



City Pastoral REGION

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Inner Newcastle Parish: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West; St Joseph's Church, The Junction; St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Newcastle; Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill; St Laurence O'Toole Church, Broadmeadow. **Mayfield Parish:** Christ the King, Mayfield West. **Stockton Parish:** St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton.

SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

Our Clergy

Fr Andrew Doohan
Fr Peter Street
Fr Peter Thoai
Fr Matthew Muller
Fr John Vo
Deacon Lawrence Caelli

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

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Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Anne Warren (*Business Manager Finance*)
Jade Simonsen (*Business Manager Property*)
Dr Anne Millard (*Music, Liturgy, Sacraments, Bulletin*)

Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team: Contact the Parish Office

Mercy Pastoral Team: Sr Patricia Whitten rsm
(02) 4979 1116

St Joseph's Pastoral Team: Contact the Parish Office

Parish Bulletin: Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin should be received at the Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesdays.



Divine Mercy Sunday

Our Parishes incorporate suburbs located on the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, pay respect to their Elders past and present, and commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation and justice.

THE PARISH DIARY...(for the week ahead)

2nd Week of Easter, Year B

Monday—12th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday—13th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Wednesday—14th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Thursday—15th April

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

8:30am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Friday—16th April

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11am Exposition @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

11am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—17th April

9.20am Mass @ The Cathedral followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help @ The Cathedral (followed by Reconciliation

5:30pm Mass @ The Cathedral

6:00pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday—18th April

3rd Sunday of Easter

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9am Mass @ The Junction

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Live streamed via the Diocesan website:

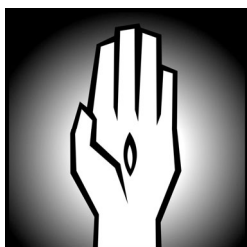
www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/

11:00am Italian Mass @ The Junction

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5pm Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vietnamese Mass @ Mayfield West



CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

In the Jubilee Year 2000, Pope John Paul II proclaimed that from that year forward, the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. This was proclaimed at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina Kawalska, who worked throughout her life to make all aware of the merciful love of God. St. Faustina (1905–1938) was born and raised in Poland. Following a vocation to religious life, she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. As a member of the Congregation, she worked as a cook, gardener, and porter. In her spiritual life, her contemplation on the Mercy of God led her to develop a childlike trust in God and deep love for her neighbor.

In her years in the convent, St. Faustina heard a call from God to make God's mercy known to the world so that the world may more fully receive God's healing grace. St. Faustina promoted the Chaplet of Divine Mercy which consists of the recitation of prayers to the Eternal Father with the use of the rosary for the sake of Christ's sorrowful passion.

The Chaplet is prayed as follows:

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles' Creed.

2. On the Our Father beads, recite the following:

"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."

3. On the ten Hail Mary beads, say the following:

"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

4. Repeat step two and three for all five decades.

5. Conclude by reciting three times:

"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

When celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday, the faithful are called to reflect more personally on the graces won through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In this way their hearts may be more fully aware of the mercy of God for them personally and for the sake of the world.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ART WORKSHOP EXHIBITION

The Social Justice 2020-2021 Statement, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, provides the opportunity to better understand mental illness and how as social beings we need the bonds of family, friends and the broader community to celebrate the joys and hopes of life.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes found in the Social Justice Statement. Works can be 2 or 3 dimensional no larger than 1 x 1 metres. Name, title of work, school, parish and phone number clearly labelled on the back. This information plus a 150 word (maximum) artist statement must accompany the work and be emailed through to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au before June 19.

Please join us for a day of prayer, reflection and art making. \$10 cost covers all art materials used on the day. Participants will need to bring their own lunch on the day. Artworks will become part of the Social Justice art exhibition/competition held on July 17 at the Veritas Centre Mayfield.

Dates:

Wednesday April 28, 9.30am-2.30pm: St Columban's Hall, Church St, Mayfield

Thursday April 29, 9.30am-2.30pm: Catholic Parish Office, Unit 5/16 Cambridge St, Singleton

Friday April 30, 9.30am-2.30pm: Community Centre St Joseph's Parish Kilaben Bay, 140 Wangi Rd, Toronto

Monday May 3, 9.30am-2.30pm: Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 33 Lake St, Forster

To register to go: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/social-justice-art-workshop-tickets-145391039513>

For more information contact:

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

LECTIO DIVINA VIA ZOOM

View, Chew, and Chat continues to meet via Zoom.



During the Easter Season, we will employ the practice of *Lectio Divina* to prayerfully reflect on the Gospel of the coming Sunday.

"Lectio Divina", a Latin term, means "divine reading" and describes a way of reading the Scriptures whereby we

gradually let go of our own agenda and open ourselves to what God wants to say to us. We meet via Zoom each Wednesday evening from 7pm.

To participate, please email

newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

REFLECTION DAY WITH BISHOP BILL

Bishop Bill is offering reflection days around the Diocese during April and May. The two closest to our parish are:

Thursday April 15: St Mary Immaculate, Charlestown

Reflection 2:30-4pm;

Mass 5-5:30pm

Tuesday May 4: Cathedral House, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West.

Reflection 2:30-4pm

The day is offered in other locations around the Diocese. If you'd like more information about the other times and places, please contact the Bishop's Office.

THE BREAKFAST CONVERSATION

BYO breakfast!!

(formerly the Men's Breakfast Group)

Our April **COVID-safe** gathering will be held at the Newcastle Mens Shed shopfront:

What? Wayne Grant – Secretary of The Newcastle Mens Shed, will tell us about recent changes and expansion plans. We will meet in their workshop / shop front at Hamilton.

When? Monday 19th April Commencing at: **7.15am** We continue to be Covid Safe, so please **BYO coffee and eats.**

Where? 99 Beaumont St. Hamilton alongside **Westpac Bank.**

Why? Fellowship and information

Who? All welcome

Enquires? Neil Jones 0410 572579

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION:

Living Waters, 34 Kenrick St., The Junction:

Wednesday, 7.30 am

Friday, 11.00 am

Monday, 6.30 pm

CONTACT: annecuskelly@hotmail.com or
0407 436 808

BOOK CLUB

Sunday, 11th April @6pm: Bookclub meets to discuss *When the Apricots Bloom* by Gina Wilkinson. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please email newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

The earliest Christian community focused strongly on the wounds of the Risen Lord for two reasons: to affirm the fact that Christ, now raised from the dead was the same person who had lived with them; and to make sense of the physical wounds being inflicted on them for Christ's sake.

The story of Thomas, even with its mystical details, counters a magical notion of what the resurrection is about. Jesus bears the marks of his torture and death. His glorified body, though different, is connected to how the disciples knew and loved him. They can recognise him through his words and his wounds.

We know the community of Ephesus, for which this Gospel is written, was experiencing great persecution. Is it any wonder, one generation after the earliest disciples, that the sign of Christ's Risen presence are his marks of suffering?

Our own world continues to be intrigued by manifestations of Jesus' wounds. Over recent years films like *Stigmata*, *Dogma*, *Agnes of God* and even the appalling *Daredevil* give a hysterical and cynical prominence to the stigmata. There are regular 'believe it or not' documentaries that usually follow suit. Even some pilgrims flocked to Padre Pio's monastery in the south of Italy to see if his hands really bled, or if his wounds really wept. This desire to see outward signs of inner faith is a long way short of Jesus telling us today, 'Happy are those who believe without seeing.'

Our day-to-day lives should be the clearest manifestation of the cross and resurrection of Christ.

It seems, however, that words and wounds still make a claim on us today. You and I know that we don't have to go to a stigmatic to see Christian battle wounds. We carry within us the death of the Lord. We all have our wounds. And we also know that, for many of us, it is precisely when we are wounded most deeply by life, that our doubts in the presence of God can be greatest.

The Easter story is not that we should be ashamed of this, or pretend it doesn't happen. Today's Gospel reminds us that it is into this chaos that Christ comes with words of peace, with empathy from the one who was wounded for our sake and with the mission to forgive as we are forgiven.

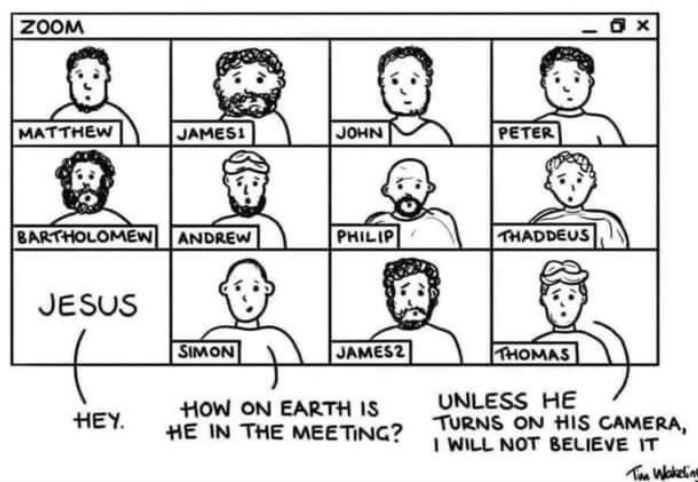
Years ago I remember struggling with some personal issues during a retreat. One day, when I felt lowest about myself, the retreat director, adapting today's psalm, 117, said to me, 'you realise that the stone rejected by the builder becomes the corner stone'. By

this he meant that often God takes that part of ourselves we don't like, forgives it, heals it, and uses it most powerfully to demonstrate that the pattern of the life, death and resurrection of Christ continues in all believers who bear his name and carry his wounds.

And that's what happened to Thomas. Christ took his fears, doubts and disbelief and transformed them into a powerful Christian witness that has sustained generations of us who struggle with life and faith.

So at this Easter Eucharist we are offered the same opportunity to discover that the stone rejected within us, or among us, is the one which God wants to use as the cornerstone. When we see this happening, when we see God taking the part of us we consider most unlovable and using it for good, then we want to cry out with the psalmist, 'This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.'

© Richard Leonard SJ. <http://www.liturgyhelp.com>



PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother, grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector. You who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

As part of the Year of St Joseph, a plenary indulgence is being granted according to the usual conditions of confession, communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions to those who recite the Litany of St Joseph for the persecuted Church and for Christians suffering all forms of persecution.

AROUND THE CHURCHES:

ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE, BROADMEADOW:

Work began on Thursday 8th April to investigate the structural integrity of the gallery after termite damage. This investigation involves asbestos removal and the church will be closed to the public while works are happening. This is particularly important during the early asbestos removal stage from the 8th onwards. Under no circumstances should the church be accessed. The Italian community have arranged the use of St Joseph's at the Junction for Masses while these works are going on: Sundays at 11am.

TIGHES HILL:

Investigations into the leaking roof at Tighes Hill are under way and we will keep you updated.

ST PETER IN CHAINS, STOCKTON:

Building works are moving along nicely despite all of the inclement weather. Audio visual works are now complete.

CHRIST THE KING, MAYFIELD WEST:

Audio visual works are now complete.

ST JOSEPH'S, THE JUNCTION:

St Joseph's Church is now open weekdays from 9am until 4pm. Use the side entrance, near the driveway.

All Organs has loaned St Joseph's Church a digital pipe organ until after Anzac Day. The Parish extends our thanks to Jim Clinch and *All Organs* for this generous loan.

**IN YOUR CHARITY,
PLEASE REMEMBER
IN YOUR PRAYERS:**



RECENTLY DECEASED: Beryl Davies, Tadeusz Pozniak

ANNIVERSARIES: Eileen Bleakley, Faye Martin, Catherine Walsh, Charlie Walsh, Monica Gebbie

SICK: Carlo Rossi, Tom Towers

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Val Donnelly, Sr Marjorie McLachlan

Names may be placed here by contacting the Parish Office. Please refer to the Policy Document on the Parish website—visit www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/downloads.

THE PARISH LUNCHEON

The Parish luncheon will be held on Monday 19th April at 12.30pm in the Victor Peters Suite. Please join friends for this lovely opportunity to be together socially. For more information, please contact Maureen - 0412 673151.

ANZAC DAY



**RSL
NSW**

The Merewether-Hamilton-Adamstown RSL Sub-Branch will not be conducting any of its Anzac Day Services this year. They usually conduct

services at Merewether Memorial Gates, Gregson Park Hamilton and the WWI Memorial Adamstown.

On meeting with the NSW Police Waratah Local Area Command, Newcastle City Council Events Program Manager and various communications from NSW Government, Department of Health, it was strongly recommended that they cancel Services again this year. Even though COVID restrictions are, at the moment, less than they were, a decision had to be made early due to the large number of plans and strategic requirements necessary to be worked through.

The Sub-Branch is disappointed not to hold this very significant service of Remembrance for our community. We hope that 2022 brings back our community Anzac Day Services and wellness to our country and the world.

The RSL Sub-Branch sends a message of thanks for all who support Ex-service and Serving men and women.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon: 1 Pt 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise You. We bless You. We adore you.
We glorify You.

We give You thanks for Your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only-begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father:
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the holy one. You alone are the Lord. You alone, are the most high Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1

**(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Jn 5:1-6

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world. since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

Homily

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into Hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father
almighty; from there He shall come to judge the
living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Memorial Acclamation

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your
Resurrection until you come again.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Jn 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and
Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the
Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the
Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International
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COVID-19-RELATED INFORMATION

Maximum Number of Persons in Churches

Under the current Public Health Order, the limit on the
number of persons who can be present in a church is
now calculated by allowing 2 square metres per
person within the building.

In our Region, those limits are:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Sacred Heart Cathedral | 221 |
| St Mary's, Newcastle | 108 |
| St Joseph's, The Junction | 200 |
| Mary Immaculate, Tighes Hill | 110 |
| St Laurence O'Toole, Broadmeadow | 110 |
| St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton | 140 |
| Christ the King, Mayfield West | 140 |

The limit applies to all Masses and other liturgical
celebrations, such as weddings and funerals.

Provision of Contact Details

The Public Health Order requires the collection of
contact details for those who attend any liturgical
celebration in a church (e.g. Mass, weddings, funerals,
Baptisms, etc.). The contact details for each and every
individual—including children and infants—must be
collected.

The contact details that are required are defined as a)
name, b) phone number or email address, and c) the
time of arrival.

Attendees are able to use the Service NSW QR Code to
provide their details—just like many other places—
using the Service NSW app on your phone, or via a QR
Code reader. A Contact Details Form will be provided
at the door to permit the collection of these details.

General Requirements

The requirements regarding cleaning, observing
physical distancing, etc. remain in place for the time
being, as does the requirement to refrain from
physical acts of devotion that involve touching or
kissing icons or statues.

Liturgical rituals have been adapted, and will continue
to be adapted, in order to ensure the health and
safety of all parishioners and visitors to our churches.
We ask those who are particularly at risk – the elderly,
those with compromised health, those who are sick –
to refrain from returning to Mass for the sake of their
own health. The dispensation from the obligation to
attend Sunday Mass given by the Bishop remains in
place in these circumstances.

Requirements for Attending Mass

There is no need to register in advance to attend
regular Mass. If you wish to return to Mass, you are at
liberty to do so, though capacity limits will need to be
observed at all Masses.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

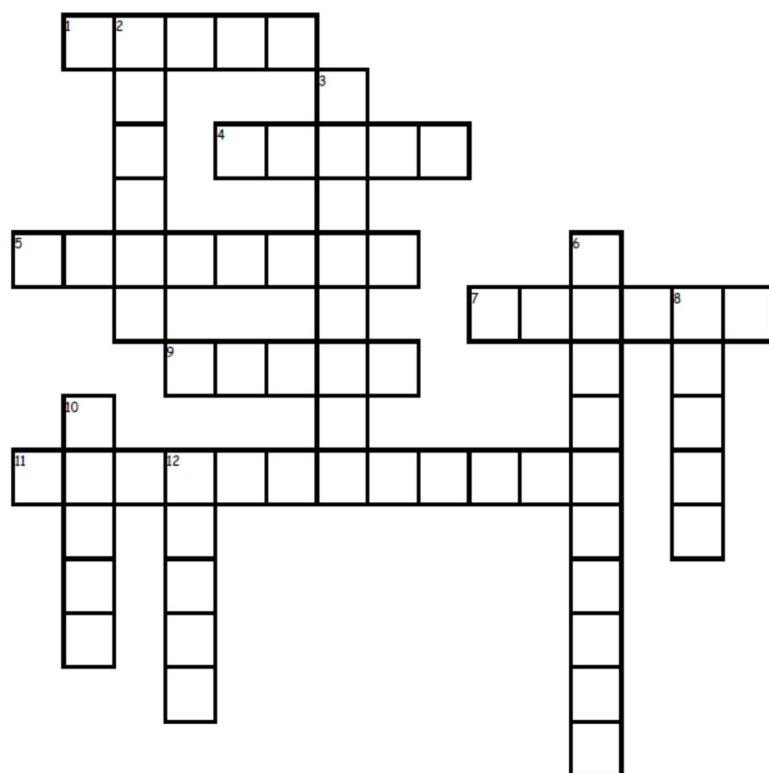
Sunday 18th April 2021
3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B

Acts 3:13-15. 17-19

1 John 2:1-5

Luke 24:35-48

Those who believe are called God's children



Across

- 1: Jesus asked Thomas if he only had _____ because he had seen him
 4: the disciples felt this way when they saw Jesus appear
 5: young people
 7: this man wanted to see Jesus' wounds before he would believe it was really him
 9: to let others use your belongings
 11: we show our love for God by obeying his c_____

Down

- 2: the disciples were _____ of the Jewish leaders
 3: Jesus did this after the disciples locked themselves in a room
 6: Jesus breathed on the disciples and said 'Receive the _____' (two words)
 8: the apostles told everyone that Jesus was now _____
 10: a type of building people live in
 12: the apostles gave _____ to anyone who needed it

Those who believe are called God's children

A C L L J T Q T N G L S S S X Q D
 A Q R J O I F Y V C T G Z T X N V
 C D E R A E P P A N D M C I X P M
 E D B Q P U J Q E Y H G G R N G H
 E Q I H V B C M N Q A B H I Y P J
 C B G A Z G D N E F P N T P F S N
 L D E K R N A S R U P N F S Y X H
 O D S K A F A I D J Y A H Y M N P
 H X J M G M A D L D I A P L N J E
 V X M Z O F T S I T R K O O W V N
 S O M H A B M K H E C G Q H I G X
 C A T U L Y J E C R V G U L B C F
 Q P A S Y X O Q S B J W A A V L R
 I J X J P O Z A W U Y X E L M K W
 Q J K N J C L J L I O F A M W R S
 G N A V A F I L T Q L H K N J A Q
 R F X V G N F Y E N O M J R Z D X

Try to find these words:

afraid
 alive
 appeared
 children
 commandments
 faith
 happy
 Holy Spirit
 house
 money
 share
 Thomas