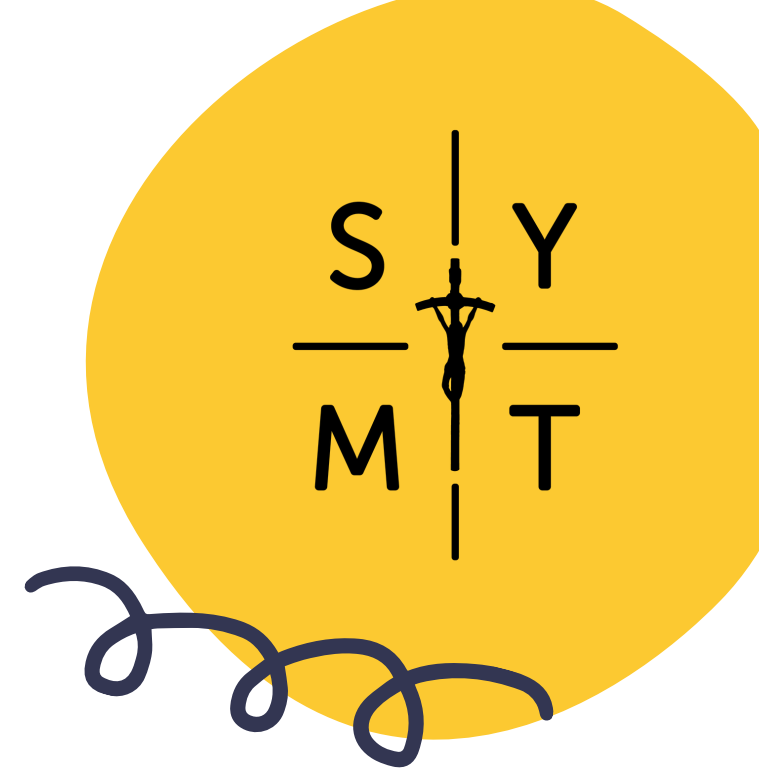




Shine



24TH APRIL 2022

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

SCRIPTURE
JOHN 20:19-31

It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Then Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. After saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called the Twin), was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later the disciples were together again indoors, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands; then reach out your hand and put it in my side. Stop your doubting, and believe!" Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Do you believe because you see me? How happy are those who believe without seeing me!"

Reflection

In the scripture we hear about Jesus appearing to His disciples. At the time they felt like they had no hope because Jesus was no longer with them in person. Sometimes we can feel the same, that Jesus has left us, but this is not true! Jesus is always with us.

We may not be able to see Him just as He appeared to the Disciples but you can allow Jesus to come into your heart and live there. He will transform your life! He will guide you in his footsteps and will make you more like him each day. We ask that he comes to change our lives everyday so we can tell everyone that he is risen. We can be the living light for those all around us, all we have to do is have faith in Jesus and let him transform us as children of God.

ACTIVITY

Hidden Objects

When Thomas didn't believe that Jesus had risen from the dead Jesus appeared and said this – 'blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed' Today's activity will test if you can guess an object without seeing it.

Take turns with your family for one person to hide an object under a tea towel. The others must put their hand under the towel and guess which object it is.

Who can guess the most objects correctly in your family?



Prayer

Dear God,

Make a place for you in my heart. Please transform me and make my life centred around you, help me love everyone just as you love me.

Bless my family and friends and make yourself known to them.

Amen.

CHALLENGE

Take some time to talk to God and really accept him into your life.

Imagine a door with a handle on your side but not the other. On the other side Jesus is waiting and knocking on the door to ask if you will let him in.

Only you can open that door. But if you do, expect Jesus to make you new!

