



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

4th Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

March 20 to March 24

Monday March 20

Special Intention (PS); Emma Linehan; Betty Randell

Tuesday March 21

Maurice & Arthur Nash; Ruby Sharpe; Clifford Kearney

Wednesday March 22

*Mike Davis & Deceased Family Members;
John & Charlotte Wade & Deceased Family Members; Sheila Penny*

Thursday March 23

Jack & Carmel Fleming; Harold & Shirley Bouzanne; Dominic Kearney

Friday March 24

Mary Kirkland; Mae Kearney; Evelyn Maher

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

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.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

When we think of the practice of our Catholic faith, we tend to think of it in terms of something existing outside of ourselves, at least I do. If I'm living it well, this means to me that I'm following its teachings, I'm "walking the talk." Conversely, if I'm not living it well, then this means that I'm going my own way, I've gotten off his path, not following his way. It's almost as if I understand the faith as something like an umbrella – to be his disciple is to live beneath the boundaries of the umbrella. While this is true, God, as is always the case, is offering us more.

In Saint Paul's letter to the Ephesians, Paul reveals an incredible gift God offers us. He describes followers of Christ in two ways. The first is familiar to us – We are "children of light." This portrayal is like the above example of the umbrella. As we come from the light (God), we are to live according to our origins, according to the will of the Creator. It feels like one must draw one's life to and maintain it within the light, within God's kingdom. Saint Paul, however, doesn't stop with this understanding, but continues and describes us in this second way: "but now in the Lord you are light."

It is no longer merely a matter of keeping one's life within or under God's commands, there is a "part 2", there is more. And this "more" is transformation, redemption and salvation. While we are to seek to live in the light, God, in his eternal generosity, gives us Christ through the Holy Spirit, and with his grace, the freedom and desire to become both a child of the light and light itself. This may sound like an overreach, but it is true. We call this "to grow in holiness," to go and be a saint. With God's goodness to us and "dream" for us, it isn't just abundant, it is super abundant. Through God's grace, our awareness of what God is truly offering, that is, God's very self, our desire for God and our cooperation with him exposes the limitless expanse of Christian life. It isn't simply behavioural; it is transformational as well. You are "children of light" and "you are light." God is so good to us, he is so generous to us and he is so hopeful of us. "God is good. All the time."

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Message for all Parishioners from Fr. John

This past Monday, the Jesuits of Canada released a list of twenty-seven Jesuits who have received one or more credible accusations of sexual abuse of a minor. The credible accusations date from the first half of the twentieth century to the present day. The list was assembled through a multi-year audit of the personnel files of every Jesuit, both living and deceased. Of the twenty-seven, only three are living. One of those listed served in St. John's in the early 1960s. As a Jesuit, I am ashamed that there are any names to be listed and as a human being, I am angry and saddened by the suffering Jesuits have inflicted on others, most especially, on children. In the Community we are forming at Divine Mercy, I wanted to ensure that the "sin history" of the Jesuit Order be brought into our shared knowledge, that nothing remain silenced or hidden. If you want to bring it up in conversation with me or just "get something off your chest," please feel absolutely free to do so. This is the link (<https://jesuits.ca/release-names-abuse/>) to the Canadian Jesuits' homepage which contains both the letter of Fr. Erik Oland, SJ, the Jesuit Provincial of Canada, and the list of names and where they worked.

Thank you so much,
Fr. John

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Lenten Parish Mission

Join Divine Mercy Parish for our first Lenten Mission. Fr. Christopher Collins, S.J. will be the Mission Speaker for these insightful evenings.

Due to difficulties with his passport renewal, Fr. Chris will not be able to join us in person. But thankfully, with technological capabilities, he will be with us remotely. The Mission will take place at our St. Paul's site and we will livestream from our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/divinemercyparishnl](https://www.facebook.com/divinemercyparishnl)

Thursday March 23 6pm
Habits of Freedom:
Resting Daily in the Lord

Friday March 24 6:30pm
Following Christ in Uncertain Times

Fr. Christopher Collins, SJ is the Vice President for Mission at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul's Minnesota. For five years he served as the chief mission officer at Saint Louis University and became very active in community engagement initiatives related to urban Catholic education, criminal justice reform and workforce development. He serves on the boards of Boston College, Creighton University, Catholic Charities of St Paul and Minneapolis and Interfaith Action Network of St Paul. He is the author of *The Word Made Love: The Dialogical Theology of Joseph Ratzinger/ Benedict XVI* (Liturgical Press, 2013), *Three Moments of the Day: Praying with the Heart of Jesus* (Ave Maria Press, 2014), and *Habits of Freedom: 5 Ignatian tools for Clearing Your Mind and Resting Daily in the Lord* (Ave Maria Press 2022). He regularly gives retreats based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Lenten Morning Reflections with Fr. John

Our Morning Reflection scheduled for last Thursday unfortunately had to be postponed due to the weather. We have rescheduled it for this Tuesday, March 14. Our Lenten Morning Series takes place following the morning Mass (St. Paul's site)

Tuesday, March 21:
St. Ignatius Loyola's Examen Prayer

Thursday, March 30: What is Divine Mercy?

These reflective talks will also be livestreamed on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/divinemercyparishnl](https://www.facebook.com/divinemercyparishnl)

Way of the Cross

Our Parish prays the Way of the Cross every Friday throughout Lent. Everyone is invited to join Fr. John for a hot bowl of soup in the foyer before our communal prayer begins in the church (St. Paul's site).

Fridays throughout Lent:
Mar 24 & 31

5-5:45 pm: Join Fr. John for a hot bowl of soup
 6pm: Stations of the Cross begin in the church.

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, March 20 in observance of St. Patrick's Day.

Divine Mercy Parish wishes to start a Liturgy of the Word with Children ministry during one of our Sunday Masses. Any parishioner interested in being involved, are asked to provide their contact information to Robyn (St. Paul's site) or Ward (St. Francis site) after Sunday Mass this weekend. You can also speak with Marion in the Parish Office during the week. A working group will be set up to help guide and support this new ministry.

Offertory Collection: Week of March 12

Offertory	\$ 5,457.00	Ash Wednesday	\$ 78.00
Initial Offering	\$ 85.00	Holy Thursday	\$ 5.00
Family Aid	\$ 370.00	Good Friday	\$ 5.00
Flowers	\$ 63.00	Easter Offering	\$ 20.00
Development & Peace	\$ 85.00	New Year's Day	\$ 40.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!



Penance Service

When we go to Confession, the forgiveness that flows from God’s mercy in our lives is ritualized. The Sacrament is celebrated, so that we experience the gift and power of the Lord’s saving Grace.

We come to the Sacrament with a sense of joy for what God has already done through Jesus Christ in our lives and what God continues to do – fill us with his mercy and love.

Our **Lenten Penance Service** will take place on **Wednesday, March 29 at 6:00pm**. We will have several priests available for individual confession. Join us in celebration of the gift of God’s faithful and merciful love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday- April 2

Saturday 4:00pm (St Paul’s Site)

Sunday 9:00am (St Francis Site)

Sunday 11:00am (St Paul’s Site)

Holy Thursday - April 6

Mass of the Lord’s Supper

7pm (St. Paul’s Site)

Altar of Repose

The Church will remain open until 11pm for those who wish to pray with the Blessed Sacrament.

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)

Divine Mercy Sunday

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 you calendar and join us for this celebration.

Our Mass Schedule our normal Sunday Schedule:

Saturday 4:00pm

(St Paul’s Site)

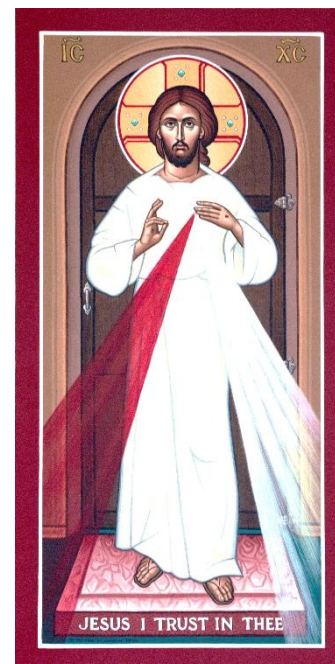
Sunday 9:00am

(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.



Saint of the Week

Saint Joseph

Feast Day: March 19

All that we know about St. Joseph comes from the bible. He was a carpenter, a working man, the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. While the Gospels make clear that Joseph was a descendant of King David, he was not a rich man, for when he took Jesus to the temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified he offered a sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb (Luke 2:24).

We also know that he was a compassionate and caring man. When he found that Mary was pregnant he refused to expose her to shame or cruelty. He was a humble and obedient man. When the angel came to him in a dream and told him who the child was and to take Mary as his spouse, Joseph did so without question. And when the Angel came to tell Joseph his family was in danger, he immediately left all he owned, all of his family and friends and fled to Egypt with Mary and the child Jesus. Joseph was a great protector and provider for his family.

The gospels describe Joseph as a “just man.” When someone in the bible is described as a “just” or “righteous” it refers to a quality bestowed on a person by God. When we hear of God “justifying” someone, it means that God, the all-holy or righteous one, so transform a person that he or she shares somehow in God’s own holiness, and God’s own mercy and love are “rightly” reflected in that person. By saying that Joseph was a “just man” we are being told that he was someone who was so completely open to God’s desire and plan for him. He became holy by opening up himself totally to God’s will.

Joseph’s humility and obedience teaches us to reserve judgement in situations we cannot comprehend. The Lord will reveal his will for us in His time, according to His Word.

Joseph is the patron saint of the dying because, assuming he died before Jesus’ public life, he died with Jesus and Mary close to him, the way we all would like to leave this earth. Joseph is also patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers (pregnant women), travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers, and working people in general.

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Painting of St. Joseph with the Child Jesus by J sus Faus in the Iglesia de Perpetuo Socorro, Zaragoza Spain (shutterstock)

Prayer to St. Joseph for the Church:

Saint Joseph, patron of the universal Church, watch over the Church as carefully as you watched over Jesus, help protect it and guide it as you did with your adopted son. Amen

More News & Resources

MESSAGE TO ALL PARISHES FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The State Executive for Newfoundland and Labrador Knights of Columbus, and its 33 Councils are sponsoring a tour of a **Relic of BLESSED FATHER MICHAEL J MCGIVNEY, founder of the Knights of Columbus**. He founded the worldwide Fraternal Order in New Haven in 1882 in New Haven, Connecticut, USA, to look after the needs of the poor especially orphans, widows and immigrants. He was Beatified (declared Blessed) by Pope Francis in 2020, another step in declaring him a Saint. The Relic of Blessed Michael has only been out of the United States once before to Poland. The relic of Blessed Michael will arrive in Newfoundland and Labrador on March 15, 2023.

There will be a **Liturgy of Reception – a Prayer Service to be held at the Basilica on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 7:00 pm**. This will be followed by Veneration of the Relic, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). The following Wednesday there will be a **Founder's Day Mass (celebrating the date when Blessed Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus) on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 7:00 pm**. The public are invited to both events.

The province-wide tour of the Relic will be from March 30, 2023 – December 03, 2023, during which the various Knights of Columbus Councils in Newfoundland and Labrador will host the relic. It is our hope that all who attend events during the Blessed Father McGivney's relic tour will have a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Those who attend these scheduled events will be able to venerate the relic. All are welcome.

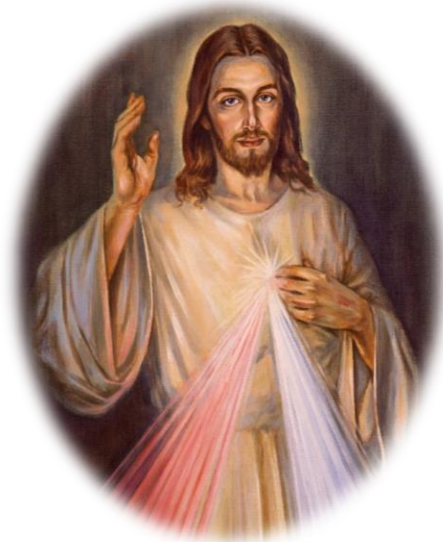
The Relic of Blessed Father McGivney will be at Divine Mercy Parish from April 12 to 18. Watch upcoming bulletins for information on the schedule of events planned for the relic's visit to Divine Mercy Parish.

Development and Peace 55th Anniversary Dinner

Saturday, March 25, 2023
6:30 for & 7 PM concluding at 9PM
at the Knights of Columbus
on St. Clare Avenue

Tickets are available from the office or call Derm Whelan 753 2607 or Pat Kennedy 747 0680.

Special guest speaker: Chan Ramy from Cambodia. She is the Executive Director of the Youth Resources Development Program in Pnom Penh, Cambodia.



Centre For Life: The Centre for Life is a non-profit, volunteer-based charity that envisions and promotes a culture where every human life will be acknowledged as having intrinsic value, dignity and worth. The Centre for Life seeks to engage the community by offering educational resources and services in support and protection of vulnerable human life. There are many ways you contribute to the growth of the Centre by sharing your time and talents or making a financial contribution. If you would like more information visit Centre for Life at www.centreforlife.ca or email centreforlife@centreforlife.ca

Development and Peace: *Standing for the Land in Honduras*

Honduras's diverse ecosystems, fertile lands and rich natural resources attract many profiteering enterprises that overexploit the land to no benefit for local communities.

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada supports *Equipo de Reflexión, Investigación y Comunicación* (ERIC, Reflection, Research and Communication Team), an organization that helps communities in their struggle for land and territory and investigates human rights abuses.

This Lent, meet our solidarity visitor Elvin Hernández, a human rights investigator at ERIC. Learn more at devp.org/lent.