

**THE 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)**  
**THE COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS.**

In the next few weeks, we will be following the ***Acts of the Apostles***. The apostles, who despite their background, channeled the church to where it is. Thus, giving us the ***Baton to do our part NOW***.

All our readings especially the first reading and the Gospel dwell on the ***communal*** act of the first Christian community to a ***personal profession of individual faith of the Doubting Thomas***.

In these readings very important aspects of the Christian church are emphasized.

***-Community support of one another.***

***-Prayer and worship.***

***-Sharing.***

***-Availability.***

***-The proclamation of Faith in the Gospel through the Doubting Thomas.***

***-The PEACE agenda to all the disciples and followers***

***-The Mission of the Apostles-"As the father has sent me so I send you."***

***-The institution of the sacrament of RECONCILIATION "For those sins you forgive they will be forgiven for those sins you retain they will be retained." Hence THE MERCY FACTOR is clearly seen here.***

Having that background then we see the value of the community and the Risen Lord working through the community. The whole group of believers were united, heart and soul. They would share all they had and yet, no one lacked anything! They would provide and share each according to his/her need.

The question today is why is there so much want and suffering in our society. Why do people lack the basics in life: **food, water, medication, vaccine!**

**Why is there so much imbalance in equal distribution?**

**Where is our society** going with all this selfishness?

Why is there corruption, stealing, sufferings, shootings, and terrorism in the world today. Might it be an expression of need?

How do you as a Christian stand firm in such a world?

Don't forget there are many generous people in the world, the fact is that lazy characters are still there. The words of the risen Lord sending us into such a world need to be heard, "***As the father has sent me so I am sending you. Receive the Holy Spirit, forgive sins and spread the Gospel of Mercy.***"

This the call of the Risen Lord

WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE?