

***Nurturing Faith...***  
***Every Day in Every Way***



April 8, 2018

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**Acts 4:32-35**

**Psalm 133 (1)**

**1 John 1:1—2:2**

**John 20:19-31**



***Seeing Is Believing. Object: None.***

Do you find it easy to believe what someone tells you, even if what they tell you seems impossible? Sometimes we must see something before we believe it, don't we?

On the evening of the first Sunday after Jesus had been crucified, his disciples were together in a locked room. They were afraid that those who had crucified Jesus would also want to put them to death. Suddenly, Jesus appeared there in the locked room with the disciples. It was hard to believe, but they saw him, and Jesus showed them his wounds in his hands and his side, so they knew it was him.

One of the disciples, whose name was Thomas, was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them. When they told Thomas that they had seen Jesus, he did not believe them. Thomas said, "Unless I see the wound in his side and put my finger in the holes where the nails were in his hands, I will not believe it!"

A week later, the disciples were in the locked room again and this time Thomas was with them. Again, Jesus came and stood among the disciples. Jesus, said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas fell on his knees and answered Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

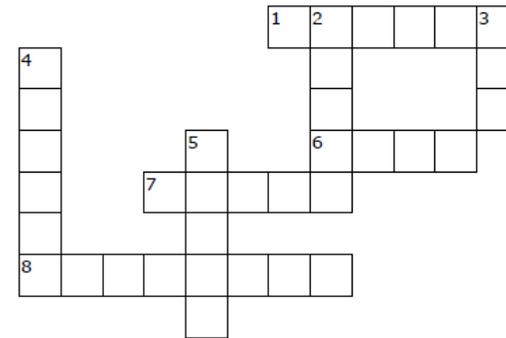
You and I have never seen Jesus with our own eyes. The question is, will we be a doubter, or will we be one of those who Jesus said were blessed because they believe, even though they have not seen?

Dear Father, help us to believe in our heart the truths we find in your Holy Word, even though we have not seen them with our eyes. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

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**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. Alleluia. (John 20:29)

**Crossword Puzzle**



**ACROSS**

1. The disciple who would not believe without seeing
6. An entrance into a building or room
7. A pointed and headed fastener designed to be pounded into wood
8. Unwilling to believe that something is true

**DOWN**

2. The body parts at the end of the arms
3. To observe with your eyes
4. Not open
5. To believe in something for which there is no proof

FAITH	THOMAS	CLOSED	NAILS
HANDS	SEE	DOUBTING	DOOR

**I BELIEVE HEART:** Help the child to trace and cut out a large red heart from card stock. The child can add glitter and the words "I BELIEVE" in the middle of the heart. Hang the "I BELIEVE" HEART by a ribbon from the top of the heart in their bedroom.



# JESUS APPEARS!

