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Divine Mercy Sunday
 Year A
 19th April 2020

My Lord and My God!

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, the 2nd Sunday of Easter. It is usually the day after we have our Easter Ball where we celebrate with joy the baptism of our neophytes. This year, our dear Elects would be waiting in anticipation for the day of their baptism due to the Covid-19 situation. We continue to pray with them to keep their hearts focused on our Lord.

It has not been easy for all of us, to be 'locked up' in our own homes and having our movements restricted. Do we complain and get onto one another's nerves? Or we take this time as a sanctuary for our inner growth and family life?

Let's take a look at the gospel reading of today. It indicates:

"On the evening of the first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them "Peace be with you."

Replace that with ". . . , when the doors were locked, where we were, for fear of Covid-19, Jesus came and stood in our midst and said to us "Peace be with you."

Isn't that a beautiful scene? That is precisely what Jesus wants to tell us today, He wants to tell us not to fear but to have peace in our hearts despite being 'locked up' physically. He wants us to "receive the Holy Spirit" to give us the strength and power to carry on.

Friends have shared that they do not know how to carry on with the loss of job and security. Others are busy on the frontline fighting without rest to keep us safe. Our medical teams, the enforcement officers and those who provide essential services are working round the clock. Whatever our circumstances, are we able to carry on with our life with peace in our hearts or we find ourselves warring with ourselves and others? I hear the police siren a few times every day . . . this means that there are situations which law and order are to be imposed. All I could do is to pray for peace to reign eventually.

If we truly believe that Christ is "My Lord and my God", and in His divine mercy, would we then change the way we see Covid-19, calm down, cut away the time that we spend reading the bad news, spreading the bad news? Instead, we can invite Christ to breathe peace into our lives and allow the door of our hearts to be open always.

Reflection by Hope

Novena notes

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 19 April	Ac 2:42-47; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31
Divine Mercy Sunday	Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
Mon, 20 April	Ac 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8
	Blessed are they who put their trust in God.
Tue, 21 April	Ac 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15
St. Anselm	The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.
Wed, 22 April	Ac 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21
	This poor man called and the Lord heard him.
Thu, 23 April	Ac 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36
St. George	This poor man called and the Lord heard him.
Fri, 24 April	Ac 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15
St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen	There is one thing I ask of the Lord, to live in the house of the Lord.
Sat, 25 April	1 Pt 5:5-14; Mk 16:15-20
St. Mark	I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

All other services, including novenas and weekday masses remain suspended. The church will also remain closed during the week.