

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,
April 24, 2022**

FAITH IN MOTION

Put your money where your mouth is. That challenge can be leveled at people who speak about their concern for others but do nothing. Words, no matter how wonderfully crafted or poetically delivered, do not alleviate suffering. Words of compassion need to be paired with financial contributions that help those in need and support organizations seeking to improve the human condition.

That is also true when it comes to words of faith. We need to profess our faith not only with our words but also with our actions and with our money. That message is found in the readings for this Sunday.

Today, we are called to share our faith in the Lord who overcame the power of death. We are to tell others of the One who reveals the meaning of life and who can fill the empty place in the human heart. We are to speak of the positive difference that Jesus Christ has made in our lives.

But that cannot be done with words alone. We live in a society flooded with words. We need to proclaim our faith by our actions, and perhaps most especially by what we do with our dollars.

Like Thomas, we are to profess that Jesus is “My Lord and My God,” and we are to do that the same way the first Christians did. We are to do it with our words and with our money. Otherwise, we might be challenged to “put your money where your mouth is.”

May the Risen Lord bless us with his presence and peace during this Easter Season,

Father John Carlos

复活期第二主日（4/24/2022）

今日是復活期第二主日，也是救主慈悲主日。復活的主顯現給門徒，恩賜他們平安；復活的主基督戰勝了黑暗、罪惡與死亡；正如復活的主堅強了多默宗徒的信德那樣，復活的基督照亮了我們的生命，為我們帶來新的希望，使我們得以分沾祂的平安與喜樂。讓我們與復活的主在疫情中相遇，經歷黑暗和傷痛后，因信仰而充盈著希望，因福音而得喜樂，也因履行愛德而恩寵滿溢。

多默面對耶穌復活的態度，表現出了自十八世紀以來在歐洲興起的經驗主義的哲學思潮：除非通過感官所觸及和證實，

否則都可以懷疑和不信！這樣的哲學思想自然導致了無神論和不可知論。多默不信，因為他的起點在於感官，並停留於感官，不能深入體會神的超越和奧秘。但耶穌並未責備他，只是邀請他觸摸自己的肋傷和釘孔。剎那間，執拗的多默因此被改變了。可見，有與主相遇的經驗對人的信德多麼重要啊！今天，依然有許多人是無神論和不可知論者，甚至包括基督徒在內的某些宗教信徒中，也有一些是身在宗教、心不信神的人。因此，我們自己不但需要祈求與主相遇的經歷，也應該通過身體力行，將不可見的天主的慈悲面容彰顯在他人面前。