



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Mass Intentions

Week of April 3-8

Monday April 3

Jim & Margaret Butler; Jimmy Butler; Deceased members of the Neary Family

Tuesday April 4

Special Intention (SC); Stephen Payne; Lucy & Gerald Stamp

Wednesday April 5

Deceased members of the Parrell Family; Philip Flynn; Roche Lambe

Thursday April 6 & Friday April 7

*No Daily Mass Scheduled due to the Easter Triduum
Please see inside for a full listing of our Holy Week & Easter Schedule.*

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@divinemicynl.com

Open for Private Prayer:

Divine Mercy Parish is open daily at both our sites throughout Lent for private Stations of the Cross and other devotions.

At our St. Paul's Site:

Monday to Thursday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Friday: 8:30 am to 12 pm

With Daily Mass at 9:30 am

At our St. Francis of Assisi Site:

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Divine Mercy Parish Contact Information:

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

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

Facebook: Facebook.com/divinemicyparishnl

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

Pastor's Note

The presence of beauty in our faith is undeniable as we celebrate the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem. Some years ago, I realized something surprising about the time Jesus spent in Jerusalem before his Passion and Resurrection. During his public ministry for three years in Galilee and Judea, Christ performed many miracles or acts of power. Think of his walking on water, the healing of lepers, or the bringing of Lazarus back to life. These miracles demonstrate the Lord's power and, thus, his divinity, that he is perfectly human and perfectly God. They also reveal God's compassion, love and mercy. The *kenosis* or self-emptying of God in the Incarnation, Passion and Resurrection is an eternal moment of beauty because it is an eternal moment of Divine love and mercy. When the Lord enters Jerusalem he offers, in an exclusive way, himself.

It is surprising to realize that in the days in Jerusalem before his Passion, he does not perform a miracle or act of power. God's will is that we receive and believe in him. Despite his teaching and miracles, many people, and, perhaps, we ourselves, remain incompletely convinced. And so the Lord offers the last thing he has - he offers himself, he gives us his life. It is extraordinary in our faith to see God give even himself. Our hearts, in seeing with the eyes of faith, witness the gift of God's love and mercy in Jesus Christ. We witness God who has emptied himself; we witness God who has tried words and actions to transform us; and, now we witness God giving everything he has, even his life. The crowds were cheering in Jerusalem when he entered, but our hearts now seem quiet and still. We are witnessing beauty itself, we are witnessing love and mercy itself.

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Parish Notes for Holy Week:

At the end of the Holy Thursday Mass the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession through the church. The church is emptied of the Eucharist which is placed in an Altar of Repose. We then enter a period of solemnity and adoration before the Eucharist. Throughout the Easter Triduum, the Altar of Response will be available for those wish to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament as follows:

Holy Thursday:

Following the Mass of the Lord's Supper until 11pm

Good Friday: 10am to 2:30pm

Holy Saturday: 10am to 7:30pm

We would like to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is accompanied throughout this sacred time. Please contact the Parish Office at 709-726-9924 or email info@divinemerlynl.com and let us know when and for how long you will be present.

Here are a few practical details to help you plan for celebrating Holy Week at Divine Mercy.

- **Good Friday:** Anticipating larger than normal crowds, we have coordinated with the school to use the gym for overflow. The 3pm Service will be livestreamed into the gym for the congregation.
- **Livestream:** We will livestream all of the Masses and Services of our Easter Triduum and the 11 am Sunday Masses on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday from our Facebook: [Facebook.com/divinemerlynl](https://www.facebook.com/divinemerlynl)

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Join us for the Easter Triduum

Divine Mercy Sunday



Holy Thursday - April 6

Mass of the Lord's Supper
7pm (St. Paul's Site)

Good Friday – April 7

Stations of the Cross (St. Paul's Site) 9:30 am

Stations of the Cross for Children

(St. Francis Site) 11:00 am

The Lord's Passion 3pm (St. Paul's Site)

Easter Vigil- April 8

8pm (St. Paul's Site)

Easter Sunday – April 9

Sunday 9:00am (St Francis Site)

Sunday 11:00am (St Paul's Site)

April 16, the Second Sunday of Easter is also the Feast of the Divine Mercy. This beautiful and joyous feast is also the Patronal feast of our parish. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar and join us for this celebration.

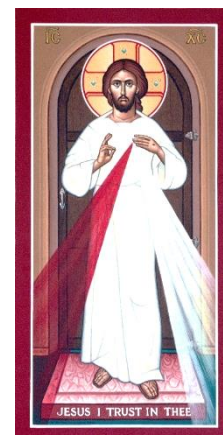
Our Mass Schedule our normal Sunday Schedule:

Saturday 4:00pm (St Paul's Site)

Sunday 9:00am (St Francis Site)

Sunday 11:00am (St Paul's Site)

The 11:00 am Mass will also be a celebration of our Patronal Feast. The Most Reverend Peter Hundt, Archbishop of St. John's will preside at the Mass. A reception will follow in the foyer.



The Chrism Mass

The Mass of Chrism is one of the most solemn and important diocesan celebrations of the liturgical year. The Mass is a celebration of the institution of the Ministerial Priesthood and is a sign of the unity and communion of the Priests with their Bishop. The Mass takes its name from the blessing of the Holy Oils used in the sacraments throughout the year, which are then given to the Priests to take back to their parishes. **The 2023 Chrism Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica-Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on Tuesday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m.** All are welcome to attend this celebration and it will be live-streamed at www.thebasilica.net and at www.thebasilica.church

Offertory Collection Week of March 26

Offertory	\$ 3,990.00	Easter Offering	\$ 200.00
Flowers	\$ 40.00	Food Bank	\$ 10.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 200.00	Development & Peace	\$ 2,298.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!

Entering Holy Week

Holy Week stands at the head of our calendar, the holiest week of the entire liturgical year. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday and continues until Easter Sunday. It celebrates the Paschal Mystery, the passion and death of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and his victorious resurrection, his triumph over sin and death and his glorification by his Father.

At the height of it stands the Easter Triduum, the most sacred days of the Church year. The word "Triduum" comes from the Latin word meaning "three days." It begins at sundown on Holy Thursday, reaches a high point at the Easter Vigil, and concludes with evening prayer at sundown on Easter Sunday. The liturgical celebrations during the Triduum on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday are rich with symbolism and flow from one to another in a seamless way. While it may appear as if these liturgies are separate and distinct, they are actually intended to be one continuous celebration that commemorates the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. For this reason, Catholics are encouraged to observe the entire Triduum by attending all of the liturgies.

12 ways to make Holy Week more meaningful:

1. **THINK PRAYER.** If you have to work or go to school during Holy Week, think about how you can incorporate prayer breaks into each day.
2. **MAKE AN ADDITIONAL SACRIFICE** by fasting and abstaining from meat on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday in addition to Good Friday.
3. **CUT DOWN OR AVOID TV AND SOCIAL MEDIA** from sundown on Holy Thursday until Easter morning.
4. **GO** to confession.
5. **SET ASIDE** 10 minutes every day to read Passion accounts in the Gospels.
6. Make it a point to **FORGIVE** someone on Good Friday.
7. **PRAY** the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.
8. **OFFER UP** any pain or difficulties you experience during Holy Week and unite your sufferings with the pain of Christ.
9. **PRAY** the Stations of the Cross.
10. **ATTEND** all of the Triduum liturgies. 11. **INVITE** family members, friends and neighbors — especially people who have strayed from the church — to come to church with you.
12. **VOLUNTEER** to help out at the parish.

Some of the Customs of Holy Week:

The customs of Holy Week are plentiful, making it a rich and deeply meaningful experience for the faithful. Here are few that may already be part of your Holy Week traditions, or you might try with family and friends.

Palm crosses: From medieval times, people have believed that blessed palms formed into the shape of a cross would protect them from danger. Watch this youtube video from Catholicism for directions on how to make a palm cross: <https://youtu.be/EiOXGxaGbUA>

Housecleaning: In many cultures the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week are designated as days for vigorous housecleaning in preparation for Easter. This custom probably evolved from the Jewish custom of ritual cleaning before Passover.

Visiting churches: The custom of visiting several churches to say a prayer on Holy Thursday was a tradition that evolved from the practice of making pilgrimages to holy places.

Coloring eggs: Decorating eggs was a pagan symbol of rebirth at springtime for the Romans, Greeks, Egyptians, Persians and even the Chinese. Christians adopted this as a symbol of new life which comes with the Resurrection.

Sweet breads: In many cultures, Holy Week was traditionally a time for baking sweet breads, cakes and pastries that would be served on Easter Sunday.

Easter lilies: The tradition of buying Easter lilies during Holy Week for use as decorations in homes and churches came into practice in the 1800s. The white flower is a symbol of purity and new life that heralds the resurrection of Jesus.

Blessing of Easter baskets: In many cultures, families bring food that will be eaten on Easter Sunday to church in a basket for a special blessing on Holy Saturday.

Holy Water blessings: Some families bring holy water containers to Mass on Easter so they can bring home some Easter water, which is blessed during the Easter Vigil, to bless their homes.

