



Academy of Our Lady of Grace

400 Kamena Street, Fairview, NJ 07022

Telephone: 201-945-8300 Fax: 201-945-4580

Website: www.aolgfairview.org

April 8, 2018

Dear Parents,

Doubting Thomas

We don't know a great deal about the apostle Thomas, but this lack of information may give us the wrong impressions of him. Too often he's dismissed as "doubting Thomas" when, in fact, a more accurate description of him would be "faithful Thomas."

For whenever he is mentioned in the Scriptures, he comes across as an intensely loyal, but extremely practical man. When Jesus learns about his friend Lazarus' serious illness, he proposes returning to Judea where only recently attempts were made to stone him. The other disciples object to this move, but Thomas is willing to risk all. He says to the others: "Let us also go to die with him." It's also Thomas who protests at the Last Supper, "Master, we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way?" To which Jesus replies, "I am the way ...". And now in this post-resurrection scene, he wants more proof than just the word of his fellow apostles – and he's very specific about the kind of proof he demands. Yet when the risen Jesus stands before him and offers to let him touch his wounds he simply cries out in wonder, "My Lord and my God."

Thomas was in the group gathered in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. Even though he never got all of his questions answered to his satisfaction, Thomas stayed the course. Tradition has it that he went to India and founded the Church there and died a martyr's death.

May we all be as solid, dependable and faith-filled as this good man.

Fr. Peter