

APRIL 12, 2026
SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Faith in Jesus means a relationship with Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 20:19-31	Thomas sees and believes
Monday	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Peter addresses the crowd
Tuesday	1 Peter 1:3-9	A living hope
Wednesday	Mark 10:46-52	The healing of blind Bartimaeus
Thursday	John 4:1-30	Woman at the well with Jesus
Friday	John 4:46-54	Jesus heals an official's son
Saturday	Psalms 16	Song of trust in God
Sunday	Luke 24:13-35	Road to Emmaus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." John 20:28-29 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Everlasting God, strengthen us in faith; give us the desire to know you more day by day that we may live with love and hope through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may we receive this food with joy, knowing that all good gifts come from you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, bring you joy.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

We Walk by Faith



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are words that describe your relationship with a friend or family member?
- In what ways can you grow in your relationship with Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 20:19-31.

It is hard to read this text and not be influenced by the title "doubting Thomas." However, it is only Thomas in the entire Gospel of John who makes the confession of faith that Jesus is God and more specifically, "My God" (v. 28). In this passage there are at least two important points revealed about the Christian faith: 1) faith is relational (Thomas personalizes Jesus as "My God"), and 2) faith is a lifelong journey. Jesus blessed those who "come to believe" (v. 29). The Greek text denotes a continuous process, not just believing at a certain point in time, but continuing to believe. In a faith that is relational, this ongoing process of believing and relating to Jesus is essential. What Jesus means for us and to us will continue to develop for a lifetime. As we age and as we have new experiences and challenges, the meaning of Jesus for our lives and our world evolves, even as we evolve and "have life in his name" (v. 31). Our relationship with Jesus grows and develops over time.

Discuss: How would you describe your relationship with Jesus?

Pray: **Come, Lord Jesus, into my life again this day, that I may gladly acknowledge you as my God and have life through you each and every day. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help others to see Jesus as Lord through your actions and words?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

When Jesus appeared to the disciples after the resurrection, he said, "Peace be with you" (John 20:19b). This has become a traditional greeting among Christians as a reminder of Christ's presence. Greet friends and family in your home using these words:

"Peace be with you."



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org