Easter too.

God Bless,

Lorrie

PARISH OFFICE (360) 834-2126

PASTORAL COORDINATOR.....Lorrie Conway, ext. 208
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE.....Ted Meany, ext. 215
PA FOR LITURGY & MUSIC.....Kristin Yoshimura, ext. 212
ADMIN. ASSISTANT.....Terese Dayton, ext 203
CHILDRENS FF.....Denice Twyman, ext. 202
SACRAMENTAL PREP.....Christine Peters, ext. 206
MAINTENANCE.....Ryan LaFave, ext. 282
SECRETARY.....Audrey Hockett, ext. 0

OFFICE SECRETARY EMAIL: office@stthomascamas.org
PARISH WEBSITE: www.stthomascamas.org

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Our parish office is once again closed to visitors due to the new COVID 19 restrictions. Please always call first before coming to the office. Thank you!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

April 4 **Easter Sunday Masses**, 8:30am & 11am
April 5 **Easter Monday** (parish office closed)
April 11 **Divine Mercy Sunday**, Masses: Vigil 5pm, Sun. 8:30 and 11am
May 1 **First Holy Communion Mass**, 10am
May 8 **Mother's Day**



CDA SCHOLARSHIPS!

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are offering five (5) \$1,000.00 scholarships to graduating seniors from St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. The application can be found on the Parish website. The application has been mailed to the scholarship counselors at Seton Catholic High School, Hayes Freedom High School, Washougal High School, Excelsior High School, and Camas High School. Completed applications should be turned in or mailed to the Parish Office, and are due no later than **May 31, 2021**.

THE BEST CATHOLIC CONTENT - ALL IN ONE PLACE

- Go to formed.org
 - Enter our Parish Code on the homepage: **3FRM2C**
 - Create a personal account with email and password
- New content is being added all the time; check it out.

FORMED

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INDOOR MASSES AT ST. THOMAS

A general dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation continues to remain in place.

The 8:30am Sunday Mass continues to be live streamed for those who cannot be with us in person. Visit the [parish Facebook page](#) (a Facebook account is not required; recordings are available via the [parish YouTube channel](#))

USE SIGNUPGENIUS FOR ALL SUNDAY MASSES: Please use the [SignUpGenius link on the STA website homepage](#) to sign up your household to attend the Sunday Mass of your choice. A new link will be available each Monday for the coming weekend.

COMMUNION PROCESSION: the distribution of Holy Communion will begin with all those seated on the St. Thomas (or right) side of the church and then for all those seated on the Mary (or left) side of the church. This will help ensure social distancing in the center aisle. As in the past, we will walk forward to receive Communion via the center aisle and then return to our pews via the side aisles. Keep your distance from those in another household in front of you in line. If you will not be receiving Communion and there are other households in your pew, please join the procession to receive a blessing; this way you will not block the way for others.

Please follow the direction of the ushers.

RECEIVING COMMUNION WITH A MASK: please keep your mask on until you have received Communion in your hand and have then stepped aside to pause, lower your mask, and then consume the Eucharist and promptly replace your mask.

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS for April **Universal intention - *Fundamental rights***

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



★ This week we want to highlight: ★

★ **Columbia River Realty.** ★

★ Thank you to Columbia River Realty for helping support our ★

★ parish communications! ★



Employment Opportunities at St. Joseph Church

Program Assistant, 40 hours per week, Sunday through Thursday, benefit eligible. Position provides a variety of administrative, clerical and program related support to parish pastoral assistants. Successful candidate must be knowledgeable of administrative duties and handling interaction with the public effectively and efficiently. The Program Assistant has a great deal of interaction with parishioners and staff, and should have the ability to multi-task, prioritize duties and exhibit excellent communication skills both written and verbal. Required proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite, database software and use of the Internet. This position requires Spanish/English bilingual skills. Successful candidates will possess the ability to speak, read, write, and translate Spanish into English and English into Spanish. Practicing Catholic highly preferred. Compensation \$17.50 to \$19.00 per hour depending on experience. Full benefit package and PTO. Application and background check forms are available at <https://www.stjoevan.org/156>. Applicants must submit a completed application and include a resume to St. Joseph Catholic Church, Attn: Human Resources, 6600 Highland Dr., Vancouver, WA 98661 or emailed to hr@stjoevan.org. Position is open until filled.

Front Office Administrative Assistant, 40 hours per week benefit eligible. Position provides administrative support to parish staff as assigned. Successful candidate must be knowledgeable of basic administrative duties and handling interaction with the public effectively and efficiently. This position has a great deal of interaction with parishioners and staff, and should have the ability to multi-task, prioritize duties and exhibit excellent communication skills both written and verbal. Job requirements proficient computer skills in Microsoft Office Suite, database software and use of the Internet. Bilingual Spanish/English and practicing Catholic highly preferred. Compensation \$16.50 to \$18.00 per hour depending on experience. Full benefit package and PTO. Application and background check forms are available at <https://www.stjoevan.org/156>. Applicants must submit a completed application and include a resume to St. Joseph Catholic Church, Attn: Human Resources, 6600 Highland Dr., Vancouver, WA 98661 or emailed to hr@stjoevan.org. Position is open until filled.

Employment Opportunities at St. Rose in Longview

Regional Facility Manager, this position is full-time and will oversee the long-term maintenance, safety, and construction/renovation programs for our three Cowlitz County campuses (Longview, Kelso, and Castle Rock). The position also administers daily operations including grounds, maintenance, janitorial, safety, security, and energy management systems for St. Rose Church and School in Longview. The individual will be responsible for providing maintenance services for parish and school buildings and grounds, so basic knowledge of HVAC, plumbing, electrical and other routine building systems is required. This person will be required to conduct preventive maintenance as well as safety and energy conservation audits. Salary is dependent on experience and benefits are included. For a full job description and application, please email hr@strose-longview.org or contact the parish office at 360-425-4660 x302. Position open until filled.

Director of Evangelization and Catechesis of Children and Youth, we are in need of an enthusiastic, organized, and creative Catholic to join our team to evangelize and catechize the children and youth (K-12) of our parish. The ideal candidate has a bachelor's degree, is bilingual in English and Spanish, and has experience working with children and youth in a multicultural community. This person must be able to work evenings and weekends when needed. Salary is dependent on experience and benefits are included. For a complete job description and an application, please contact hr@strose-longview.org or call 360-425-4660.

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

EASTER SEASON

Easter Vigil — April 3rd — 8:30 PM

The Easter Vigil is the climax of the entire liturgical year. We begin outside blessing the Easter Fire and Candle before moving inside for an extended Liturgy of the Word to hear the story of our salvation. On this night, those being baptized come into the Church. It is a night of great joy, filled with the beauty and tradition which have long been a part of the Roman Rite. Join Christ in His Glorious Resurrection!

Easter Sunday — April 4th — Masses at 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Join Christ and celebrate the gift of new life!

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) — April 11th

Divine Mercy Holy Hour with Chaplet — 2:50 PM. Join Christ and receive His mercy!

Confirmation Mass—Sunday, April 25th at 5:00 PM

Join us in celebrating with those who are being Confirmed by our Bishop.

First Holy Communion—Saturday, May 1 at 10:00 AM

Our parish children will be receiving our Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist.

The Ascension of the Lord — May 16th

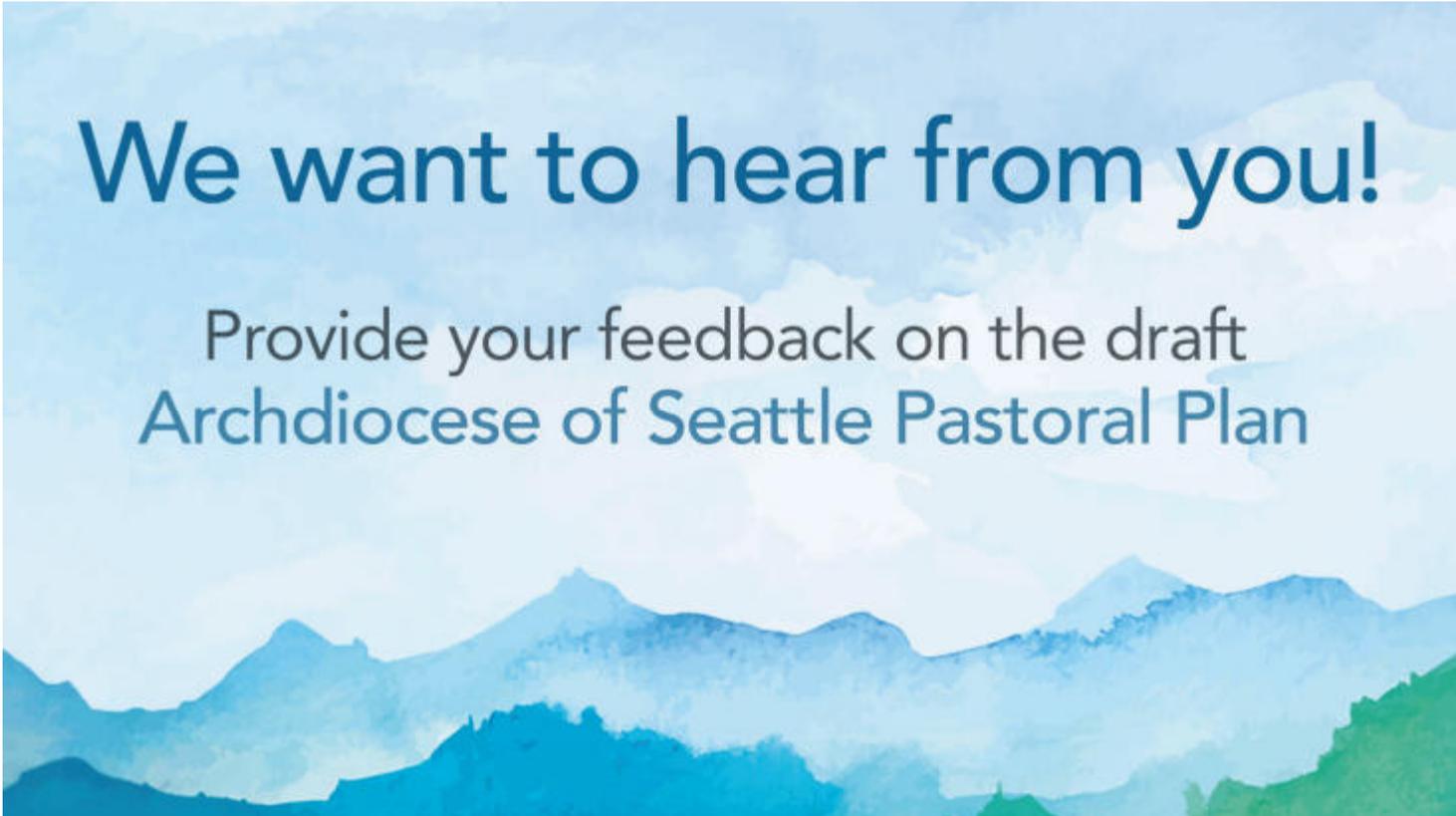
Join Christ as He rises in glory to heaven!

Pentecost — May 23rd

Join Christ and the Father as they send upon us the Holy Spirit!

Corpus Christi Procession

Save the date: June 6th. Stay tuned for more details.



We want to hear from you!

Provide your feedback on the draft
Archdiocese of Seattle Pastoral Plan

Pastoral Plan Draft for Review

Last March, the Archdiocese launched an online survey collecting nearly 8,000 responses from Catholics across the region. This Catholic survey was followed by listening sessions in October, centered on the preliminary elements of the mission statement, guiding principles, and a shared vision. These sessions informed the development of the Pastoral Plan Draft. We invite all Catholics to review [the draft](#) and share feedback in [this survey](#).

We want your feedback

We invite everyone to read the first draft of the Pastoral Plan and share your feedback in this survey. <https://10.selectsurvey.net/SeattleArchdiocese/TakeSurvey.aspx?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=96Mlmn6&Preview=true#>

“Our goal is to become a more mission-oriented church that continually draws people closer to Christ, regardless of where they are in their faith journey.”

~ Archbishop Etienne, June 8, 2020



SAVE THE DATE:
Serving Promise Raising Hope
Virtual Event and Auction

May 21st, 2021 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Like many events happening these days, our annual event will look a little different this year. Join us online Friday May 21st at 6:30 pm for our Annual Fundraiser Event and **AUCTION!** This inspirational event will support Family Promise of Clark County and our efforts to support families with children who are experiencing homelessness in Clark County.

While this event has moved to an online event, it still will be an impactful and exciting evening together! New to this years event we will have an online auction that will begin Monday May 17th and end at the conclusion of our online event on Friday May 21st.

We will be selling regular priced tickets for \$15 each or you can upgrade to a VIP ticket for \$50 and receive: a bottle of wine or sparkling cider, decadent chocolates and two raffle tickets for your chance to win one of our amazing raffle items!

Registration information will be sent out soon, so mark your calendars for Friday May 21st and for participating in the online auction beginning Monday May 17th through Friday May 21st!

If you have any questions, or if you are interested in donating auction items or raffle prizes, please contact Melissa Edwards at: events@familypromiseofclarkco.org or at: (360)909-7322.

Sincerely,

David Cole
Executive Director



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

Sunday, Apr 04, 2021

SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (EASTER SUNDAY)

Race to understanding

Does it matter who gains insight first, so long as we all get there? Competition is overrated, which may be

why evangelists don't agree on who arrives at the tomb first. Mark reports that Mary Magdalene; Mary, mother of James; and Salome got there at dawn. Matthew asserts it was the Magdalene and the "other Mary." Luke claims it was Mary Magdalene; James' mother, Mary; Joanna; and assorted "others." In John, the Magdalene arrives alone. You may be a cradle Catholic, or this may be your first Easter.

Welcome to the recognition that death doesn't have the final say.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Victimae Paschali Laudes; John 20:1-9 or Mark 16:1-7 (42, 41) or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35 (46). "They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first."*

Monday, Apr 05, 2021

EASTER MONDAY

Weave a life of meaning

Everyone knows the joy of creating—whether it be a work of art, a meal, or a family. It's a way of expressing ourselves, sharing our love, and using our talents to serve. It's also a consolation during tough times. Maybe you took up some new, creative pastimes during the pandemic. Saint Maria Crescentia Höss, whose feast is today, was a weaver in 18th-century Bavaria before she became a nun, and when she was assigned to servitude and living in a cubbyhole in the monastery, she kept weaving. Maybe that helped sustain her until she eventually rose to be elected the mother superior. Holy creativity can feed your soul.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15 (261). "They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage."*

Tuesday, Apr 06, 2021

EASTER TUESDAY

Sing the Octave

Happy Octave of Easter—the eight days between, and including, Easter Sunday and Divine Mercy Sunday. By relishing the Resurrection for eight whole days instead of just one, the church declares it the cornerstone of belief. What's more: In contrast to the Christmas Octave, we observe no other feast days during Easter Octave, keeping the Resurrection our only focus. Why eight? Christianity's Jewish roots feature ritual celebrations that end on the eighth day—a week, when you count both the first and last days. Make every day this week a "mini-Easter," as our church intends. Sing Alleluia for eight days.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 2:36-41; John 20:11-18 (262). "Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?'"*

Wednesday, Apr 07, 2021

EASTER WEDNESDAY

Pray for all who heal a world in pain

On April 7, 1948, the World Health Organization was established as a leading global health authority within the United Nations system. In 2021, the WHO counts 7,000 members from 150 countries. It declares that the health of all people is essential to attaining peace and security, and among other things chooses a particular health theme each year

to mark its anniversary. Past themes include mental health, maternal and childcare, and climate change. Mindful that the world's aging population is living longer, the WHO set this year's theme as "Aging and Health." On this Easter Wednesday, as we take note of the healing miracles within the early Christian community, ask the Lord to bless all who work to safeguard the health of humanity.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35 (263). "And a man crippled from birth was carried and placed at the gate of the temple."*

Thursday, Apr 08, 2021

EASTER THURSDAY

Keep it going

We are still in the Octave of Easter, the eight days following Easter. The Octave is meant to keep the celebration going, to keep savoring the joy of the Resurrection. The gospel for each day focuses on the Risen Christ. In the early church, those who were baptized at the Easter Vigil would continue wearing their white garments all week in recognition of the life-changing, festive event. You've likely been changing your clothes during the Octave, but try keeping your focus on the Resurrection. Meditate on a time that God has blessed you with new life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 3:11-26, Luke 24:35-48 (264). "He stood in their midst and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'"*

Friday, Apr 09, 2021

EASTER FRIDAY

It all adds up

Numbers play a key role throughout salvation history: Yahweh, the *one* true God; the *5,000* fed; the cock crowing *three* times; the *Triduum*; the *Trinity*; and the *third* time Jesus appears to his disciples after his death, which we read about in today's beautiful gospel story of Jesus cooking breakfast for his disciples on the seashore. Numerologists love to explore all the hidden meanings packed in the biblical numbers. But the gospel message is actually quite simple. Jesus alone feeds us. Remember that next time you are looking for sustenance elsewhere.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14 (265). "Jesus said to them, 'Come, have breakfast.'"*

Saturday, Apr 10, 2021

EASTER SATURDAY

Faith takes time

What would you think if you heard that someone you knew was dead had risen from the grave? It's no wonder the disciples doubted the story. No less a witness than Mother Teresa of Calcutta expressed serious doubts about God's existence over the course of her life. "Where is my faith?" she wrote. "There is nothing but emptiness." And she's a saint! So when loved ones stop going to church and express doubts about God—or if you yourself face such doubts—accept it as a part of the spiritual journey each of us walks. Keep praying and be patient. Faith takes time and hits dry spells. But in God's heart, there's all the time in the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15 (266). "When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe."*

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