



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Week of September 24 to 30

Monday September 25

*Patrick Fleming & Deceased Family;
Kevin Kearney & Deceased Family;
Patrick Slaney*

Tuesday September 26

*Souls in Purgatory;
Dermot Finlay; Mary Finlay*

Wednesday September 27

*Jack Carey; Cherry Greene;
Claude Moulton*

Thursday September 28

*Souls in Purgatory; Shirley Collins;
Rosemarie Megan*

Friday September 29

*Special Intention (HC); James Butler;
Michael Jerome*

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

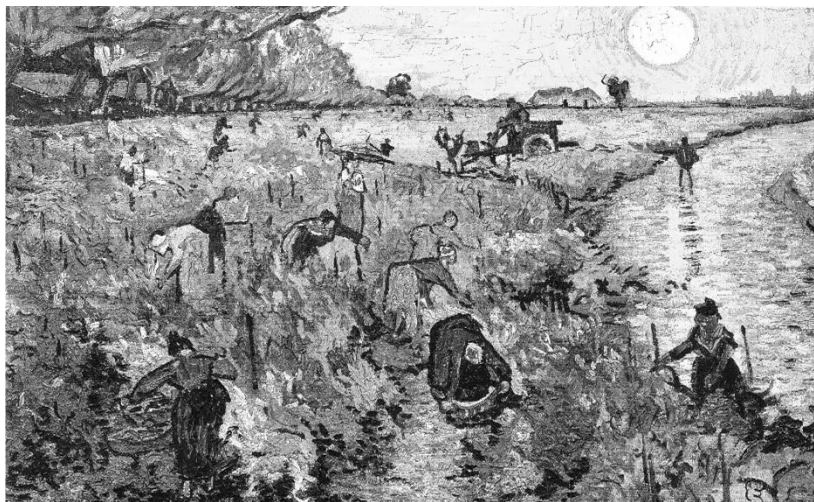
Divine Mercy Parish Contact Information:

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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



Years ago, I remember a story told to me by Fr. Larry. Fr. Larry, during his Tertianship program in preparation for Final Vows, was asked to go to Mexico for his experiment. Fr. Larry was hesitant because he didn't speak a word of Spanish. But then he told his Superior that perhaps it wasn't a bad idea, he could go to the Jesuit high school and teach English. To his surprise, he was told he couldn't go to the school, rather he had to live with a Mexican family and do nothing. Fr. Larry said, "Nothing?" His Superior said, that Fr. Larry was generous in serving others but not so good at allowing others to serve or care for him (Fr. Larry is also blind). He was told that he needed to learn how to receive, something, maybe, we all have to learn.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus gives us a parable centered on work/service and reward. Those who worked the longest and during the heat of the day expected to receive more than those who worked less. Sounds pretty reasonable on their part. The employer, however, paid them the same. Despite what we may think, receiving or being served is generally difficult for us. We are most comfortable when we receive

things because we have earned or achieved them. But Divine love is freely given, it isn't earned. I'm not sure why it's so difficult, but maybe we question our worthiness or maybe receiving freely accentuates an experience of poverty and powerlessness. When I set my mind to something and work at achieving it, in a sense, power still resides with me – "The ball's in my hands" or "I'm the master of my own destiny". The life of faith offers a love that is freely given. We can't manufacture it. It sounds absurd but, in a way, we have to let God love us. We have to allow the Father to love his child. Not because the child has behaved properly or performed well, but because the child is his child. We may want to be an "over-achiever" but in truth, we are his "Beloved." To believe this and to live from it is "life in abundance." As we acclaim every Mass – "Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free." "Your Cross and Resurrection" - this is Divine love and it is free given. Like Fr. Larry, let's learn how to receive, that is, let's let the Father love us and, incredibly, serve us.

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Choir News!

At Divine Mercy, we are constantly building on our music ministry to enhance our parish liturgies. We are extending an open invitation to parishioners to come and join on of the choirs on Saturday or Sunday. Rehearsals are 30/45 minutes prior to Mass and a couple of monthly rehearsals on Thursdays (7pm to 8:30 TBD). If you play a musical instrument, we would love to connect with you as well. Please drop by the choir area before or after Mass for more information.

Perhaps you, or someone you know is considering becoming a Roman Catholic. The **Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults** or RCIA is for you. The RCIA offers a communal program of preparation for those considering the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & the Eucharist) and Reception into the Roman Catholic Community. Adults normally receive the sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. If you would like to know more, please email us at info@divinemercynl.com

Daily Readings:

Week of September 24-30

Sunday, September 24

Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Matthew 20:1-1-16a

Monday, September 25

Ezra 1:1-6
Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday, September 26

Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20
Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday, September 27

Ezra 9:5-9
Luke 9:1-6

Thursday, September 28

Haggai 1:1-8
Luke 9:7-9

Friday, September 29

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
John 1:47-51

Saturday, September 30

Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a
Luke 9:43b-45

Saints Speak

“When Charity is deeply rooted in the soul it shows itself exteriorly: there is so gracious a way of refusing what we cannot give, that the refusal pleases as much as the gift.”

~ St. Thérèse of Lisieux
Feast Day: October 1

Knights of Columbus: Notice of Meeting

The Knights of Columbus will meet for the first meeting of the Columbian year on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7 PM in the foyer of Divine Mercy Church (St. Paul's site). The agenda is as follows: Rosary at 7 PM; 7: 20 Guest Speaker (tba), and the regular Business Meeting from 8-9 PM. All members of the K of C and all Parishioners are invited to attend the Rosary and speaker events. Only members only may attend the business meeting.

Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada

The annual Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will be held today, 24 September 2023. This annual charitable initiative assists the Bishops in their ministry of accompanying, teaching, guiding, sanctifying and caring for the Church in Canada. As part of their episcopal ministry, Bishops continue to work together on relations with Indigenous peoples, important doctrinal and ethical questions; ecumenical initiatives and interreligious dialogue; international relations; evangelization, faith education and catechesis; questions of social justice; responsible ministry, and the development of a culture of life and family. We invite all Catholics to contribute locally to this collection to support the pastoral works of our Bishops. Your support is greatly appreciated.

This Week in The Faith

Feast of Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels September 29

This week, the Church celebrates the Feast of Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, the Archangels. In today's world, our modern-day sensibilities sometime leave little room for the idea of spiritual, non-corporeal beings called angels. Yet, the Church attests to this reality as a truth of faith with the witness of Scripture and Tradition (see the Catechism #328).

In 1986 Pope John Paul II gave a series of talks on ***God, Creator of the World***, in his General Audiences. It was in these talks that the Pope gave a catechesis on the angels, teaching that "According to Revelation, the angels who participate in the life of the Trinity in the light of glory are also called to play their part in the history of the salvation of humanity, in the moments established by divine Providence." (1:14)

The name angel means servant or messenger of God. The three Archangels we celebrate this week, Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, are all found in the Bible and each performs a specific and mission on behalf of God: Michael protects, Gabriel announces; Raphael guides and heals. Their activity in the world should be interpreted through the lens of the Trinity's creative and saving action. Their participation in the life of the Trinity allows them to manifest the glory, power, and mercy of God as it is revealed in the world.

While the term "saint" applies primarily to human beings, it can also refer to any being in heaven. The Church applies the term "saint" to Michael, Gabriel and Raphael because of their significance in the history of salvation.



St. Michael

The name of the archangel Michael means, in Hebrew, "***who is like unto God?***" and he is also known as "the prince of the heavenly host." He is usually pictured as a strong warrior, dressed in armor, and wearing sandals. His name appears in Scripture four times, twice in the Book of Daniel, and once each in the Epistle of St. Jude and the Book of Revelation. From Revelation we learn of the battle in heaven, with St. Michael and his angels combatting Lucifer and the other fallen angels (or devils). We invoke St. Michael to help us in our fight against Satan; to rescue souls from Satan, especially at the hour of death; to be the champion of the Jews in the Old Testament and now Christians; and to bring souls to judgment.

St. Gabriel

St. Gabriel's name means "***God is my strength.***" Biblically he appears three times as a messenger. He had been sent to Daniel to explain a vision concerning the Messiah. He appeared to Zachary when he was offering incense in the Temple, to foretell the birth of his son, St. John the Baptist. St. Gabriel is most known as the angel chosen by God to be the messenger of the Annunciation, to announce to mankind the mystery of the Incarnation. The angel's salutation to our Lady, so simple and yet so full of meaning, *Hail Mary, full of grace*, has become the constant and familiar prayer of all Christian people.

St. Raphael

Our knowledge of the Archangel Raphael comes to us from the book of Tobit. His mission as wonderful healer and fellow traveller with the youthful Tobias has caused him to be invoked for journeys and at critical moments in life. Tradition also holds that Raphael is the angel that stirred the waters at the healing sheep pool in Bethesda. His name means "***God has healed.***"