

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
Year B

*Adapted from John 20:19-31*

When it was evening on that day, and the disciples had the doors locked for fear of what might happen to them, Jesus came and stood in their midst. He said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced at seeing him. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of others, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of others, they are retained."

But one of their number, Thomas, was not with them when Jesus came. So the others told him, "We have seen the Lord." But Thomas said, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger into the nailmarks and my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later, Jesus' disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst. Again he said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

Thomas said, "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 have believed."

These signs have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that to know that through this belief you may have life in his name.

OUR FAMILY REFLECTIONS

SEEDS FOR  
THOUGHT

We Listen

Imagine your feelings  
if you were with  
the disciples  
when Jesus  
entered the room.

How would you react  
if you, like Thomas,  
heard the story later?

We Reflect

What is it like for you  
to feel the presence  
of someone  
you cannot see?

What is it like for you  
to feel the presence  
of Jesus?

## OUR FAMILY RITUAL

Gather on your prayer table  
some books, prayerbooks, or bibles  
that you have used to learn about Jesus.

## LET US PRAY

*Leader:* Loving God, we thank you  
for the gift of faith.  
Through faith in Jesus,  
we have come to live a new life.

We give thanks, too,  
for all the faithful people  
who have shared  
their belief in Jesus with us.  
We ask you to bless them now.

*All mention the names of persons  
who have shared their faith.*

*After each name, respond:*

Bless (him/her), Lord.

*Leader:* And may the Lord keep us  
strong in our faith all our days.

*All:* Amen.

## We Respond

How can you share  
with others the  
presence of Jesus?  
How can you share  
the peace of Jesus?