

# Thomas doubts Jesus' visit

### **By JOE SARNICOLA**

On the evening of the first day of the week, Jesus' disciples were in a room together. The door was securely locked. They were afraid what the Jewish leaders might do because of their friendship with Jesus. Jesus had just been killed on a cross, and he was no longer able to give the disciples the support they had come to depend on him for.

Suddenly, Jesus was in the room with them. "Peace be with you," he said.

The disciples were astonished and terrified. How could this possibly be Jesus? He was dead. And how had he gotten in? The door was still locked. Knowing their thoughts, Jesus held up his hands to show his friends the holes in his hands that had been made by the nails. He pulled his robe aside to show them the wound that had been made by the sword of one of the Roman soldiers. The disciples knew then that Jesus was truly with them again, and they rejoiced.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Then Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Af-

### ter a time, Jesus left.

Later, when Thomas, one of the disciples, joined the others in their secret room, they told him about the visit from Jesus. But he did not believe them. "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week passed. When the disciples were again together in the locked room Jesus appeared be-

fore them, even though the door remained locked. He said to all of them, "Peace be with you." Then he looked at Thomas and said, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."

Thomas touched the Lord's hands. Then he touched the side of Jesus. He was astonished. The holes in his hands were real. The wound in his side was real,



Illustration by Linda Jeanne River

Thomas could only say, "My Lord and my God." Then Jesus looked at Thomas with compassion and said, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me?" Thomas nodded. Jesus replied, "Blessed are those who have not seen me and have believed."

> READ MORE ABOUT IT: John 20



- 1. Why were the disciples surprised to see Jesus?
- 2. What did Thomas want to do before he would believe?

## **Bible Trivia**

Which book of the New Testament tells the story of the early Christians after Jesus ascended into heaven? Send answer to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, PO Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624. Please include your name, address and school name. All entries must be received by April 4, 2002. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted. The winner to the last trivia question was Lily Wheeler of Piffard, a third-grader in a home-school program. In response to "Do you know another person whose birth in Bethlehem is told in stories in the New Testament?"Lily wrote,

### "The answer to Bible Trivia is

Jesus. He was born in Bethlehem."

### **Bible Accent**

During the approximately three years between the baptism of Jesus and his Ascension into heaven, he taught many lessons. The most important concept he preached was that God loves every one of us, and we should love each other in return. We are to admit our sins, ask forgiveness from God and believe in Jesus in order to spend eternity with God.

To demonstrate his power and authority, Jesus performed miracles, which included changing water into wine, healing sick and disabled people, and casting out evil spirits. He chose 12 men to be his first followers, and he taught them how he wanted them to live by the example of his own life. The Jewish people of his time had studied and followed the laws of the Old Testament for many years. Jesus told them he had come to fulfill the law and the prophets.

Before his crucifixion, Jesus celebrated his final meal with his disciples, an event we honor when we receive Communion at Mass.

#### St. Louise de Marillac

Louise de Marillac was very young when her mother died, but her father made sure she received a good education from nuns. Louise's father died when she was 15 years old.

After marrying and giving birth to a son, Louise suffered another loss, the death of her husband. During the time she spent caring for her husband before he died, Louise decided the rest of her life would be spent in the service of the Lord. She sought out a man named M. Vincent, known to us as St. Vincent de Paul, to be her confessor. St. Vincent sent Louise on many missionary journeys, which he called "visitations of charity." Louise became the directoress of a training center established by. St. Vincent and a Mademoiselle De Gras.

This center and Louise's work in it were the beginning of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. In 1642, the sisters took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and, in 1655, the order was officially recognized by Cardinal De Retz, Archbishop of Paris. We honor Louise on March 15.



	AVEUDLE - CA		<u> Merker er e</u>	
PALM SUNDAY of the LORD'S PASSION March 24 11:30 am Blessing of Palms, Passion Narrative, Eucharist	HOLY THURSDAY March 28 7:30 pm Liturgy of the Lord's Supper Choral Music - Schubert: Gloria; Durufle: Sanctus, Benedictus; Byrd;	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> March 29 3:00 pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion Choral Music - Gregorain Chant: Christus Factus Est, Reproaches, Sung	HOLY SATURDAY March 30 7:30 pm The Easter Vigil Choral Music - Gregorian Chant: Exultet, Solemn Alleluia, Vidi Aquam;	EASTER SUNDAY March 31 11:30 am Festive Easter Eucharist Choral Music - Gregorain Chant: Victimae Paschali, Vidi Aquam, O Filiji
Choral Music - Gregorian Chant: Hosanna Filio David, Christus fuctus est; Hymn: All Glory, Laud, and Honor: Bach: O Sacred Head; Lotti: Miserere, Organ Music - Guilmant: Triumphal March (Other Masses at 5:15 pm on Sat. 8:00 & 9:30 am on Sun.)	Agnus Dei; Durufle: Ubi Caritas; Messiaen; O Sacrum Convivium; Gregorian Chant: Pange Lingua; Hymn: Lift High the Cross. Organ Music - Alain: Dorian Choral; Edmundson: Pange Lingua. 9:00 pm Adoration until Midnight	Passion Narrative; Lotti: Miserere Mei; Deis: Super Flumina Babylonis; Dubois: Adoramus Te; Hymns: O Sacred Head, Were You There, Sing My Tongue. : 7:30 pm Sacred Music: Lessons of Darkness: Renaissance & Baroque Music for Holy Week, with Musica Spei performing Passion According to SI. Mark by de Wert and Air de Cour performing Premiere Lecon de Tenebres	<ul> <li>Examer, solemn Anerala, Vial Aquam,</li> <li>Schubert: Gloria; Durufle: Sanctus,</li> <li>Benedictus; Byrd: Agnus Dei; Handel:</li> <li>Worthy is the Lamb &amp; Amen;</li> <li>Hymns: Come Down O Love Divine,</li> <li>Jesus Christ is Risen Today.</li> <li>Organ Music - Widor: Toccata in F</li> </ul>	et Filiae; Verdi: Kyrie, Schubert: Gloria; Durufle: Sanctus, Benedictus; Byrd: Agnus Dei; Handel: Worthy is the Lamb & Amen. Organ Music: Guilmant: Triumphal March; Peeters: O Filii et Filiae; Widor: Toccata in F (Other Easter Masses at 8:00 am and 9:30 am)

MIRIO OF HOLV WEEZ 2002

2:30 am on Sun.)

Brink Bush, Organisi

Saint Ame Church