

SUNDAY GOSPEL ACTIVITIES

Second Sunday of Easter | John 20:19-31

Name: _____



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This week we celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter when Jesus appears before his disciples after his resurrection. John's Gospel describes how Jesus' followers were huddled in fear behind locked doors. They had good reason to be afraid because the men who put Jesus to death sought to stamp out what they considered a band of rebels! It is sometimes hard to imagine what life was like at this time on earth. Unless you were a Roman citizen, you had no rights. Many were slaves, and all could be put to death at the whim of the Roman leadership.

Jesus appears to his friends saying, "Peace be with You, as the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them." This is what we call the first commissioning: Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, tells them to go forth and spread the Good News of God's love! And they do! The gifts of the Holy Spirit become readily apparent as they are no longer afraid to witness the truth of God's love for each of us, and Jesus Christ as our Savior.

FAITH IN ACTION

- ★ Like the Apostles, you and I are called to witness our Faith in Jesus Christ each and every day by our words, actions and deeds! Who is a person in your life that you look to as a true disciple of Jesus Christ? If you have the chance, let them know! Either a phone call or a note telling them they are a great example to you!
- ★ Monday, June 29 is the Feast Day of Saint Catherine of Siena, who is a Doctor of the Church and famous for many writings, one of which is truly appropriate for today's Gospel, "Set The World on Fire" by your faith!
- ★ Friday, May 3 is the Feast day of Saints Philip and James! Learn more about these Saints at www.Catholic.org.
- ★ Today is Divine Mercy Sunday! Visit www.TheDivineMercy.org for more information on this beautiful devotion.