



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

February 6 to 10

Monday February 6

Frank & Constance Costigan; William Fitzpatrick & deceased family; Alice Martin

Tuesday February 7

John Kenny; Corey Sampson; Mary Dunphy

Wednesday February 8

Maggie, Cyril & Mary Kenny; Linda Leonard; James Pittman

Thursday February 9

Robert Newhook; Leo Michael; James Maynard

Friday February 10

Special Intention; John & Isabelle Dunne; Vernon Casey

Please pray for the Recently Deceased:

Parish Schedule:

Sunday Mass:

Saturday 4:00pm St Paul's

Sunday 9:00am St Francis

11:00am St Paul's

Daily Mass:

Monday to Friday 9:30am

Daily Masses take place at our St. Paul's Site

Parish Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday:

8:30am - 4:00pm

Friday: 8:30am -12:00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Join us for Adoration and Benediction every **Tuesday, 2:00 to 3:30 pm** in the church. Prayer will include the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays:

8:30 to 9:15 am

Saturdays 3-3:45pm

By appointment:

Please call 709-726-9924 or email

info@divinmercynl.com

Sacrament of the Sick & Home Visits

Do you know someone in hospital or who is homebound with health concerns? Arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick or to receive Holy Communion. Call the Parish Office at 709-726-9924

Divine Mercy Parish Contact Information:

Divine Mercy Parish, 340A Newfoundland Drive, St. John's, NL A1A 3R9

709-726-9924 www.divinmercynl.com/ email: info@divinmercynl.com

Facebook: Facebook.com/divinmercyparishnl

Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Pastor Email: john@ekon.ca Telephone 416-417-1513

Pastor's Note

In my first few years at the Jesuit parish in Toronto, I remember thinking to myself that most of my time, concern and effort was in the “worldly” administration of the parish instead of its spiritual life. You would suppose that I saw this as something unfortunate or an error needing correction. Instead, I was proud of it. In the years since, I realize how ignorant I was acting. I sort of “short-changed” the parish. I offered the parish only my skills, experience and wisdom. Believe me, this isn’t so much. I was like the disciple Jesus speaks of in the gospel this week – I had lost my saltiness and so was good for nothing.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola insisted on a prayer for the early Jesuits. It’s called the Examen. It has a fancy title but it is most simple. It is in essence a remembering of one’s past twenty-four hours, the people one has interacted with or seen, one’s thoughts and words, one’s reflection and one’s actions. In all these, a person examines to identify or to be made aware of how God has been present in and through them. It is the awareness that God is always present, always giving and always labouring for us. It is the reality of seeing God in all things. If God is present in all things, this means that God is also present in each person. We then must admit to ourselves, saying of oneself, that “God is present even in me!”

To live as a Christian is to live through our faith. Our faith is not boxed off to some of our activities and pre-occupations but is present in and guiding all our thoughts, words and actions. To be a “light of the world” is to both be the person God has made, the child of the Father, and to reflect and reveal the life of God within each person. We don’t want to present to the world only half of who we are, but rather to be the full package – oneself and God’s self in us. In this way, we will not put the lamp “under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand,” thereby giving “light to all in the house.”

God bless and take care,
Fr. John

Offertory Collection Week of January 30

Offertory \$7,168.00
New Year’s Day/ Solemnity of Mary \$145.00
Christmas Offering \$20.00
Initial Offering \$5.00

Dues \$150.00
In Memoriam \$1,000.00
Family Aid \$60.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!

Please Note: We no longer be able to accept e-transfers to our current account. A new system will be set up at a later date. We apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you!

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Celebrating World Day of Prayer for the Sick:

Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick Wednesday February 8, 11am

In his message for the World Day of the Sick (February 11, 2023), Pope Francis, *"invite[s] all of us to reflect on the fact that it is especially through the experience of vulnerability and illness that we can learn to walk together according to the style of God, which is closeness, compassion and tenderness.* In anticipation of this special day of prayer, Divine Mercy Parish will gather for a Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick on Wednesday, February 8 at 11am. Everyone is most welcome.

If you know someone who is in need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please share this invitation with them. Also, if you know someone who is homebound or in hospital who would like to receive the sacrament, please be in contact with the parish by calling 709-726-9924 or email us a info@divinemeracynl.com

Lent Begins: Ash Wednesday – February 22

Lent begins on February 22 with the symbol of ashes. Ashes are a reminder of our human nature and of the passage of time. Ashes also symbolize our desire for God's mercy and compassion. They are an expression of our sorrow for our sins and our desire to resist temptation and to live the joy of the gospel, being conformed to Christ. Ashes will be distributed at each of our Masses on Wednesday, February 22.

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule:

9:30 am (St. Paul's site with Fr. John)

7:00 pm (St. Paul's site with Fr. Joe Schuck)

7:00 pm (St. Francis site with Fr. John)

The church is opened daily during Office hours for private Stations of the Cross and other devotions at our St. Paul's site.

Keeping Lent at Divine Mercy Parish:

Way of the Cross: Fridays throughout Lent:

5-5:45 pm: Join Fr. John for a hot bowl of soup

6pm: Stations of the Cross begin in the church.

Lenten Penance Service: Wednesday March 29 at 6:30pm

More News & Resources

Ocean Ranger Memorial Service:

Gonzaga High School will be holding its annual Ocean Ranger Memorial Prayer Service to remember those who lost their lives in this tragedy 41 years ago. The service will be held on **Wednesday, February 15, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at Basilica of St. John the Baptist.**

Centre for Life: Seniors virtual income tax clinics under CVITP for those who have modest incomes will be starting on March 1st. For information or to make an appointment please call 579-1500.

Student For A Day at St. Bon's

Are you considering St. Bonaventure's College (St. Bon's) for your child? St. Bon's is a Roman Catholic Independent School for grades K-12 in the Jesuit Tradition. Prospective students are invited to join us on **Wednesday, February 15th** for Student for A Day. Prospective students will be partnered with a student ambassador who will guide them through their day at St. Bon's. Deadline to register is **February 13th**. **See more information on the school's website:** <https://www.stbons.ca/> To register, please contact Carol Hedderson at admissions@stbons.ca or call 726-0024 ext. 229.

Development and Peace – St. John's Diocesan Council Meeting and Share Lent Workshop, Saturday, February 11, 2023, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Members and those interested in learning more about the work of Development and Peace – Caritas Canada are welcome to join our Winter Meeting at the Murphy Centre. For more information please contact Pat Kennedy, patrickjnk@yahoo.com.

Saint of the Week

Our Lady of Lourdes
February 11



The appearance of the Blessed Mother to the young girl Bernadette in Lourdes France is well known. The 14-year old Bernadette, was the oldest child in a family living in abject poverty. She was uneducated and suffered from asthma. On February 11, 1858, while collecting firewood on the outskirts of Lourdes, near the banks of the Gave River, in an area considered to be the town dump, Bernadette saw a vision of the Virgin Mary in a cave above the riverbank. This was the first of 18 visits. Bernadette's report drew much skepticism and hostility from civil authorities, but she persisted in her claims of the vision of a lady dressed in white, with a blue sash and yellow roses on her feet.

When Bernadette asked the Lady's identity, she replied, "I am the Immaculate Conception." Just four years earlier, the pope had proclaimed it a dogma that Mary was conceived immaculate without original sin. The Blessed Virgin, through Bernadette, had come to call sinners to a change of heart. Her message was a request for prayer and penance. She also instructed Bernadette to tell the priests that a chapel was to be built on the site and processions held.

To determine the validity of the visions, Bernadette was interrogated by various authorities, including the Church.

Bernadette gave an account of what she saw. It was "something white in the shape of a girl." She used the word *aquero*, a dialect term meaning "this thing." It was "a pretty young girl with a rosary over her arm." Her white robe was encircled by a blue girdle. She wore a white veil. There was a yellow rose on each foot. A rosary was in her hand. Bernadette was also impressed by the fact that the lady did not use the informal form of address (*tu*), but the polite form (*vous*). The humble virgin appeared to a humble girl and treated her with dignity.

On February 25, 1858, the Lady told Bernadette to dig in the dirt and drink of the stream. Bernadette began to dig, and after several attempts she was able to find the water to drink. The water continued to flow from where she had dug with her hands until it was producing over 32,000 gallons of water a day—as it still does. There have been over 5,000 cures recorded but less than 100 of them have been declared miraculous by the Church. Most of these have taken place during the blessing with the Blessed Sacrament.

To people of faith, the miraculous healings of Lourdes is seen as a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles—now through the intercession of his mother. Like the miracles Christ performed in his earthly ministry, they reveal to us the mercy of the Father.

We may never travel to Lourdes and join in the processions, but we can know always that we have a Mother to help us and lead us to her Son, Jesus. And so we pray to her:

Grant us, O merciful God, protection in our weakness, that we, who keep the Memorial of the Immaculate Mother of God, may, with the help of her intercession, rise up from our iniquities. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen

(Collect Prayer from the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes)