



# Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

Feast of the Holy Trinity

## **Mass Intentions**

*Week of June 4 to 10*

### **Monday June 5**

*Clarence & Ann Woodford; Greg Morris; Laura & Henry Fitzpatrick*

### **Tuesday June 6**

*Harrie & Betty Cull; Bill Collins; Special Intention (EB)*

### **Wednesday June 7**

*Maureen Doyle; Earl & Bridget Hickey & Deceased Family Members;  
Alice Felix*

### **Thursday June 8**

*Hugh LeDrew; Maureen O'Reilly; Mary Meehan*

### **Friday June 9**

*Tom Cooper & Deceased Family Members;  
Joan Mills; Jean Riggs*

***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](mailto: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/](http://www.divinmercynl.com/) email: [info@divinmercynl.com](mailto:info@divinmercynl.com)

Facebook: [Facebook.com/divinmercyparishnl](https://www.facebook.com/divinmercyparishnl)

Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Pastor Email: [john@ekon.ca](mailto:john@ekon.ca) Telephone 416-417-1513

# Pastor's Note

When I first read the Gospel for this week, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, I was surprised by the passage the Church had chosen. I assumed it would be something similar to John 14, where the Lord says, "Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me." Or a few verses later, "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always." With these two verses, we have clear indication of the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In place of the passage like the above, the Church instead gives us God's reason for the Incarnation. In response to Nicodemus, Jesus reveals that "God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son. . . . Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." Though I may have had different expectations, in truth, the Church could have chosen a more perfect Gospel for our understanding and worship of the Triune God.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola in the *Spiritual Exercises* presents an image of the eternal moment in which God sends the Son. He writes:

Here it is how the three Divine Persons gazed on the whole surface or circuit of the world, full of people; and how . . . they decide in their eternity that the Second Person should become a human being, in order to save the human race. And thus, when the fullness of time had come, they sent the angel St. Gabriel to Our Lady.

What becomes visible and understandable to us is the reason the Father sends the Son. He is moved that we be saved, that is, God is moved by love of humanity. In the face of humanity's suffering God does not remain silent and still. Rather God acts and acts for our benefit. As Christians, we truly have an "embarrassment of riches." The revelation of God in Jesus Christ and our freedom to

receive it through the Holy Spirit draws a picture of God that is beyond our notions of goodness, beauty, compassion, mercy and love. That God gives God's very self for us is the "pearl of great price." His gift of his infinite love is our most vital and precious possession. Through the Incarnation, we are also able to see more clearly the type of God our God is.

When God became flesh in Christ, he became "the image of the unseen God" for us. It is only through the Lord that we are able to proclaim as St. John did, that "God is love." And we know this because in Jesus we see and experience that we are being loved. This allows us to glimpse the life within the Triune God. As a communion of relations, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in pure act, is perfect and eternal love. When we are created by Father, Son and Holy Spirit we are created by this communion of love. This means that in being made and formed by the One God in Three Persons, we are made and formed by love. Sometimes we may wonder what it's all about, what's the meaning of life? The answer emerges from where we come – if made by love then we are made for love. It is for this that John can write in his Epistle: "Let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God." If "God is love" then rejoice and be heart-filled, for you are children of perfect, eternal love.

God bless and take care,  
Fr. John

## Offertory Collection Week of May 28

Offertory	\$ 5,400.00	Papal Charities	\$ 245.00
Dues	\$ 250.00	Holy Thursday	\$ 5.00
Cemetery	\$ 220.00	Good Friday	\$ 10.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 100.00	Easter Offering	\$ 20.00

*E-transfers can be made through [dmparishnl@outlook.com](mailto:dmparishnl@outlook.com) The password: Church  
(Please remember to include a message indicating what the E-transfer is for)*

*Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!*

# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

**Sunday Hospitality & Fellowship:** We are starting something new in the parish – Fellowship after Sunday Mass. By way of experiment, we will be offering hospitality after our 11am Sunday Mass (St. Paul's site), in the Foyer, every other Sunday. If all goes well, we hope to expand to every Sunday at all our Masses. As a parish, our hope is that this offering of friendship will be experienced as a continuation of our Sunday Eucharist. Be sure to stop by next Sunday, after Mass and enjoy the fellowship!

**Join Our Fellowship Team:** Would you like to help our new Fellowship Ministry? Perhaps you would like to be part of a group that we can call upon to supply donations of sandwiches and cookies on an occasional basis following mass. Or you might like to help with the set up and service of coffee and baked goods. If you are interested in helping, please leave your name and contact info with the Parish office at 709 726 9924 or sign up on the sheet provided in the foyer. Hospitality is a great time for all of us to get to know each other, please consider helping if you can.

**Divine Mercy Parish E-Transfer:** We are now set up for E-transfer donations. E-transfer email: [dmparishnl@outlook.com](mailto:dmparishnl@outlook.com) The **password is Church**. When you are sending an E-transfer please include a message letting us know what the E-transfer is for.

**Sacrament Preparation:** A meeting for parents and children preparing for First Reconciliation will be held at our St. Paul's Site at 6:30pm on Monday, June 12. Please register at the office. Children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Grand in Your Hand Winner:** The winner of the 'Grand in Your Hand' for the month of May is Wanda Shallow, ticket # 77. Congratulations to Wanda!

The Divine Mercy Knights of Columbus (St. Paul's Council) continue with their monthly Lottery. Tickets for June's 'Grand in Your Hand' are available the after Mass in the foyer. Tickets are \$10 each. The draw will take place July 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Catholic Cemeteries Mass for the Faithful Departed

The annual Cemetery Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Cemetery, Outer Cove will take place on July 12 at 7pm. If the weather is inclement, the Mass will take place at Divine Mercy Parish (St. Francis Site).

## The Sacred Heart of Jesus:

The Feast of the Sacred Heart takes place on Friday, June 16. Devotion to the Sacred Heart is a beautiful opportunity for our hearts to be touched by the Heart of Christ. It could be said that all of life's difficulties, whether it be our own troubles or the global strife we see around us could be solved if we only knew how much we were truly loved by God. That love covers all manner of sin. Knowing God's love convinces us that we are enough, that we do not need to compete with others, because God's love holds us all.

In the devotion to the Sacred Heart there is a beautiful balance between an awareness of our sins and the humility to accept them. Through prayer, we experience the closeness with God and the true love of his heart. This love lifts us when we fall, it conquers our fears and completes us. And, as we come to know the greatness of this love, we are moved to share it with a world deep in need for it. Attached to this week's bulletin is a novena to the Sacred Heart. In preparation for the Feast, we encourage you to take some time from June 7 to 15 to pray the novena and reflect on the love being poured into each human heart.

## Daily Readings: Week of June 4 to 10

### Sunday, June 4

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9  
2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 13: 11-13  
John 3: 16-18

### Monday, June 5

Tobit 1:3; 2:1a-8  
Mark 12:1-12

### Tuesday, June 6

Tobit 2:9-14  
Mark 12:13-17

### Wednesday, June 7

Tobit 3:1-11a, 16-17a  
Mark 12:18-27

### Thursday, June 8

Tobit 6:10-11; 7:1bcde,  
9-17; 8:4-9a  
Mark 12:28-34

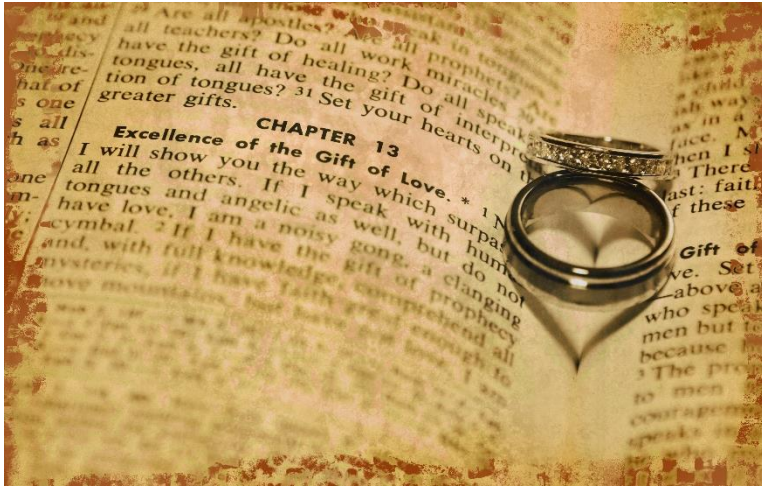
### Friday, June 9

Tobit 11:5-17  
Mark 12:35-37

### Saturday, June 10

Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20  
Mark 12:38-44

# Celebrating the Sacraments



## Sacrament of Matrimony

“Find a girl, settle down, if you want, you can marry...”

These lyrics from the old Cat Stevens song from 1970 still capture the place that marriage occupies in our society these days - an option in a relationship. And yet this casual approach contrasts with the highly public debate over who can be married, a debate grounded in the variety of loving relationships that are acknowledged in these times. Just as going to church is no longer a part of our current Western culture that is taken for granted, but a choice we make in a thoughtful, deliberate way, the sacrament of Holy Matrimony is also not taken for granted as a given for a loving couple, but a thoughtful, deliberate choice to experience and demonstrate a tremendously significant sacrament.

The sacrament of Holy Matrimony, though ministered by the couple themselves, receives the blessing of the Church and therefore the grace that enables the effects of the sacrament, which are to sanctify the love of husband and wife, to give them grace to bear with each other's weaknesses and to enable them to bring up their children in the fear and love of God (Baltimore Catechism).

The experience of conjugal love in the holy matrimonial relationship benefits and deepens because it refers to the love of Christ who sustains and establishes it. Christ draws into his energy their conjugal love to communicate to it the authenticity His love brings. Holy Matrimony means that the spouses can rely on Christ's force to sanctify their marriage (Propositions on the Doctrine of Christian Marriage, International Theological Commission).

It is the intimacy of this sanctified unity that deepens the significance and understanding of the Eucharist. The sacrament of Holy Matrimony embodies this sense of surrender to the other and for the other. Carryll Houselander, the English Catholic mystic of the 1940s, makes this so beautifully clear.

On the night before He died Christ took bread in his hand, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: “Take it and eat it; this is my Body!” In giving himself to the world, he deliberately chose to emphasize the Body. Why? The body is, for us, the means by which we can give ourselves wholly... We can give someone devoted care, unfailing kindness, and all our worldly possessions, but we have still kept ourselves. But when we give our body we surrender... the secret of ourselves... and we cannot give it without our will, our thought, our minds, and our souls. Christ surrenders the secret of himself to each one of us when he gives us His Body. In Holy Communion the surrender of the secret of Himself goes on.”

Marriages can be civil, and natural, and according to any number of traditions, and they can never be perfect; but when we understand the beauty and the generosity that Christ has for his bride the Church, who are his family, we can then understand and deeply appreciate what each spouse is trying to be for the other. This knowledge underpins the journey started by the sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

*The above is a reflection on the Sacrament of Matrimony by Mike Bautista. Mike is a member of Divine Mercy Parish. He serves as a member of the Parish Council.*

## Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus



### For each day of the Novena:

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross
2. Gospel reading – see particular day
3. “For Reflection” – see particular day
4. Daily Invocation:  
*Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in you.*
5. Silent reflection
6. Novena Prayer:

**Lord Jesus, the needs of your people open your heart in love for each of us. You care for us when we are lost, sympathize with us in loneliness, and comfort us in mourning; you are closest to us when we are weakest. You love us most when we are least; you forgive us most when we forgive ourselves least; and you call us to spread your love in whatever way we can. Lord Jesus, your heart is moved with compassion when we are suffering, when we need your help, and when we pray for each other. I ask you to listen to my prayer during this Novena, and grant what I ask (mention your intention silently here). If what I ask is not for my own good and the good of others, grant me what is best, that I may build up your kingdom of love in our world. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

7. Close with the sign of the Cross



### Day One – What Do You Desire?

**Gospel:** The next day, John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, ‘Look, here is the Lamb of God!’ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. (John 1.35-37)

**For Reflection:** Jesus addresses the same question to all of us at the beginning of this novena: “What do you want?” St. Augustine said that all our desires are really a longing for God in disguise; where there is real desire there is prayer. So be at peace in your desire, you are already praying.



### Day Two – What Does God Desire?

**Gospel:** ‘So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; search and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.’ (Luke 11.9-10)

**For Reflection:** St. Augustine said, ‘For yourself you have made us, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.’ A writer changed this sentence to the following: “God’s heart is restless until we rest in Him.” Our God is vulnerable to our free response. We long to be present with Him and, most importantly, He longs to be with each of us.



### Day Three – When I Find Prayer Difficult

**Scripture:** Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness: for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is in the mind of the Spirit. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8.26-28)

**For Reflection:** St. Thérèse of Lisieux once said that love was her vocation in life. Never was this vocation tested more than in the last nine months of her life as she lay dying with tuberculosis. She wrote a note to her sister Céline –‘Here is great love, to love Jesus without feeling the sweetness of his love –that is love pushed to the point of heroism.’



### Day Four – How Do We Look At Each Other?

**Gospel:** Jesus looking at him, loved him and said, ‘You lack one thing: go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’ When he heard this he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. (Mark 10.21-22)

**For Reflection:** ‘A person is enlightened not when they get an idea but when someone looks at them.’ How we look at another has tremendous consequences for self-esteem. The Sacred Heart looks at each of us with deep love, understanding and compassion. We are called to look at ourselves and others in the same way.



## Day Five – Has No One Condemned You?

**Gospel:** Jesus straightened up and said to her, ‘Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?’ She said ‘no one, sir.’ And Jesus said, ‘Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.’ (John 1.35-37)

**For Reflection:** You do not have to be good before God will love you; you do not have to repent before you will be absolved by God. It is all the other way around. If you are good, it is because God’s love has already made you so; if you want to be forgiven, that is because God is forgiving you.



## Day Six – Honesty In Prayer

**Gospel:** Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again. Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ (John 11.17-24)

**For Reflection:** St. Ignatius Loyola said that we should always speak to Jesus in prayer just as one close friend would speak to another. Don’t be afraid to express your real feelings to Jesus –anger, hurt, joy, sorrow, etc. When you’ve made your complaint or expressed your joy, don’t forget one thing: listen for God’s response! It may come in surprising ways.



## Day Seven – What Strange Friends You Have Lord!

**Gospel:** ‘But I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.’ (Luke 6.27-28)

**For Reflection:** You know the old saying, ‘Show me your friends and I’ll tell you who you are?’ Well, Jesus had the strangest set of friends: a hated tax collector; Simon the Zealot—a revolutionary; women in prostitution and ‘public sinners’. Maybe we are not such bad company for Jesus after all!



## Day Eight – Peace be with you.

**Gospel:** While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ (Luke 24.36-39)

**For Reflection:** Peace; Look; Listen; Go. Jesus greets the apostles with that soothing word, ‘Shalom’ (peace)—it means I wish you the fullness of well-being of mind and body and soul. He then invites them to look at his hands and sides. He encourages them to listen to what the scriptures say about him and then to go and preach the Good News that he is Risen.



## Day Nine – Thank You Lord Jesus!

**Gospel:** Then Jesus asked, ‘Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ (Luke 17.17-18)

**For Reflection:** In the Old Testament the word ‘praise’ has only one object – God! In the Psalms, to praise is to live; not praising is the same as not living, not living the life which is God’s gift, to be returned in praise. A Jewish rabbi has written, ‘It is difficult to feel depressed when you remember fairly constantly that life is a gift. Faith teaches us to make a blessing over life. Making a blessing over life is the best way of turning life into a blessing!’

