



11 APRIL 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

INTRODUCTION:

Thomas' story shows us that God's mercy involves more than just the forgiveness of our sins, great as that is. It also involves his compassion for our weakness and his patience with our slow progress. We gather here to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. God's mercy cannot be separated from his love. Sunday has been called the Lord's Day because it was on this day, the first Easter, that Jesus conquered sin and death and rose to new life.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: God is the Father of all mercies. In him we place our faith as we pray the following petitions:

Response: Merciful Lord, hear our prayer

Leader:

For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, bishops, priests, and all the faithful: that each will bear witness to the love and mercy of God; **(pause)**; we pray to the Lord:

For those who serve in public office: that they govern with true compassion for the lives of the most vulnerable among us—especially unborn children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities; **(pause)**; we pray to the Lord:

For all of us to whom Jesus extends his Divine Mercy: that we may always trust in Jesus, be drawn into his compassionate Heart, and celebrate his mercy by extending it to others; **(pause)**; we pray to the Lord:

For all who are suffering from this pandemic: that God may grant health to the sick, strength to those who care for them, comfort to families and salvation to all the victims who have died; **(pause)**; we pray to the Lord:

Celebrant: Almighty and merciful Father, we give you thanks for all of your many blessings, and we ask you to hear these petitions in the name of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS:

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Coronavirus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for an efficacious control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We thank You for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines will be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

We pray for doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe and have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Commission for Liturgy
Archdiocese of Bombay*