



# Divine Mercy

## Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Mass Intentions

Week of January 28 to February 3

#### Monday January 29

Donald Smith; Special Intention (AS);  
Tom Cooper & Deceased Family

#### Tuesday January 30

Michael, Agnes & Br. Dermond Nash;  
Arthur Rice; Special Intention (CA)

#### Wednesday January 31

Paul, Dale & David Perry; John, Catherine & Paul Roche;  
John, Margaret & Thomas Waterman

#### Thursday February 1

Fernanda Montes, Eileen & David Donaldson;  
Cory & Velma Smith

#### Friday February 2

Special Intention; Philomena, Gerald & Ed Nolan;  
Jeffery Murrin

#### Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:

Alicia Cadigan & Gertrude Pavia

### 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@divinemergynl.com](mailto:info@divinemergynl.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.divinemergynl.com/](http://www.divinemergynl.com/) email: [info@divinemergynl.com](mailto:info@divinemergynl.com)

Facebook: Facebook.com/divinemergyparishnl

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

# Pastor's Note

From 1987 until 2011, the most identifying trait of my personality was sadness. Following the death of my father, I felt a deep sadness which gradually progressed to an everyday melancholy which finally grew into a low-grade depression in 1999. After a summer of therapy, I was able to become "functional" but the final healing did not occur until a retreat in 2011. During those twenty-four years, I prayed daily for healing, to be normal, for my smile to be real rather than a façade. When my heart was touched, in 2011, by the love of the crucified Lord, it was as if I was born again, a huge weight was lifted from my shoulders. I was thankful to God for his grace of healing, yet, I also wondered why God had waited so long – twenty-four years is a long time.

This week we see Jesus entering the synagogue in Capernaum. He teaches as one with "authority," not like the scribes. Unlike the scribes who merely used words, the Lord completes his teaching with action. To the man with an unclean spirit, Christ says, "be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing the man and crying with a loud voice, came out of him." We hear the Lord announcing the Good News, that the Kingdom of God has drawn near to us, and we see what this means. He frees the man shackled by the imprisoning chains of an unclean spirit. The Lord has come to free; he has come to save. And, so, he frees and saves. In our own lives, we may

feel that there is a knot in our hearts, that we are restrained from experiencing life in abundance. We may feel stuck or trapped by sinful patterns and, despite our most sincere efforts, retain a power over us. The Lord has come to save, not condemn.

The grace of the untied knot or redemption from the claws of a persistent temptation will be given. Sometimes the grace may take a long time, but the delay is not from God, rather it is our own unfreedom. Praying for twenty-four years to be healed from my father's death is a long time. I slowly came to understand that every moment of every day, God was faithfully giving me the grace. The delay was due to my not being free to receive it. I wasn't able or willing to thank my dad, to say I love him more now than even before, and then to say good-bye. Finally, understanding to an extent the love of the crucified Lord, my heart was restored to life because I knew that the dark tomb was not my home, my home is with Christ. We must not give-up because God never ever gives-up on us. He is always faithful, and, thus, he is always saving.

God bless and take care,  
Fr. John

## Tax Receipts for Donations made in 2023

Tax receipts for charitable donations made to Divine Mercy Parish in 2023 are now available for pick up. The receipts are located on a table in the foyer of our St. Paul's site. They are in alphabetical order. If you would like your receipt mailed out to you or brought out to our St. Francis site, please email our parish office at [info@divinemerlyn.com](mailto:info@divinemerlyn.com)

## Offertory Collection Week of January 21

Offertory	\$ 5,338.35
Initial Offering	\$ 150.00
New Year's Day	\$ 126.00
Food Bank	\$ 90.00

*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

## Volunteers needed for 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 speak with Avril today after the 11 am Mass or contact us through the parish office at [info@divinemercynl.com](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com)

## Confirmation Preparation Ready to Begin!

Our preparation for the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion is set to begin. Our Confirmation Program will begin on **Saturday February 10 from 11am to 1:30pm** with a Family Catechesis Session. A light lunch will be provided. Our program combines in-home sessions with a few Family Catechetical sessions in the church, which will be spread out over the preparation time. We will be in contact with parents through email over the next week with more details on the program.

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 our Faith Formation Office at [faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com)

## Catholic Women's League at Divine Mercy:

Are you ready to transform your spiritual life, serve others and act on social justice issues? This change is possible when you join the Catholic Women's League. It has all these values at the heart of its mission. Membership forms available in the church lobby.

## Catholic Women's League General Meeting

You are invited to the next general meeting of the CWL, Tuesday, January 30, following the 9:30 Mass. The meeting will introduce the new national theme: "**Here I am Lord: send me**" and its focus for 2024, "**Mental Health**".

**4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights of Columbus** will hold its first meeting of the year on Monday, January 29 in the foyer of our St. Paul's site at 7pm. The evening will begin with the Rosary, followed by our guest speaker, Fr. John Sullivan on our parish, concerns, news, and successes. Business meeting to follow for members only. Dues are again due in the amount of \$20 for 2024. Hope to see you there.

## Knights of Columbus 50/50 Lottery

The Knights of Columbus State (Provincial) Council is having another 50/50 Lottery. The tickets are \$25 each. Last year's winner took home **over \$72,000.00!** Draw date is May 04, 2024. Your council uses its share of the funds earned to provide help with as many community projects as it can (school lunch program, Coats for Kids program etc). Please help us to help others in need. Tickets will be available prior to weekend masses or you can call: Ray English 709-754-0780.

## 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).

# Faith Formation & Flocknote

Divine Mercy Parish is growing! It's a beautiful and vibrant community with joy-filled worship and amazing programs and events.

We have ministries designed to serve and enhance our experience of the Mass and prepare for the sacraments, ministries reaching out to those in need in our local community, as well as other ministries and events to help you meet people, share your talents, deepen your relationships and grow closer to God.

This week we are pleased to introduce our Faith Formation Office here at Divine Mercy. To have our faith and life formed by God's mercy and love in Christ, we need to know something about the story of God, what it means that God loves us and what it means to respond to God's love with our whole hearts and minds. Our faith is formed through our deepening understanding of how God has revealed Himself through Jesus Christ, through the lives of the saints and the teachings of the Church, as well as through our service, actions, experiences and relationships.

The Church teaches that Faith Formation is a lifelong process of learning, loving and living our faith. The concept of lifelong learning invites each of us to grow in our faith by learning and sharing with others in our community. Our Faith Formation Office will work with, and support, existing ministries and develop engaging programs and possibilities for growing and sharing in faith. You can reach Anna Paolo in our Faith Formation Office anytime by email [faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com). And, in the coming weeks you will hear about our first major offering – *The Creed by Word on Fire's Bishop Barron*, so stay tuned!

## Flocknote:

With so much happening we want to make sure it's as easy as possible for every one of you to be involved and connected to it all. So we are bringing in a new and improved way of communicating that will make it simpler for you to get the information you want from us! It's a service called Flocknote. It's totally free for you to use, you don't need to download anything or create a password to participate.

You just take a couple of minutes to sign up and it lets you receive email or text messages from the groups and ministries that you choose. It even allows you to reply directly back to those messages so we can get feedback and hear from you in an efficient manner. You can choose things like our upcoming Faith Formation on the Creed, or to join one of our parish ministries such as Hospitality after Mass.

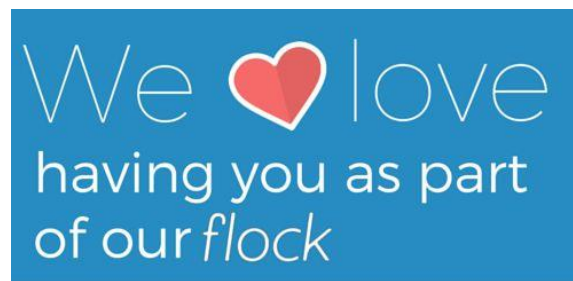
In addition to regular group and ministry communication, we'll also use Flocknote to send you important updates about special events in the parish, inclement weather announcements, and seasonal messages and schedules for Lent and Easter.

Your information is kept totally private, and you can update your communication preferences or unsubscribe at any time.

### ***So let's keep in touch!***

How to subscribe:

- Text 01556 to 519-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences
- or connect with us online at [divinemeracyparish12.flocknote.com](http://divinemeracyparish12.flocknote.com)
- If at any time you need assistance, or would like a little more info, please contact Anna by email: [faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com).



Keep in touch with us  
via email & text



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