



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

Easter, The Resurrection of the Lord

Mass Intentions

Week of April 10-14

Monday April 10

*Peter & Elizabeth Rogers & Deceased Family Members;
William & Agnes Allen & Deceased Family Members; Special Intention (MD)*

Tuesday April 11

*Maurice and Mercedes McCrowe & Deceased Family Members;
Alice & Edward Quinn; Special Intention*

Wednesday April 12

Thomas & Mary Fennessey; David & Helen Roche; Special Intention

Thursday April 13

*Thomas & Mary Lawlor; Albert & Marie Button;
Deceased Members of Lawlor & Dobbin Families*

Friday April 14

Jiahua Sun; Rosemarie Devereaux; Gerard Croke

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

Growing up in a practicing Catholic family, I remember always being told that Easter is more important than Christmas. As someone who loved Christmas, I wasn't entirely convinced. I would look around and see that Easter doesn't have the same pageantry as Christmas does – houses and buildings are not lighted with colourful decorations; there are no office or school parties; in general, our tables aren't covered with delicious cakes and pastries; and, there aren't carols and specials on television. Added to this, during the "Easter Holidays," I was always in church. So much for a "holiday." Despite what may not appear to be present in our Easter celebration, Easter is indeed our central and foundational feast. We are, after all, an "Easter people," we are children of the Resurrection, that is, the recipients of Christ's life.

A Jesuit once told me a prayer he often prayed. He would ask God, "Grant that my life may become Your life, that Your life may become my life." With the Incarnation God took on, assumed, human flesh. The Lord Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, conceived by the Holy Spirit. He became like us in all things except sin. He grew-up in Nazareth, learned the trade of Joseph, left home at age thirty and died at thirty-three. He became one of us, our life has become his life. God assuming human life is a gift beyond comparison and articulation. It is simply, "Amazing!" But God, incredibly, doesn't stop with this. At Easter, God gives us himself, he gives us a share and participation in his own life.

In John's gospel for Easter Sunday morning, the Risen Lord speaks words to St. Mary Magdalene that should rouse our hearts. He tells her to "go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" See what God has given through the Resurrection. Christ doesn't address us as his "followers," "disciples," or "servants" but as "brothers," that is, his siblings sharing the same Father. The Risen Lord brings us into his relationship with the Father. There is no "the Father" or "his Father," but now, in truth, there is only "Our Father." We often try to be good Christians, to be faithful followers of the Lord. We often agonize when we fall short. We probably think that if he has a place on his team for us, the best we can hope for is to be a "benchwarmer" or an extra if need be. And yet, and yet, this is not how he sees you. The Risen Lord, through whom all things came into being, the one who said, "before Abraham was, I am," this same Lord call you his sister or brother on Easter morning. You are the sisters and brothers of the Son, and with him, the "beloved" in whom the Father takes delight. This is all true! This is what God has given you at Easter! "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad." On this Easter morning, in a parish that didn't even exist a year ago – God is good. All the time.

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Feast of the Divine Mercy

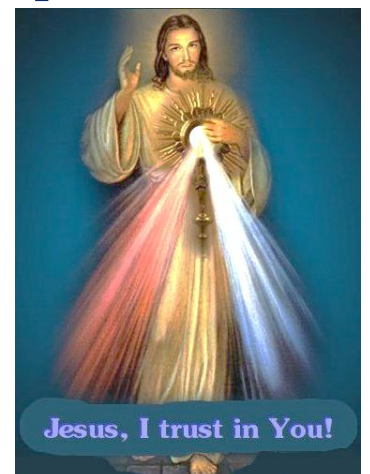
April 16, the Second Sunday of Easter is also the Feast of the Divine Mercy. This beautiful and joyous feast is also the Patronal feast of our parish. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar and join us for this celebration. Our Mass Schedule our normal Sunday Schedule:

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 celebration will be an opportunity to bless the new image of the Divine Mercy that will be placed in the parish.



Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Celebrating the Sacraments at Easter

With great joy we welcomed two new members into our community at the Easter Vigil. They celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation and for the first time, they joined us at the Lord's Table in the celebration of the Eucharist. May God continue to bless and grace them and their family as they continue on their journeys of faith. Congratulations!

Preparing for the Sacraments

Please keep in your prayers the young people who will be celebrating the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist in our Parish this Spring. May the blessing of God's gifts be profoundly experienced by all of them and their families at this wonderful time and may their faith continue to grow and deepen throughout their lives.

Are you hoping to have your child baptized in the near future? Are you looking to prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage? Perhaps you, yourself are, or someone you know is considering becoming a Roman Catholic? For details on the process of preparation for any of the Sacraments, contact the Parish Office at 709-726-9924 or email us at info@divinemerlynl.com

Marriage Preparation:

The next Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation course is scheduled for May 6, 2023 at the Pastoral Center - 200 Military Rd, St. John's. Couples can register here at the following link:

<https://rcsj.org/chancery/marriage-preparation/register>

Once registered, couples will receive further information regarding the session and the day.

The Relic of Blessed Father McGivney will be at Divine Mercy Parish from April 12 to 18. The schedule is as follows:

April 12-14: Visitations with the relic to Knights in assisted living or homebound.

April 15 to 17: The Relic will be at Divine Mercy Parish on display.

April 16: The Relic will be at the Latin Mass (St. Paul's Site)

April 17: Mass in the evening with the relic for the Filipino Community with Fr Jose Joaquin (St. Paul's Site).

SBC Military Tribute Dinner

St. Bonaventure's Military Tribute Dinner will take place May 9 at Legion Branch 56, Pleasantville.

Special guest: General Rick Hillier

Doors open: 6:30pm 6:00 pm For VIP's

Dinner 7pm: Prime Rib or alternate and wine

Tickets \$150 (\$50 tax receipt for each ticket sold)

The dinner will honour all St. Bonaventure College graduates who served in military conflicts. Proceeds will help SBC students in need, including 11 Ukrainian refugee students.

Persons with military background are encouraged to wear their dress/uniforms

To reserve tickets, contact:

Brother Gerry Puddister 709 685 4785

Brother Brian Kennedy 709 727 5288

D E Long SW 709 764 5402

Offertory Collection Week of April 2

Offertory	\$ 7,231.00	Donation	\$ 475.00
Initial Offering	\$ 5.00	Flowers	\$ 95.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 155.00	Cemetery St. Francis	\$ 100.00
Good Friday	\$ 180.00	Family Aid	\$ 250.00
Easter Offering	\$ 185.00	Development & Peace	\$ 650.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!

Divine Mercy Sunday

A Feast both Ancient and New

Since the year 2000, the Church has concluded the Octave of Easter by celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday. This great solemnity calls us to rejoice in the merciful love of God as it is most profoundly manifested in the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ. But what exactly is the Divine Mercy? Where did this devotion to the Divine Mercy begin?

In his 1980 encyclical *Dives in Misericordia* (“Rich in Mercy”), Pope John Paul II wrote, “Believing in [God’s] love means believing in mercy. For mercy is an indispensable dimension of love; it is as it were love’s second name and, at the same time, the specific manner in which love is revealed”. Salvation history is rich with evidence of this truth. From the beginning, God revealed this to the people of Israel, who then reflected the nature of His love: “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy and faithfulness, keeping merciful love for thousands” (Ex 34:6-7).

It is with the coming of His Son that the world receives the actual incarnation of this love and mercy. Pope John Paul’s encyclical observes: “Christ confers on the whole of the Old Testament tradition about God’s mercy a definitive meaning. Not only does he speak of it ... but above all he himself makes it incarnate and personifies it. He himself, in a certain sense, is mercy”. Christ’s entire life can be seen as a testimony to the mercy of God. Indeed, the presence of Jesus Christ in the world reveals to us the face of God, who is the “Father of mercies” (2 Cor 1:3). Simply speaking, then, the “Divine Mercy” is another name for the revelation of this magnificent love of God, which culminates in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. Christians have long known and praised this abundant mercy. In this sense, devotion to the Divine Mercy is not new.

In 1931, our Lord appeared to a young Polish nun, Sister Mary Faustina Kowalska, giving her a reminder for all of humanity: “Mankind will not have peace,” He said, “until it turns with trust to My mercy. ... Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God.” He was clothed in a white robe, with two rays of light emanating from His heart — one red and one white, representing the blood and water that came forth from His pierced side at His crucifixion. He requested that this image be painted with the signature, “Jesus, I trust in You,” and promised that even the most hardened sinners who would revere this image would be saved. Our Lord told Faustina of His great desire that the first Sunday after Easter be dedicated as the “Feast of Mercy,” and that this image of His mercy be known and venerated by the whole world.

Pope John Paul II recognized in Sister Faustina’s writings a message that was truly from Christ, and relevant to world eternally. On April 30, 2000, the first Sunday following Easter, Pope John Paul both canonized Sister Faustina Kowalska and declared in his homily of that day his own desire that the “Second Sunday of Easter ... from now on throughout the world will be called ‘Divine Mercy Sunday.’” In conjunction with the Pope’s wishes, on May 5, 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments issued a decree officially establishing the Second Sunday of Easter as “Divine Mercy Sunday.”

It is important to understand that this is not a new feast day in the Church. As explained in the congregation’s document, Divine Mercy Sunday gives an additional name to the day that is already a solemnity of the liturgical year — that is, the Second Sunday of Easter. With regards to that day’s liturgy, nothing is to be changed. In fact, the Readings for the day fit in perfectly with the theme of mercy. In the Gospel, the Lord imparts to the apostles His authority to bind and release the sins of men, thereby instituting the Sacrament of Penance. The feast of Divine Mercy, then, is a continuation of the celebration of Easter; it is, as Pope John Paul once said, Christ’s “Easter gift” to the world.

“From the Heart of Christ Crucified” The feast of Divine Mercy is not only a beautiful reminder of the love of God, but also a challenge to a deeper understanding of who He is, and who we are in relation to Him. St. Faustina recognized this truth and responded in her weakness to the power of Christ’s mercy.

Next Sunday, as the Feast of the Divine Mercy is celebrated in the Church throughout the world, our Parish will, for the first time celebrate our Patronal Feast. It will be a moment of gratitude and humility at the blessings the Lord is pouring into each of us.

At the Mass for Faustina’s canonization, Pope John Paul prayed for her intercession. Let us join him in this prayer:

“Divine Mercy reaches human beings from the Heart of Christ crucified. ... Today, fixing our gaze with you on the face of the Risen Christ, let us make our own your prayer of trusting abandonment and say with firm hope: ‘Jesus, I trust in You!’”