

Gospel 11th April 2021. II **Easter** Sunday Cycle B

MY LORD AND MY GOD



YOU HAVE ALSO SEEN THE LORD

SETTING

I am on the way in this Easter season, it is the time of light and of life that makes its way despite the circumstances.

I am, the Lord, your Lord, the One who always walks with you, although sometimes it is difficult for you to see me.

When worry, discouragement, even fear overcome me, I want to continue listening to your word “Peace, do not fear, it is me”.

SONG. Believe in Me, Enrique da Fonseca and Pedro Pablo Celis
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1G-Boxzv2s>

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN 20:19-31.

“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, after saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with

joy at seeing 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. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you retain anyone's sins, they are retained.* Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, *We have seen the Lord,* but he answered, *Unless I can 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. Do not be unbelieving any more but believe.* Thomas replied, *My Lord and my God!* Jesus said to him: *You believe because you can see me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.* There were many other signs that Jesus worked in the sight of the disciples, 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."

WE DEEPEN THE TEXT.

John could have started this passage with the last words spoken, in his Gospel, by Jesus crucified: "It is finished". According to John it is evident, after the Resurrection of Jesus, God's project on humanity is carried out:

1. Jesus shows Himself to his disciples in Jerusalem! the city made for peace, as its name indicates (Yerushala'im), and there Jesus announces and gives his peace: "Shalom" and, because He is God **and, finally recognized as such,** his Word is effective and creative and His peace is really done.
2. "It was at sunset on the first day of the week". In the Jewish reading of the narration of the Creation, that first day was called "Day ONE" in the sense of "first day" but also "unique day", because, somehow, it encompassed all the others, like the first harvest offspring announces the totality of it. For Christians that Day appears on Easter morning and every Sunday we announce that the Day of the Lord, the Day of New Creation has arrived and that God's benevolent plan has been fulfilled.
3. And it is precisely on that day, the first of the week, when Jesus gives the Spirit to his disciples, just as the Prophet Ezekiel had announced: "I will put my own Spirit in you." Jesus "blows his breath" on his disciples saying "Receive the Holy Spirit." John intentionally takes up the word "breath" from the book of Genesis (Gn 2:7): as God breathed in man his vital breath, Jesus inaugurates the new creation by bringing his divine spirit into man.

4. The sending on mission is the consequence: "As the Father has sent me, I also send you". From that moment on, Jesus entrusts to his disciples the mission of announcing the truth to the whole world, the only one of which men need to live: "God is Father, God is Love, forgiveness and mercy". It is finished!

The mission is urgent, the world is dying because it does not know the truth, that truth towards which, progressively and patiently, the Spirit leads humanity.

CLUES FOR THE PRAYER.

1. What does Jesus do once everything is "finished" on earth?
2. How does Jesus deal with Thomas?
3. What does Jesus invite us to?
4. What do you feel called to after listening to the words of Jesus Christ?

TOUCH AND LIVE! May your life transparent HIS LIFE _____

AMBIENTAL MUSIC. Ludovico Einaudi - Samba

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2cqp-GW1chI>

TO BELIEVE IN ORDER TO LOVE.

We walk in the Light of Easter.

Jesus LIVES! He is with us.

And you, what do you feel, what do you think?

Are you one of Thomas's?

To get the hand inside, to touch the wound...

Is that believing?

To verify.

To see with the eyes of the face.

And faith?

How many times are we Thomas?

My Lord, to touch...

To verify, what is possible,

faith, always.

The heart is the one that guides,

the one that humanizes everything.

To walk, with true faith,
He lives in us.
To walk, with the freedom
that He shows us.
To walk, with a firm step,
along the path that He goes through,
safe, committed.
To walk, with the authentic word,
to know for what we opt,
what we want.
To walk, with the friend,
companions on the way,
who are always with you.
To walk, with the inspired whisper,
of meaning of life,
that leads us to opt,
for what is the best, the authentic,
for what is worthy, what is fair.
To walk, with the true Friend,
barefoot.
Feeling the earth, the life.
To walk, with the security
of the strong faith,
that looks inside and outside,
that relies and trusts the Word.
To walk, by, with and for Life,
in circular fraternity,
that dreams the united humanity.

SONG. "Where I may be", Ixcis (Official Lyric Video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RTl6lFJsBpY>



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