



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

5th Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

March 27 to March 31

Monday March 27

Dale Kearney; Blanche Stack; James Darcy

Tuesday March 28

Special Intention (GK); James March; Cyrus & Madeline Hawco

Wednesday March 29

Margaret Dinn; Katherine Conrod; Greg Thorne

Thursday March 30

Sheila & James Hanlon; Maureen Doyle ; Geraldine & Wilf Doyle

Friday March 31

Gerry Carey; Leo & Elizabeth White; Mary & Denis Daley

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

Pastor's Note

What does God want for me? Often the answer to this question is reduced me to mere behaviour. "God wants me to follow his commands. He wants me to follow his law." While this is true, God also wants more for us. I remember being on retreat in 2011, and preparing for my "General Confession" in which one confesses all one's sins for the entirety of one's life. I was excited and enthusiastic to do it because fifteen years earlier, while a Jesuit Novice, I was judged not to be free enough to do it. This time I would be allowed to do the retreat the way St. Ignatius envisioned – with the "General Confession." But I was told for the second time that I lacked the freedom to confess all my sins. No "General Confession" for me . . . again! I was embarrassed and angry. I was disappointed in God, he let me down. I said to God, "I've done what you've asked! I've served you for fifteen years! And, yet, I'm at the exact same spot I was when I first started! You've forgotten me? I don't think so. I will forget you." At that moment, when I kind of gave-up on God, God did something within me – God poured life into my heart.

In the three readings for this week's Mass, there is a common theme. God always gives life. In the First Reading, God says to the Prophet Ezekiel: "I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people, . . ., I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live." Saint Paul writes in the Second Reading: "If the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that

dwells in you." And most dramatically, in the Gospel, the Lord resuscitates his friend Lazarus. He brings him back to life! We can understand clearly what God does. God always gives life.

There are times, however, when this truth is difficult to see, to comprehend and, thus, to believe. But remember what he revealed – "Jesus said to her [Martha], 'I am the resurrection and the life.'" We can forget this, or we can doubt it, as I did in my story. We can feel disappointed, and heart broken by God's seeming deafness to us. This can make us act like Mary: "When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home." Mary was disappointed and heart broken by the Lord's apparent disinterest in their request for help. They asked for him to come and save Lazarus, and Jesus decided to stay two days longer in another town! Mary's thinking – "You have forgotten me, so I will forget you." But he did not forget her, and he does not forget you. He gives life always. "He cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'" The Lord always frees us. He always unbinds us. He always gives us life. "Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory."

God bless and take care, Fr. John

Lenten Penance Service

The Sacrament of Reconciliation 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. The Lenten season, with its penitential focus, is the perfect time to experience the beauty of the sacrament. 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.

3 Questions for examining your heart as you progress through the penitential Season of Lent:

1. Has your Fasting, Prayer and Almsgiving brought you joy this Lent? Our Lenten prayer and practices are meant to be a source of deeper excitement and engagement in life. Consider where they have led you this Lent.
2. Has examining your heart led to greater stillness and availability? Are you becoming less selfish and more attentive to the people around you – loved ones, family, friends and strangers?
3. Have you grown in mercy? Patience in the sins and faults of others should grow in your heart as result of your own intentional prayer life and penances.

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Lenten Morning Reflections with Fr. John

Our final Morning Reflection scheduled will take place on **Thursday, March 30**. The theme of Fr. John's talk is **What is Divine Mercy?** The talk, which will take place in the church (St. Paul's site) following the morning Mass, 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).

Friday March 31

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

Starting Up a Children's Liturgy at Divine Mercy:

Divine Mercy Parish wishes to start a Liturgy of the Word with Children's ministry during one of our Sunday Masses. Any parishioner interested in being involved, are asked to provide their contact information to the Parish Office during the week. A working group will be set up to help guide and support this new ministry.

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 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)

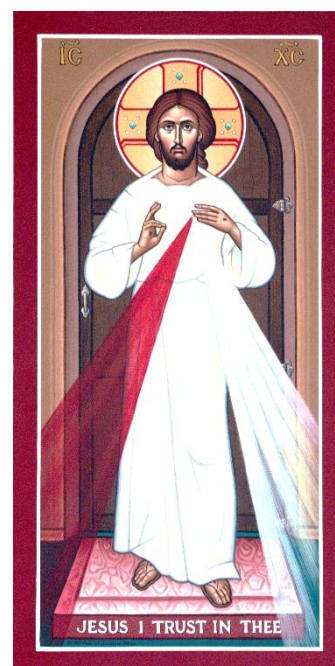
Sunday 11:00am

(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.



Offertory Collection Week of March 19

Offertory	\$ 4,466.00	Ash Wednesday	\$ 20.00
Initial Offering	\$ 10.00	Donation	\$ 80.00
Flowers	\$ 834.00	Family Aid	\$ 80.00
		Development & Peace	\$ 65.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity. God Bless!

Holy Week at Divine Mercy



Altar of Repose:

At the end of the Holy Thursday Mass the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession through the church. The church is emptied of the Eucharist which is carried and placed in an Altar of Repose. We then enter a period of solemnity and adoration before the Eucharist. Throughout the Easter Triduum, the Altar of Response will be available for those wish to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament as follows:

Holy Thursday:

Following the Mass of the Lord's Supper until 11pm

Good Friday: 10am to 2:30pm.

On Holy Saturday: 10am to 7:30pm

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)

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)

We would like to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is accompanied throughout this sacred time. Please contact the Parish Office at 709-726-9924 or email info@divinemerlynl.com and let us know when and for how long you will be present.

Parish Details:

The waving of palms and the reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday; the washing of the Feet, and procession of the Eucharist from the church on Holy Thursday; the Passion and Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday; the new fire, blessing of the water and return of the Alleluia at the Easter Vigil – the Services of Holy Week are the most beautiful and unique of the Church year. Here are a few practical details to help you plan for celebrating Holy Week at Divine Mercy.

- **Palm Sunday:** The Blessing of the Palms and the Reading of the Palm Gospel will take place at the front entrance of the Church at the beginning of Mass.
- **Good Friday:** Anticipating larger than normal crowds, we have coordinated with the school to use the gym for overflow. The 3pm Service will be livestreamed into the gym for the congregation.
- **Livestream:** We will livestream all of the Masses and Services of our Easter Triduum and the 11 am Sunday Masses on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday from our Facebook: [Facebook.com/divinemerccyparishnl](https://www.facebook.com/divinemerccyparishnl)

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 **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. 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).



Centre for Life has sent a link for a clip from EWTN with Alex Schandenberg on euthanasia in Canada. MAID is a growing concern in Canada as to the speed that it has progressed with the widening of criteria. Euthanasia is an important social justice topic to share with the Catholic faith community as it puts the most vulnerable at a greater risk. The link:

[Poor in Canada Turn to Euthanasia as an Escape from Financial Troubles | EWTN News Nightly - Bing video](#)

Development and Peace: Solidarity Sunday ***This Lent, please give generously.***

This Solidarity Sunday, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's ***Stand for the Land*** campaign invites you to give generously and thanks you warmly for your generosity.

Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world. **Our solidarity rests on your generosity.**

"The support we receive from Development and Peace has been very important for me. It allowed me to find myself, to live again." — Raquel Soto, participant in the documentary filmmaking school of the *Asociación Campesina de Antioquia* (ACA, Peasant Association of Antioquia)

Such is the difference you can make by giving to your Share Lent parish collection or at devp.org/give. Thank you for helping us build a world of justice.