



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

6th Sunday of Easter

Mass Intentions

Week of May 14-20

Monday May 15

*Josephine & Edward Butler; Ellen Pittman;
George, Helena & Daniel Street*

Tuesday May 16

Agnes & Edward Byrne; Martha & Arthur Rice; David Scott

Wednesday May 17

*Thomas Simpson; Special Intention Simpson Family;
Special Intention Jardine Family*

Thursday May 18

*Deceased Members of the Forbes Family;
Manuel D'Mello; Idinha Rodriguez*

Friday May 19

*Denis & Catherine Kavanagh & Deceased Family Members;
John, Catherine & Paul Roche; John, Margaret & Thomas Waterman*

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@divinemergynl.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.divinemergynl.com/ email: info@divinemergynl.com

Facebook: Facebook.com/divinemergyparishnl

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

Pastor's Note

This week in John's gospel, we hear Jesus say, "The one who has my commandments and keeps them is the one who loves me." To keep God's commandments is not primarily based on the strength of one's will or of one's determination. Rather, it is an expression of one's love of God. It is relatively common, when hearing the Confession of a young person, for them to confess being disobedient to their parents. We all know the feeling of being under the authority of another person. In general, we don't like it. We don't want to be under someone else's thumb, rather we want to feel free, to do what we want when we want. And so, I encourage the young person to view obedience, not merely of "doing what we're told" but also, and even more importantly, of seeing it as a way to show love back to those who have first shown us love. In a similar way, this is how we can approach the Lord's teaching this week.

In the first months of the Covid lockdown when most things, including the churches, were closed, all we could do was have a "Zoom Mass" at the parish I was in in Toronto. I began to think more of Mother Teresa's advice to try and do something beautiful for God. To do something beautiful for God can be done in the most basic way. It is to do things as

an intentional expression of love of God. St. Therese Lisieux is a helpful example for us. Her "Little Way" is to do life's daily tasks with the awareness of loving God back. It is to do things as a way to express what is so hard to express - love of the Eternal God. Certain situations and even people may be a challenge for us. If we think to ourselves, "I just need to try harder," I find that my strength or determination quickly runs out. But if I pray to God asking for a bigger heart, to be filled to overflowing with God the Holy Spirit, I sense that God is transforming and redeeming me. This changes our focus. It isn't centred on what we can do or not do, but is instead focussed on the place of love within our relationship with God. It is to know and to seek to do what God truly finds beautiful - to serve him, to obey him out of love.

God bless and take care,
Fr. John

Offertory Collection Week of May 7

Offertory	\$ 5,403.00	Papal Charities	\$ 70.00
Donation	\$ 40.00	Food Bank	\$ 90.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 1,460.00	Easter Offering	\$ 20.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Happy Mother's Day!

To all our moms, to all those women who nurture and care for us, Happy Mother's Day! With Fr. John, the Parish staff, Jesuit community, Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus and all our Parish ministries and groups, we pray that the Lord may continue to bless you and the work of your hands and hearts.

Be sure to pick up a Mother's Day Prayer card from one of Ushers before you leave the church today.

The Crowning of Mary

May is the month of Mary – a month dedicated to devotion to the Blessed Mother. A traditional devotion at this time is the Crowning of Mary – symbolic of Mary as Queen of Heaven and of our lives. Join us next Sunday, May 21 at our 11am Mass (St. Paul's site) when we will crown the statue of Mary in our Church. The Mass will be livestreamed on [Facebook.com/divinemercuryparishnl](https://www.facebook.com/divinemercuryparishnl)

Praying the Rosary in the Month of May

The Catholic Women's League and members of our parish will gather in the church (St. Paul's site) following the 9:30 am weekday Mass to pray the Rosary throughout the month of May. All are welcome to join in this beautiful devotion.

The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree May Meeting:

Sir Knights meet on May 30 in the Foyer of Divine Mercy Parish at 7 pm. The agenda is Rosary at 7pm, guest speaker follows, and business meeting begins at 8pm. This a very important meeting because we have nominations for 2023 - 2024. All Sir Knights are urged to attend.

Knights of Columbus Grand in Your Hand Fundraiser

Be sure to get you ticket today! All proceeds will support the valued initiatives and projects of the K of C council. Tickets at \$10.00 each are available in the foyer (St. Paul's site) and the Parish Office through the week. The winner will receive \$1,000. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Renewing Practices of Family Holiness

The Office for Family and Life of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops is organizing a free webinar entitled "**Concrete Ways to Renew Practices of Family Holiness**" to be held on **Saturday, 3 June 2023, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. EDT**. More information can be found on the Archdiocesan website: <https://rcsjarchdiocese.org/>

CWL Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Catholic Women's League at Divine Mercy Parish will take place Tuesday, May 16 after Morning Mass and Rosary. This is the first annual meeting of the Council since March 2020, due to COVID restrictions. Presentation of reports by present executive members and election of officers for 2023-24 will take place at this meeting. We are hopeful that all members can attend this important meeting. Guests are very welcome. Social will follow.

St. Bonaventure's College Spring Concert

Wednesday, May 17 6:30pm

At The Basilica Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

General Admission \$15.00

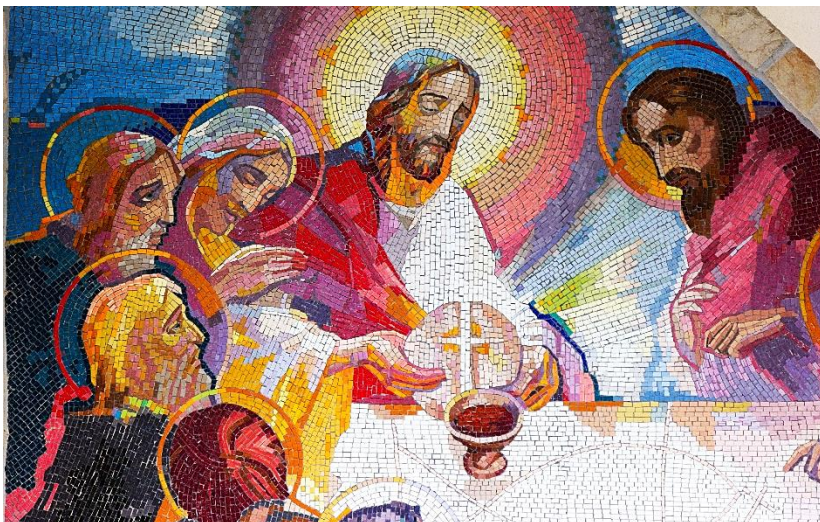
(Free Admission for St. Bon's students)

Purchase tickets online:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/6c89dafd-0b6b-41fe-bedf-c2714a5e6d35>

On Tuesday 9 May 2023, in the context of the National Family and Life Week, the Permanent Council of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops issued an *Open Letter to the Government* and a *Message to the Catholic Faithful* on permitting persons with mental illness to access euthanasia/assisted suicide. These letters can be found on the Archdiocesan website: <https://rcsjarchdiocese.org/>

Celebrating the Sacraments



Holy Eucharist

“The Eucharist is ‘the source and the summit of the Christian life.’ The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented towards it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch.” ccc1324

When we receive the Holy Communion, we are nourished by Christ’s own being, present to us in the bread and wine. This sublime expression of divine intimacy and love transforms us into what we are given to share – the Body of Christ. It transforms us into what we are celebrating – into the Body that will be broken and poured out. In it we remember Christ’s saving work – his mission – his total self-emptying, out of love for the Father, for the world – for us. “I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, because I tell you I shall not eat it again, until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.” (Luke 22:15-16)

The following is a reflection on the Sacrament of the Eucharist by Seamus O’Neill. Seamus is a member of Divine Mercy Parish.

I started doing something at mass a number of years ago, something perhaps familiar to and practised by many of our parishioners. When St. Thomas missed out on seeing Christ resurrected, he insisted that he would not believe that he had risen until he could put his fingers in the holes in Christ’s hands and his arm in the wound in his side. When Christ did appear to him, and Thomas carried out his test, Thomas cried, “My Lord and my God.”

The words marked his realisation that Christ Himself was indeed before him in the flesh, and all doubts were put to rest. At the consecration during each mass (I do it when the priest says, ‘Behold the Lamb of God’) I say to myself, like Thomas, “Dominus meus et Deus meus - My Lord and my God.” Whatever distractions occur during the mass – thinking about the afternoon errands, hearing a phone ring, looking up the saints’ days in the missal – this short phrase focuses my mind on Christ’s presence here and now and on my belief that he is really present in the flesh just as he appeared to St. Thomas.

What would I do if Christ walked into the Church during the mass? Would I remain distracted? Would my attention wander elsewhere? Or would my thoughts and eyes be laser-focused on Him? Christ said to Thomas, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe,” but through the Eucharist, we see Christ at every mass.

St. Augustine argued (against various claims to the contrary) that the human being is “a soul and a body.” It stands to reason, I think, that the mass would engage and edify both aspects of our nature. All the bodily acts – how and when we sit, stand, or kneel, the music we hear and sing, the icons we see, and the incense we smell – matter. The most important of these, however, is the Eucharist: Christ’s very physical presence at the mass. It is not just an intellectual realisation or belief that Christ is present, but just as we are affected physically by all of our bodily senses at the mass, so too in receiving the Eucharist must our bodies be physically affected, physically altered in some mysterious way.

The habit of repeating St. Thomas’ words, “My Lord and my God,” at the consecration helps me to remember and focus on how profound and life-changing an event the sacrament of the Eucharist must be.