

Reflections on Second Sunday of Easter 26A.

Mass: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm: 117; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31.

The background is the word 'peace'. Not just a general greeting like 'how are you' but a declaration of the purpose of the coming passage. Shalom means may all the broken pieces be made whole. This is what Jesus is doing with his broken disciples who have abandoned him at the cross. Jesus shows them his broken pieces that have been made whole, his broken body. Thomas is not there at the first meeting; he is not with his brothers but apart. He doesn't believe or trust them; he is not a part of them. Then comes the confrontation with Jesus. This is the personal bit, face to face. Jesus challenges Thomas with his wounds. What would it mean to touch these terrible wounds? Thomas collapses into faith after seeing just how much he is loved by Jesus, it is personal. Now the disciples are ready to be apostles, to be sent out as witnesses of this amazing love.