



# Divine Mercy

## Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **Mass Intentions**

*Week of January 21-27*

#### **Monday January 22**

*Elizabeth Ivey; Rose Phillips;  
Mass of Thanksgiving*

#### **Tuesday January 23**

*Marilyn Lawlor & Deceased Family;  
Special Intention; Sara Sexton*

#### **Wednesday January 24**

*Special Intention (JC); Frank & Constance Costigan;  
Bob & Collin Smart*

#### **Thursday January 25**

*Dennis Hickey (Jr); Denis & Nora Hickey & Deceased Family;  
Daniel & Evelyn Doran*

#### **Friday January 26**

*Mass of Thanksgiving; Mary Mahoney-Furlong,  
Fr. Thomas Biecker, S.J.*

#### **Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:**

*Elizabeth Neary*

### **Parish Schedule:**

#### **Sunday Mass:**

**Saturday 4:00pm**

**(Newfoundland Drive Site)**

**Sunday 9:00am**

**(Outer Cove Site)**

**11:00am**

**(Newfoundland Drive Site)**

#### **Daily Mass:**

**Monday to Friday 9:30am**

Daily Mass takes place at our Newfoundland Dr. 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@divinemicrynl.com](mailto:info@divinemicrynl.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.divinemicrynl.com/](http://www.divinemicrynl.com/) email: [info@divinemicrynl.com](mailto:info@divinemicrynl.com)

Facebook: Facebook.com/divinemicryparishnl

Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Pastor Email: [john@ekon.ca](mailto:john@ekon.ca) Telephone 416-417-1513

# Pastor's Note

In my second year as a Jesuit Novice, I was assigned to a detention centre as a chaplain. I remember the first young man I was asked to visit, he was on "suicide watch." I had no training and no experience to rely on. I was nervous and pretty unsure of what to do. Not thinking, I asked him, "So, how's it going?" His response to my insensitive question was quite colourful. I made a mental note – "How's it going?" is not the best way to begin a conversation in jail. Over the weeks, we continued to speak and he told me that his ambition in life was to play in the NBA on the Chicago Bulls. For a young man in his early twenties, in jail, not having played college basketball, I didn't think his ambition or dream was overly likely or realistic. He was living in a bit of "dream world." But given his mental state, I didn't say anything. This little story reflects what Saint Paul teaches in the Second Reading from this week's Mass.

From his First Letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul says some things which one may find confusing or even rub one the wrong way. He writes, for example, those with a spouse should live "as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, ..., and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of the world is passing away." Paul is not encouraging Christians to live in the world as though one were without any emotional attachment. Are we not to honour our mother and father as we hear in the Ten Commandments? Should a parent not love their child? Are we not to have life-giving friendships? Should we not use the gifts God has given to pursue a

career and participate in the dignity of human labour in service of God's Creation? It seems clear and self-evident that the answer to all these questions is solidly "Yes!" What then is Paul all about?

His teaching is centred on the death and Resurrection of Christ and how this event has changed our reality. Christians are not to live in a "dream world." The Resurrection and our anticipation of his return in glory affects our life. To grasp and hold on to good things and even wonderful people is to ask something of them that is impossible – everything and everyone are passing, they are temporary. Only God is eternal. Therefore, we are to judge our lives through the lens of reality, that Jesus Christ is risen. God is at the centre. God is our priority. And our enjoyment of the things of this world are then enhanced and even deepened. I don't ask from them what they cannot give. I don't make people an impersonal object for my consumption and use. I see them as a reflection of God's bountiful goodness and infinite beauty. We don't live in a "dream world" but within a life in which our dreams come true – the Father's love is the fundamental reality of our life.

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

## Update on Fr. Browne:

Many have asked about Fr. Browne's health following his medical episode on December 24, in which he fainted at Mass. While his health is stable, the episode did leave him physically weaker and a bit more confused than before. He has a great family doctor and is receiving great care as he undergoes some tests to try and discern how he can continue to enjoy his beautiful life to the fullest. I'm sure he would appreciate your continued prayers.

## Offertory Collection Week of January 14

Offertory	\$	5,281.00
Initial Offering	\$	304.00
Christmas Offering	\$	690.00
New Year's Day	\$	373.00
Food Bank	\$	125.00
Christmas Hampers	\$	10.00

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

# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

## Opportunities to Serve at Divine Mercy:

### Liturgy of the Word with Children

Our Liturgy of the Word with Children is an extension of our Sunday Mass – a worship experience geared towards children. It runs in our parish every other Sunday at the 11am Mass.

**Our ministry is growing, and we need your help!** There are several ways to serve as a member of our team. We are looking for:

- **Leaders:** facilitate and lead the prayer experience
- **Shepherds:** accompany Leaders by ensuring the care and attention of all those present. Shepherds help keep the child to adult ratio down and work to maintain a warm and welcoming environment.
- **Readers:** proclaim the Word of God in language that is child friendly.

Help Divine Mercy Parish enhance the experience of Church for children. Join our team! Volunteers in this ministry have an enthusiasm for the faith and a willingness to share it with young people. This ministry has a strong team approach and volunteers will enjoy sharing in faith and service with their peers. Materials, resources and training will be provided by the Parish. For more information contact us through the parish office at [info@divinemercynl.com](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com)

### Join our Sacrament Preparation Team!

Our preparation for the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion is set to begin early in February. This year we have a large group of candidates, many who are new to the parish. Our program combines in-home sessions with a few Family catechetical sessions in the church, which will be spread out over the preparation time.

Divine Mercy is hoping to build a team for this very important ministry of Sacramental Preparation. Volunteers in this ministry have an enthusiasm for the faith and the desire to share it as they accompany families in preparation for sacraments. Materials, resources, and training will be provided by the Parish. For more information, contact us through the parish office at [info@divinemercynl.com](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com)

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Beginning January 25, Adoration will take place at our St. Francis site on Thursdays from 11am to 12 noon. This will be in addition to our Tuesday Exposition at our St. Paul site from 2 to 3:30 pm. All are welcome.

### Catholic Women's League at Divine Mercy:

**You Belong:** Do you want to grow your faith, serve your community, act on social justice issues and be supported by a sisterhood that embraces these core values? If so...WELCOME to the Catholic Women's League...you belong with us. Application forms available in the church lobby.

### Catholic Women's League General Meeting

The next general meeting of the CWL is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, in the church following the 9:30am Mass. Social to follow. Members and all friends and women of the parish are very welcome. The meeting will discuss the new national theme: "**Here I am Lord: send me**" and its focus for this year "**Mental Health**".

### World Day for Consecrated Life.

In celebration of this year's World Day for Consecrated Life, Archbishop Hundt will offer a Mass for the intentions of the women and men in vowed consecrated life in this Archdiocese. The Mass will be celebrated on Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, at 9:00 a.m. at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist. A small reception will follow. All are welcome. The Mass will be live-streamed on the Basilica Parish website: [www.thebasilica.church](http://www.thebasilica.church).

The World Day for Consecrated Life was instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1997: "... to help the entire Church esteem ever more greatly the witness of those persons who have chosen to follow Christ by means of the practice of the evangelical counsels and to be a suitable occasion for consecrated persons to renew their commitment and rekindle the fervor which should inspire their offering of themselves to the Lord." We are blessed to have in our Archdiocese in vowed consecrated life members of the following Religious Orders: The Presentation Sisters, The Sisters of Mercy, The Christian Brothers, The Jesuits, The Redemptorists and The Vocationists.

# This Week in the Faith

## Sunday of the Word of God

Pope Francis has designated the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as the **Sunday of the Word of God**. It is a Sunday devoted to the celebration, study and spreading of the Word of God. Through his Word, God reveals himself to us and lives within us. This year's theme is "Remain in my Word."

At our Sunday Masses (at our St. Paul's site) this weekend, you will see the Book of the Gospels solemnly carried in and "enthroned" before the altar throughout the Mass. It is a symbolic gesture in which we not only raise the Holy Scripture in the midst of our praying community, but it also expresses our willingness to put it first in our lives.

As you leave the church today, please pick up a bookmark celebrating the Sunday of the Word of God. On the back you will find some helpful resources on how to read, pray and study the Bible and hold it more closely in your heart. Here are some suggestions on how to make the Word of God a part of your day:

- Consider adding a Bible app to your smart phone. Check out the ***Holy Bible, Catholic Edition*** from the App Store.
- Discover ***Lectio Divina***, an ancient form of praying with the scriptures: go to Divine Mercy Parish website: [www.divinemeracynl.com/?page\\_id=1102](http://www.divinemeracynl.com/?page_id=1102)
- Pray a scriptural Rosary with your family. Here is a link from the Knights of Columbus who have developed a beautiful scriptural rosary with bible passages for each of the mysteries: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/faith/rosary-program/319-scriptural-rosary.pdf>
- Read the Bible in a Year: <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>

### Daily Readings: Week of January 21-27

Sunday, January 21  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

Monday, January 22  
2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10  
Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday, January 23  
2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19  
Mark 3:31-35

Wednesday, January 24  
2 Samuel 7:4-17  
Mark 4:1-20

Thursday, January 25  
Acts 22:3-16  
Mark 16:15-18

Friday, January 26  
2 Timothy 1:1-8  
4:21-25

Saturday, January 27  
2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17  
Mark 4:35-42

## More Community News:

### St. Bon's Information Night:

St. Bonaventure's College is holding an information night for perspective new families on Thursday, January 25 6:30pm in Mullock Hall. Wine and cheese will be served. Please rsvp to [vgreen@stbons.ca](mailto:vgreen@stbons.ca)

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

This year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity celebration will be held at the Salvation Army Citadel (Adam's Avenue) on January 21 @ 2:30 pm with Major Lorne Pritchett as our guest speaker.

### Clergy/Pastoral Chaplain Appreciation Breakfast:

Monday, January 22 9am at the Salvation Army Citadel. Sister Elizabeth Davis will speak on the recent Synod of Synodality. A catered breakfast will be served; the cost is a free will offering.

### Choir Lovers, Music Lovers!!

Lady Cove Choir from St. John's is hosting the world-renowned a cappella group RAJATON from Finland as they return to their favorite North American City for one night only! Rajaton, a six-voice a cappella group, has an infectious energy and an ability to entertain and inspire that is boundless. The concert will take place on Saturday, February 3 7:30pm at Holy Heart Theatre. Prices \$58/\$38 plus surcharge/tax. Call 709-579-4424 or visit [www.holyhearttheatre.com](http://www.holyhearttheatre.com)