



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Week of October 1st to 7th

Monday October 2

Johnnie Cabigas; Michael Hickey; Beth Holloway

Tuesday October 3

*Peter Kelly; John McGrath & Deceased Family Members;
Dennis & Mary King & Deceased Family Members*

Wednesday October 4

Ronald McCarthy; Beth Gracie; Morgan Hinchey

Thursday October 5

Clayton Basha; Thomas O'Rielly; Raymond O'Quinn

Friday October 6

Special Intention; Annie Lambe; John Nolan

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:

Elaine Pomeroy-Howard & Patricia Marie Jackson

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

In 1994, I “totalled” my mother’s car the very first time I was allowed to use it for a road trip. Even though I was uninjured, the accident did shake me. I decided that I wasn’t being the best son nor the best person. I decided that beginning then, I would definitely be better. So, I helped more around the home, offering to clean the dishes and to keep my room looking organized rather than a “pig sty.” I also decided to be more respectful and obedient. All went well for a couple of weeks but before too long, my selfishness began to lead me back to my old behaviours. We can look at our faith and relationship with the Lord in a similar way, that is, it is only a matter of mental decision. While our decisions are always a part of our living of the faith, they cannot be sustained without a movement from within one’s heart.

In the First Reading and the Gospel we hear a story and parable about the struggles seeking to live a life of faith. The Prophet Ezekiel teaches Israel that God’s ways are not too much: “You object, O House of Israel! You say, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?” And in the Gospel, Jesus gives a parable which highlights our “mixed” response – both a disobedience to follow through on one’s promise and a reluctance to give one’s assent immediately. I think we’ll always offer God somewhat of a “mixed” response until we see God “face to face.” But the mixture can change through God’s grace and our cooperation with his grace. What can help us to become a little bit freer to cooperate with God is the movement of our hearts. It is through reflecting on the unimaginable depth of God’s mercy and love in one’s own life.

Saint Paul, in the Second Reading, speaks exactly of this. He writes,

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

As we try and live our faith, we are confronted by a beautiful truth – God emptied himself so that we, you, could be filled. We are trying to love and serve God, not simply because it is the right thing to do nor because it is what we learned to do as a child, but because it is what we now want to do. We want to love the one who has first loved us.

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Saints Speak

***“Start by doing what is necessary,
then what is possible,
and suddenly
you are doing the impossible.”***

***~ St. Francis of Assisi
Feast Day: October 4***

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Becoming Roman Catholic

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@divinemergynl.com

Blessing of the Animals

In honour of St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast we celebrate this week, we will be having a **Blessing of the Animals at our St. Francis site on Saturday, October 14th at 1pm on the lawn area.** Everyone is most welcome to bring their pets to be blessed. To ensure the safety of all our furry loved ones, we ask you to secure them on a leash. Be sure to invite any family and friends who might like to join.

Daily Readings:

Week of October 1-7

Sunday, October 1

Ezra 18;25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32

Monday, October 2

Zechariah 8:1-8
Matthew 18:1-5, 10

Tuesday, October 3

Zechariah 8: 20-23
Luke 9:51-56

Wednesday, October 4

Nehemiah 2:1-8
Luke 9:57-62

Thursday, October 5

Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12
Luke 10:1-12

Friday, October 6

Baruch 1:15-22
Luke 10:13-16

Saturday, October 7

Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29
Luke 10:17-24

Offertory Collection Week of September 24

Offertory	\$ 5,289.00
Dues	\$ 1,160.00
Food Bank	\$ 92.00
Christmas Hampers	\$ 100.00
Needs of the Cdn Church	\$ 519.00
Students for the Priesthood	\$ 5.00

*E-transfers can be made through dmparishnl@outlook.com
(Please remember to include your full name and a message indicating what the E-transfer is for)
Thank you for your continuing generosity.
God Bless!*

Praying the Rosary in the Month of October

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 October, dedicated to the devotion of the Rosary. All are welcome to join in this most beautiful devotion.

Calling Parents of Children of Sacramental Age!

If you have a child or children 7 years of age or more, you are invited to register them for our sacramental preparation programs for Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Our program for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin on Saturday, October 1 at 1pm with a meeting for children and parents in the church at our St. Paul's site. Our Confirmation Program will begin in mid-January and our First Holy Communion Program will begin in the Spring.

Maria Kelsey will be available in the foyer of our St. Paul's site after the Saturday evening and Sunday 11am Mass if you have any questions. You can pick up a registration form from Maria or from an usher after Mass this weekend. You can also get registration form by calling or emailing the Parish Office. Please fill out the registration form and return to the Parish Office.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, October 2 for the Truth and Reconciliation statutory holiday.

Catholic Women's League Baby Shower

There will be a BABY SHOWER in the church foyer before and after Saturday and Sunday Masses, October 7-8 and 14-15, organized by Catholic Women's league members. It is not a "shower" in the usual way. Instead, you are invited to drop a gift for a newborn to 2-year-old in a basket in the foyer. Monetary donations are also welcome. All the gifts will be donated to the Centre for Life and Single Parents Association.

This Week in The Faith

October: The Month of the Rosary



“With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depth of his love. Through the Rosary the faithful receive abundant grace as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer.”

St. John Paul II (Rosarium Virginis Mariae)

On October 7th, we, along with the Catholics throughout the world, will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The feast day was established by Pope Pius V on the anniversary of the naval victory at Lepanto on October 7, 1571. This victory was attributed to the Virgin Mary whose intercession was asked through the recitation of the Holy Rosary. The dedication of the entire month of October to the Holy Rosary began in 1883. Pope Leo XII established it so that individuals, families and communities would pray the Holy Rosary, if possible on a daily basis for peace in the world.

The Rosary, simple, yet profound, is a prayer loved by countless saints and faithful throughout history and encouraged by the Church. Pope John Paul II in his encyclical *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, described the rosary as a prayer that is clearly Marian in character and yet is at heart a Christocentric prayer. In its elements it is scripture-based and has “all of the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety” and is “an echo of the prayer of Mary, her perennial Magnificat for the work of the redemptive Incarnation which began in her virginal womb.” (RVM, 1)

In this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we too can use to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

Feast of St Francis of Assisi

Feast Day: October 4

Francis Bernardone was born in Assisi, Italy, the son of a rich merchant. He received a good education, and, lived a lavish lifestyle. He was taken prisoner in the battle between the cities of Assisi and Perugia. While imprisoned he experienced a vision of Christ which changed his life completely. After his release he decided to abandon everything for Christ. He left all his possessions and embraced complete poverty, taking the Gospel as his rule of life. His father became extremely displeased at his action and disinherited him. He wore ragged old clothes, begged for food and preached peace. He began to attract followers, and in 1209 with the Pope’s blessing, he founded the Friars Minor (Franciscans). Then in 1212 with St. Clare of Assisi he founded the foundation of the Order of "Poor Ladies," now known as the "Poor Clares." He also founded the "Third Order of Penance" (the Third Order) which included lay people. Out of humility Francis never accepted the priesthood but remained a deacon all his life. He had a great love for God's creatures and called them his brothers and sisters. His ardent love of God earned him the nickname *God's Fool*. He was the first person (recorded) to receive the stigmata (the five wounds of Christ) in 1224. He died on October 4, 1226 at Portiuncula, Italy. He was canonized by Gregory IX less than two years later.

For Reflection: What does “poverty” in our state of life mean? How can I follow the Gospels like Francis?

