



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

2nd Sunday of Easter

Solemnity of the Divine Mercy

Mass Intentions

Week of April 17

Monday April 17

John McGrath; Denis, Mary & Michael King; Theresa Healey

Tuesday April 18

Catherine & Michael Christopher; William and Mary White; Chris King

Wednesday April 19

Barbara Chaffey; Laurence & Mary Ducey & Deceased Family; Frances Whittle

Thursday April 20

Joseph Barron; John Healey; Gerald Fleming

Friday April 21

Christopher Whelan; Peter John; Sam Barry

Please pray for the Recently Deceased:

Ronald O'Brien & Stephen Whelan

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

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

Pastor's Note

We think of mercy as forgiveness and compassion. Mercy becomes necessary because one has “messed up,” and the feeling is, “yet again.” Saint John Paul II, however, wrote in 1980, that mercy isn’t primarily an act on God’s part due to our having “messed up,” rather it is who God is. He taught that mercy and love are synonyms – love is mercy and mercy is love. This means that we are not only loved by the Father but we are loved by him with a merciful love. For God, there can be no obstacles between us and him. It is as if God pushes aside our faults and sins in order to embrace his child. We cannot be separated from him because God will not permit it. God’s merciful love can be seen with the Risen Lord’s interaction with Thomas.

No one wants to be called a “Doubting Thomas.” Even if said in jest, it isn’t a compliment. We hear Thomas say to the other disciples who had seen the Risen Lord, “Unless I see the marks of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” When the Risen Lord appears to the disciples, this time with Thomas present, the

Lord says to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” The Risen Lord had endured his Passion, descended among the dead and was resurrected – and all this for us! Thomas’ words can sound ungrateful, uncaring, and just plain rude. And so, what does God do? The Risen Lord doesn’t scold him, he doesn’t tell him to “get out.” Christ goes to Thomas and shows him his wounds, he, that is, God, acknowledges and fulfills the demands of Thomas. The Lord is merciful to Thomas and to us because God is love and mercy. God cannot stop being the Father, and so, we then cannot stop being his daughters and sons. We cannot be separated from him because our Father won’t allow it. He simply must have his children with him. The more we understand and accept this in our minds and hearts, the more we can become like Thomas at the end of this week’s Gospel. When Thomas experiences the merciful love of God, he is changed. He now proclaims in the strongest way, “My Lord and my God!”

God bless and take care,

Fr. John



Fresco of the apparition of the Lord to St. Faustina by C. Secchi, Varallo Italy (shutterstock)

Blessings on the Feast of the Divine Mercy!

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

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@divinemercynl.com

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

April 15 to 17: On display at Divine Mercy Parish

April 16: At the Latin Mass (St. Paul’s Site)

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

The Parish Office will be closed from April 20 to April 24.

Catholic Women’s League

A General Meeting of the Catholic Women’s League at Divine Mercy Parish is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19, after the 9:30am Mass. Judy Hodge, Provincial CWL President, will be attending the meeting and hopefully all members can attend.

The Catholic Women’s league invites you to celebrate EARTH DAY, April 22. Do something special to show your love of God’s Creation. The theme this year is “Invest in our Planet”, asking all of us to improve our environment and give our descendants a better and safer future. Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato Si’* wrote: “As stewards of God’s creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family. When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling.”

Offertory Collection Week of April 9

Offertory	\$ 7,142.00	Donation	\$ 500.00	Ash Wednesday	\$ 65.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 1,980.00	Dues	\$ 300.00	Students for the Priesthood	\$ 50.00
Good Friday	\$ 2,905.00	Flowers	\$ 100.00	Development & Peace	\$ 500.00
Easter Offering	\$ 4,813.00	Parish Maintenance	\$ 10.00	Needs of the Cdn Church	\$ 25.00
Initial Offering	\$ 62.00	Food Bank	\$ 665.00	World Mission	\$ 50.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!

Let Joy Bubble Up!

(April 17-21) A lot of sadness and darkness all around us right now. But God is offering Joy. **Fr. Robert Foliot, SJ** and especially the Holy Spirit will help you make a 5-day virtual Retreat on the joy God wants for you. For more information, and to register, google martyrs-shrine.com. Just click the box at the bottom of the website.

St. Mark’s Spring Fair

April 22, 10am to noon
St. Mark’s Church,
Logy Bay Road

Bake table, craft,
preserves and surprise
table.

Admission \$1.00
Morning Coffee Tickets:
\$8.00

SBC Military Tribute Dinner

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 Br. Gerry Puddister 709 685 4785

Saint of the Week

St. Anselm of Canterbury
April 21

Born in Bec around the year 1033, St. Anselm of Canterbury has been called “the most luminous and penetrating intellect between St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas. Indifferent toward religion as a young man, Anselm became one of the Church’s greatest theologians and leaders. He received the title “Father of Scholasticism” for his attempt to analyze and illumine the truths of faith through the aid of reason. At 15, Anselm wanted to enter a monastery, but was refused acceptance because of his father’s opposition. Twelve years later, after careless disinterest in religion and years of worldly living, he finally fulfilled his desire to be a monk. He entered the monastery of Bec in Normandy, was elected prior three years later, and 15 years later, was unanimously chosen abbot.

Anselm was an original and independent thinker and he was admired for his patience, gentleness, and teaching skill. Under his leadership, the Abbey of Bec became a monastic school, influential in philosophical and theological studies. During these years, at the community’s request, Anselm began publishing his theological works, comparable to those of Saint Augustine. His best-known work is the book *Cur Deus Homo* (“Why God Became Man”). Against his will, Anselm was appointed archbishop of Canterbury in 1093, at age 60. As Bishop, his care and concern extended to the very poorest people. Opposing the slave trade, Anselm obtained from the national council at Westminster the passage of a resolution prohibiting the sale of human beings. His efforts to reform the Church were met with opposition by England’s Kings and Anselm would find himself for a time in exile. St. Anselm died on April 21, 1109.



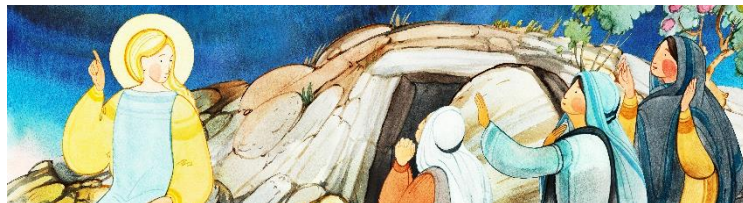
“Teach me to seek You,
 and reveal Yourself to me as I seek,
 because I can neither seek You
 if You do not teach me how,
 nor find You unless You reveal
 Yourself.”

— **Anselm of Canterbury**

By Anselm_of_Canterbury,_seal.jpg: The original uploader was Srneec at English Wikipedia.derivative work: MLWatts - This file was derived from: Anselm of Canterbury, seal.jpg;, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=21230761>

Information on St. Anselm: adapted from franciscanmedia.org

Keeping Easter



For Christians, Easter is not just one day – it is a fifty day celebration. This season begins with the Easter Vigil – the Christian feast *par excellence*, the feast of new birth, new beginnings, salvation renewed, and humanity restored to the Lord. While the Vigil marks the end of the paschal fast, the end of the celebration of Holy Week, and the end of repentance and conversion for which Lent prepared the community, it is much more a beginning. It is the beginning of a new season of grace and a time of joy and thanksgiving, that will last until Pentecost Sunday. Together all the Sundays from Easter Sunday to Pentecost comprise what is known as “the great Sunday”. In this way, the life of the Church helps us to focus on what is central in our faith – the life, death and resurrection of the Lord.

As we continue the celebration, we are encouraged to focus on the Pascal mystery. This is also a wonderful time to help our children grow in the joy of Easter. Here are some ideas on continuing the celebration and involving the whole family:

- Spend time reading the resurrection accounts in the Gospels. Reflect on the centrality of God’s mercy and the joy of the Lord that we are invited to share.
- After Sunday Mass, gather the family around the Pascal candle in the church and take a family photo. Take the moment to renew your baptismal promises.
- Bring a small bottle with you to church and have the kids fill it with holy water after Mass (you might also bring a bottle of water from home and ask Father to bless it for you, and to say a blessing over your family). When you get the holy water home, bless the doorways and rooms inside the house. Let the kids bless their own rooms.
- Invite members of the family to bring a religious object from home and have Father bless it the next time you come to church.