

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, QUEENSPORT
ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT FELIX**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR, 366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 358-2346**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donna Jackson,, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer, Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne, Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan

The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at www.cansoparishes.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, (DIVINE MERCY), APRIL 7, 2024

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday, April 13 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph, Port Felix - †*Cecile Mary Sampson*

Sunday, April 14 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*William "Junior" Peitzsche*

Sunday, April 14 - 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea, Canso - †*Nora Noonan*

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

Thursday, April 11 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

NOTES: The church of St. Vincent de Paul is closed for the winter months. **MASS will resume the first weekend in May, 2024.**

COMMUNION CALLS - If you know of anyone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS:

The God Who Meets Us in Our Doubts and Confusions

There is a saying which goes thus: "God often visits us but most of the time we are not at home when He comes!" The story of St. Thomas is instructive and consoling too because our journey in spirit is often a slow walk through moments of doubt and times of confusion. St Thomas, whose hopes were already shattered because of the death of his beloved Master, was all the more hurt because he appeared to his companions in his absence. So, he refused to believe until he saw him and placed his hand on his side. Is it any different from our lack of faith when our life is shattered by a broken marriage, a death in the family, the loss of a job, or a serious financial crisis? St Thomas stands for all of us who travel the road of doubt and at times are unsure of our belief. Jesus respected Thomas's honesty and met him at the very point of his uncertainty. Doubt for him proved to be a growing point of faith made stronger when tested. For us, living a truly Christian life involves putting into practice in our daily lives the faith we profess. There is no greater expression of faith than the life lived in the Christian spirit of friendship, harmony, and love. Faith is a blessing; it alone gives meaning to our lives and is the driving force of our existence.

MEMORIAL EASTER FLOWER

DONATIONS: We wish to acknowledge donations in memory of:

Cecil Greencorn

George & Bertha O'Hearn/Edward Roberts

Arthur & Nettie Rhynold/Fred Rhynold

Bob Geddes

Terry Parker/Bob & Gerloch Parker

Cal & Tootsie Baker

Members of the McCormick/O'Halloran family

Family members of Deanna Nickerson

BUTTERFLY MEMORY TREES - in Star of

the Sea/St. Joseph Church/St. Agnes Hall will remain until Pentecost Sunday, May 19. If you wish to remember a loved one in this manner please fill out a Memorial Card (available in the entrance of the church) and place it in the Collection Basket. A donation of \$5.00 is requested per Butterfly. Donations will be deposited to the parish of your choice. For more information contact the parish office.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU!

Star of the Sea (25)	750.00
Easter Sunday (18)	466.00
Loose	88.00
Good Friday, Holy Lands (18)	287.00
Winter Fuel (4)	80.00

St. Agnes (20)	330.00
Easter (11)	175.00
Good Friday, Holy Lands (4)	70.00

St. Joseph (14)	227.00
Easter (9)	95.00
Good Friday, Holy Lands (8)	95.00
Loose	20.00

St. Vincent de Paul	
Envelopes (2)	42.00

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Please note - The Star of the Sea Cemetery, Canso will have restricted access during Spring thaw conditions. Thank you for your patience.

Property/Finance Committee - Tuesday, May 7 at 6:15 p.m. We are encouraging and begging for new members!

Ministries Schedule, April 7

Lector - Juanita Dort

Cleaners - April 14 - 20 - Theresa/Eileen

Ways & Means events

Trivia Night is scheduled for Saturday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Pre-registration is required. Pizza, chips and drinks will be available.

Club 100 Tickets - are available April 2 and can be purchased from committee members.

Spring Fling/Lobster Card Play - May 4, 12 noon, more information to follow.

Donations for Variety Wheel (include children's items), Bake Table and Chocolate/Candy Wheel would be appreciated!

ST. AGNES NEWS

Bingo - Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall

ST JOSEPH NEWS

Card Plays - continue Tuesdays, at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Three Messages for Us

This Week's Readings at Mass

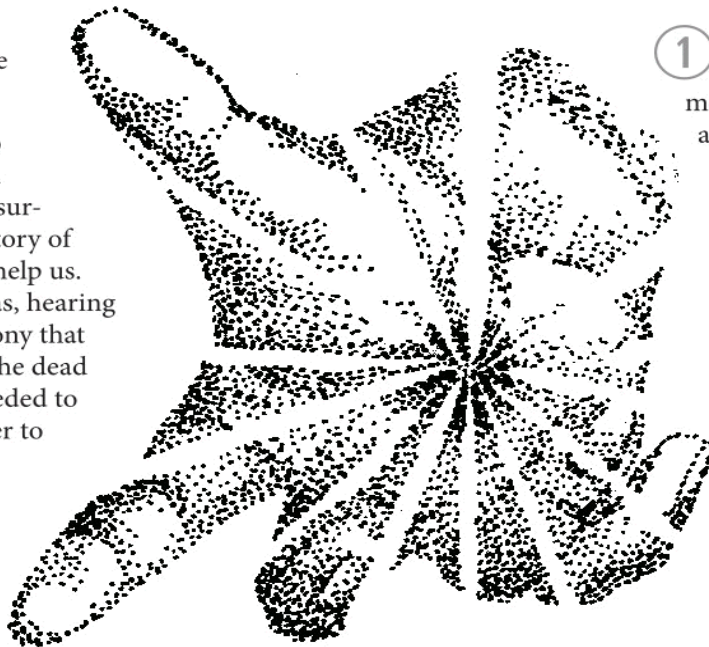
- ▶ Acts 4:32-35 - Life of the first Christians
- ▶ 1 John 5:1-6 - Belief in Jesus Christ
- ▶ John 20:19-31 - Appearance to the disciples

In all of the stories of Jesus meeting his friends and followers after his resurrection, his message can be boiled down into three short phrases: “Do not be afraid,” “Go and tell others the good news” and “Peace be with you.” We hear two of them in today’s gospel reading.

At the beginning of the Gospel, we read that the disciples are still huddled together, fearing for their lives—even though Mary Magdalene has already announced to them that Jesus is alive. They need the reassurance of Jesus’ words, “Peace be with you,” spoken in his own voice, to believe what they are seeing.

Then, as soon as they believe that he really has been raised from the dead, he sends them out to continue doing his work. They aren’t supposed to keep to themselves, and they definitely aren’t supposed to stay holed up in fear of what the authorities may do to them. They have been given the gift of his peace, and now they are to go out and share it with the world.

For those readers who may still struggle with doubts about Jesus’ resurrection, we have the story of Doubting Thomas to help us. Apparently for Thomas, hearing someone else’s testimony that Jesus had risen from the dead wasn’t enough. He needed to see for himself in order to believe. Jesus understands that and gives Thomas what he needs to bring him to belief. Jesus doesn’t crit-



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“Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

Sheepish Question:
What helps me dispel my doubts about God?

icize Thomas for his lack of faith, he simply offers a blessing to the billions of us who have come after him and have found ourselves invited to believe without ever having the benefit of seeing him with our own eyes.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Which of Jesus’ messages after his resurrection is most helpful to you: “Do not be afraid,” “Peace be with you,” or “Go and tell others the good news”?
- 2 What helps you to continue to believe in Jesus when you are tempted to doubt?

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