

St Cecilia's Parish Ministries

- CCD Classes -----Sunday 11:00 a.m.
- Ladies Auxilliary -----3rd Sunday 3:00 p.m.
- Home Sick Committee (Legion of Mary)---Thursday 6:00 p.m.
- RCIA -----Monday 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Group -----2nd Monday 7:00 p.m.
- Parish Council -----3rd Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
- Senior Choir -----Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
- St. Vincent de Paul Society-----4th Sunday 4:00 p.m.
- Hospitality Ministry (Ushers)-----4th Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
- Youth Groups -----Friday 7:30 p.m.
- Scouts -----Saturday 2:00 p.m.
- Junior Choir-----Saturday 4:00 p.m.

- Altar Servers
- Finance Committee
- Liturgical Committee

St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Church

Sunday May 1st, 2011

Second Sunday of Easter

3rd & 4th Streets, Coconut Grove

P.O. Box N-8187

Nassau, Bahamas

Tel: (242) 322-5579 - Fax (242) 323-4008

Rectory: (242) 323-5796

Email address: stceciliasparrish@coralwave.com

Website: www.stcecilianassau.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Closed 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Confession:

Weddings:

Baptism:

Before or after Mass or by Appointment.
 Persons planning to get married must inform the Parish Office Six (6) months prior to the Wedding
 On the Last Sunday in the month- Baptism immediately after Mass
 Parents & Godparents must attend Baptism Instructions, which will be announced.

St. Cecilia's School
 Third Street, The Grove
 (242) 323-4996
 Principal: Ms. Tiffany Glass

FR. SIMEON ROBERTS
PASTOR

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning9:00 a.m.
 Weekday Morning Prayer & Mass Daily at 6:45 a.m..
 Eucharistic Adoration Wednesday 7:30 a.m. thru 7:00 p.m.

May 1st, 2011
Second Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Mass Plate offering: \$ 3,061.40
 Second Collection: \$ 368.00
Total: \$3,429.40

THANKS to the Beautification Committee for the beautiful prayerful atmosphere you created for us to worship. Special thanks to the Choir and Musicians for enhancing our Holy Week Liturgies. A thank you is also extended to Commentators, Lectors, Hospitality Ministry, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers. **WELL DONE** to all of you. We owe you a dept of gratitude.

DIOCESAN CLERGY RETREAT – Begins on Monday May 2nd – Friday May 6th, 2011. Please pray that the Clergy may have a prayerful and meaningful Retreat, coming away being renewed and full of zeal. Please **DO NOT** contact the Clergy unless it is an Emergency.

Fr. Kenny will conduct a session on the **NEW MASS** on Tuesday May 10th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. All Parishioners are asked to be present.

Legion of Mary – May is the month of the Rosary led by the Legion of Mary. We ask that you bring your Rosary and come early before Mass.

Computer Classes - St. Cecilia's continues its Introduction to Computer classes, with the **SECOND SESSION** commencing on Monday, May 2, 2011

YOUTH GROUP – Resumes meetings on Friday May 6th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Friday May 13th, 2011 – 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Resurrection - Catholic Youth on the Move... 'Get on the Bus'
 Saturday May 14th, 2011 – 9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Emmaus Centre – Brother and Sisters in Christ (**BASIC**) Retreat

TEC RETREAT – Friday May 20th – Sunday May 22nd, 2011 at Emmaus Centre, Fox Hill. Contact parish office for application form.

Number of persons in attendance at Mass last Sunday; 320

Holy Saturday	<u>106</u>
Good Friday	<u>240</u>
Holy Thursday	<u>270</u>

2011 Catholic Archdiocesan Annual Appeal – The 2011 Catholic Archdiocesan Annual Appeal has begun. We are once again asking all members of the parish to make a pledge and to give as generous as your means allow.

GET ON THE BUS – The next 'Catholic Youth on the Move...Get on the Bus' will be held at the Church of the Resurrection, South Beach on Friday May 13th, 2011 from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. under the theme "Dial M for Mary". All Catholic young people (12 to 10 years old) are encouraged to attend.

B.A.S.I.C. Retreat will be held on Saturday May 14th, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Emmaus Centre for young teens from ages 12 to 15 years. This retreat provides an opportunity for these teens to experience spiritual growth. Registration deadline is Friday April 29th, and forms may be obtained from the Parish Office.

St. Augustine's College Grand Fair: SAC-A-RAMA – 12 noon until – Saturday May 7th – The School Grounds. You are invited to attend and your support will be greatly appreciated.

Pray this week for our Sick & Shut-Ins

Omenia Adderley, Grace Jenoure, Suzette Knowles, Maria Richardson, Charles Sweeting, Inez Miller, Paulette Green, Renee' Carroll, Archiles King, Wenzel Lighbourne, George Capron, Roselda Sawyer, Keishler Johnson, Barbara Rolle, Eugie Raymond, Phillip Sturrup and Stephen Burrows.

Sunday Chuckle - "Now, how many of you would like to go to heaven?" asked the Sunday school teacher. All the eager three-year-olds raised their hands except Cassie. "I'm sorry, I can't. My Mommy told me to come right home after Sunday school."

Sunday Gospel Reflections

Second Sunday of Easter—Year A

May 1, 2011

Read Sunday's Gospel, John 20:19-31

Gospel Summary

Today's gospel story shows how Jesus' followers are given the power to spread God's love in the world. The story begins with the fearful disciples meeting behind locked doors. The Risen Lord appears to them on the evening of the resurrection. The first word he speaks is "peace," and then he tells his followers to go out and continue his work: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Jesus breathes on the disciples, giving them the Spirit. Thomas is not present when the Risen Lord first appears to the disciples. He tells the others that unless he sees, he will not believe. When Jesus appears to him, Thomas believes. Thomas calls Jesus, "My Lord and my God." The gospel story ends with a message for all believers. Blessed are those who do not see and still believe.

Opening Life Reflection

The topic for today is faith. In today's gospel the Risen Lord appears to his followers and greets them with "peace." To begin, hang a long sheet of newsprint on the wall low enough for the children to reach, or lay a long sheet of paper on the floor. Provide crayons and stickers for the children to decorate a "Peace Wall." Invite the children to draw pictures and use the stickers to represent their hopes for peace in the world. Discuss:

- What does the word *peace* mean to you?
- How does God's love help to bring peace into the world?
- How do we show that we believe in God's love for us?

Allow time for discussion. God invites us to believe and trust in God's love. When we trust in God's love for us we grow in faith.

Scripture Discussion Starters

- Why are the disciples behind locked doors?
- How does Jesus greet his followers when he appears to them?
- What message does Jesus bring?
- Why is it hard for Thomas to believe in the Risen Lord?
- How does Thomas come to believe?

May 1, 2011

Dear Padre

How do Asian Catholics honor Mary?

I read somewhere that the number of Asian American Catholics is growing. Do they have the special devotion to the Blessed Mother that other Catholics have?

Juanita



Perhaps the strongest faith devotion shared by most Asian Catholics—brought with them to this country—is their love for the Blessed Mother, expressed in Marian pilgrimages and private and communal prayer of the rosary. Each May hundreds of Asian Catholics make an annual pilgrimage to the National Shrine in Washington, DC, to pray to the Blessed Mother. Indonesian prayer dancers lead a procession of people in native costumes carrying images and icons of Our Lady of Antipolo (the Philippines), Bandel (West Bengal, India), Burma, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Lavang (Vietnam), Pakistan, Vailankanni (India), and Fatima.

But the largest gathering for devotion to the Blessed Mother is the annual Marian Convention sponsored by members of the Congregation of the Mother Co-Redemptrix and held on their 28-acre campus in Carthage, Missouri. Every August, over 50,000 Vietnamese Catholics descend on this town to renew their faith. They recite the rosary, attend Mass, and go to reconciliation in their own language. They also attend seminars geared to specific interests.

Many older Vietnamese say this gathering keeps their traditions alive. This is their communal expression of faith and love for the Blessed Mother.

Rick Potts, CSSR

Monday May 2

Saint Athanasius, bishop and doctor of the Church
Acts 4:23-31
Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday May 3

Saint Philip and Saint James, apostles
1 Cor 15:1-8
Jn 14:6-14

Wednesday May 4

Easter Weekday
Acts 5:17-26
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday May 5

Easter Weekday
Acts 5:27-33
Jn 3:31-36

Friday May 6

Easter Weekday
Acts 5:34-42
Jn 6:1-15

Saturday May 7

Easter Weekday
Acts 6:1-7
Jn 6:16-21

Sunday May 8

Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:14, 22-33
1 Pt 1:17-21
Lk 24:13-35

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Easter



Today's Readings
Acts 2:42-47 | 1 Pt 1:3-9 | Jn 20:19-31

Where was Thomas? That's one of those biblical unsolved mysteries. Why wasn't he with the disciples when Jesus first appeared to them? The Gospel states the disciples were together in the locked Upper Room out of fear. Was Thomas not afraid? Was he getting provisions? He's often referred to as "doubting Thomas," but I think of him more as "missing Thomas." *Why wasn't he there?*

Jesus returns a week later, when Thomas is present. Before Thomas asks, Jesus presents his wounded hands and side as tangible proof of his identity.

Now we find ourselves among those Jesus considers blessed—those who haven't seen him but who believe. But how difficult it can be to live by faith alone! Most of us would leap at the opportunity to see the risen Lord face-to-face as Thomas did.

We may not have that experience, but we can take comfort that Thomas did, because Jesus came to him in the way that Thomas needed. Jesus comes to each of us in the personalized way we need him to. The risen Jesus, through the Spirit, is present with us always because he is no longer limited by time or space.

Some people experience Jesus through a mystical vision, others through the unconditional love of a spouse, working closely with the poor, through study and academic, through a deep friendship. Jesus makes himself known to us through our "native language"—in the ways we alone can understand. Because of this, we too can say with the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!"

JANEL ESKER
sundaybulletins@liguori.org

