



# Divine Mercy

## Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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### **Mass Intentions**

*Week February 4 to 10*

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#### **Monday February 5**

*Frank & Constance Costigan; Special Intention (MM);  
Patsy Conway-Morris*

#### **Tuesday February 6**

*Bill Fitzpatrick & Deceased Family;  
Special Intention (MM); Special Intention HF)*

#### **Wednesday February 7**

*Special Intention (MM); Lucy Fitzpatrick;  
Catherine Doyle*

#### **Thursday February 8**

*Special Intention (MM); Dorothy Thomas; Henry O'Shea*

#### **Friday February 9**

*Annie & Pat McCarthy; Special Intention (MM); Mary  
Dunphy*

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

### **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

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### **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](https://www.facebook.com/divinemergyparishnl)

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

# Pastor's Note

Last year I was watching an episode from the Internet based show called "The Chosen." There was a scene in which a husband and wife were coming toward the Lord. Both had physical disabilities but were coming to say, "Hello," rather than requesting healing. Christ was standing beside a couple of his disciples and he said something like, "Wait to you see this." He was speaking of the anticipation of witnessing the reactions of the husband and wife and not the manifestation of his power. When they were healed, they were overjoyed – they offered praise, laughed, hugged each other and gave thanks to him. During their reaction, the Lord stood back and watched – he appeared to delight in their delight. I had never thought of God delighting in his miracles, or sharing in the joy of our joy. I think I imagined Christ healing only as "a part of the job," of announcing the Kingdom through these acts of power. Yet, to begin to glimpse the delight in God as he heals, redeems and saves is to glimpse the true understanding of the relationship shared between God and each one of us.

gathered around the door, "And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons." We may think of this scene as being a time of exhausting labour and imposition for the Lord. All these people asking him to make them better! Instead, can we see his smile as one is healed and turns to the crowd in astonishment, praising God? Can we see his satisfaction and peace as one's heart is made well again, that they feel love for the first time in a long while? To imagine Christ's healings and acts of power in this way gets closer to the foundation of our relationship with him – we are healed and redeemed, both on the outside and the inside, because he loves us, each one of us. I know this is easy to say and perhaps sounds a little too simple. But it is true, and it is the beginning and the end of our relationship with the Triune God. The foundation of our faith is his personal love. God delights in us because we are his beloved.

This weekend, the Gospel from Saint Mark tells the story of what occurred after Jesus had spoken his first words and performed his first miracle in the synagogue in Capernaum. He goes to Peter's house where he heals the mother-law of Peter. Soon, many

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Stay involved and connected to it all!

## Join our Flocknote

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- Text 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.
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- If at any time you need assistance, or would like a little more info, please contact Anna by email: [faith.divinemercury@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemercury@gmail.com)



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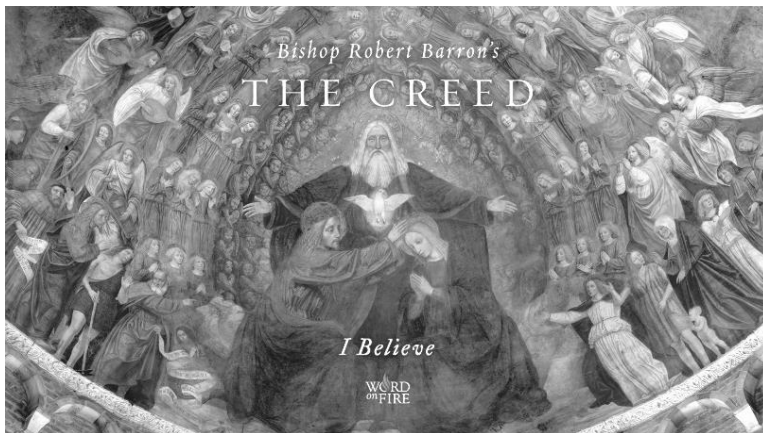
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# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

## 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.divinemerlynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemerlynl@gmail.com)



WORD ON FIRE

## The Creed

**Divine Mercy Parish Faith Formation Series Begins Thursday, February 15**

In the Creed, a film series blending both documentary footage and dynamic talks, Bishop Robert Barron guides viewers into the depths of the Nicene Creed. The Creed will help you rediscover the great spiritual depths of Christian dogma and reclaim the unity, clarity and conviction of the Christian faith.

*Our Faith Formation Series and Word on Fire are available to you through our flocknote. Subscribe today!*

## World Day of Prayer for the Sick: Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick Thursday February 15, 11am

Divine Mercy Parish (St. Paul's site) will gather for a Healing Mass with the Anointing of the Sick on Wednesday, February 15 at 11am. Everyone is most welcome.

If you know someone who is need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please share this invitation with them. Also, if you know someone who is homebound or in hospital who would like to receive the sacrament, please be in contact with the parish by calling 709-726-9924 or email us a [info@divinemerlynl.com](mailto:info@divinemerlynl.com)

## Offertory Collection Week of January 28

Offertory	\$	5,874.90
Initial Offering	\$	85.00
Christmas Offering	\$	25.00
New Year's Day	\$	810.00
Food Bank	\$	2,548.00

*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 Ministry Fair

**February 17 & 18  
Following the Sunday Masses  
In the Gym at our St. Paul's site**

Discover the heart of Christian ministry here at Divine Mercy Parish. Celebrate the life of our growing parish. There will lots to see, friends to meet and fun to be had. You may even find a place for your own gifts and talents. Watch for more information in next week's bulletin. We hope to see you there!

# Ash Wednesday: Lent Begins

## Keeping Lent at Divine Mercy Parish:

When you hear the word Lent, what comes to mind? Penance, fish, ashes, fasting, sacrifice, giving up chocolate? These are the images many of us associate with Lent. But you will come closer to the real meaning of the season if you think of an image of new life – of Baptism. Baptism provides the key to Lent.

In the early Church, liturgies developed to assist people who wanted to become Christian. The final forty-day preparation before Baptism became what we now call Lent. Today, Lent is still the time when adults continue their preparation for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion at Easter. It is also a time for those of us who already baptized to reaffirm what the sacrament of Baptism means in our lives today.

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14, 2024. This is a season when we, as Christians, prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter, the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Here some upcoming events at Divine Mercy. Mark the dates in your calendar and watch for details in upcoming bulletins. our Masses on Wednesday, February 14.

## Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule February 14, 2024

9:30 am (St. Paul's site with Fr. John)

6:30 pm (St. Paul's site with Fr. Joe Schuck)

6:30 pm (St. Francis site with Fr. John)

## Way of the Cross

Fridays throughout Lent:

Feb 16, 23, Mar 1, 8, 15, & 26

5:45 pm: Join Fr. John for a hot bowl of soup

6:30 pm: Stations of the Cross begin in the church.

## Lenten Penance Service:

Wednesday March 13 at 6:30pm

The church is opened daily during Office hours for private Stations of the Cross and other devotions at our St. Paul's site.

# New Mass Schedule

Dear Fellow Parishioners of Divine Mercy,

Since we began to come together at the new parish of Divine Mercy in September 2022, we have received many blessings. Though all of us were uprooted from our previous parishes, our spiritual homes, even those of us who had been parishioners at St. Paul's and St. Francis, it feels as if we are finding a new home at Divine Mercy. A community of believers is forming, new relationships are being formed and we are seeking to worship and praise God with the reception of the Eucharist. Our new parish community is growing with the welcoming of new people every week. As a consequence of our growth, we do not have enough room to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend our Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass in St. Paul's Church and we must look at adjusting our Mass times to accommodate everyone who wishes to come. This is a wonderful "problem" to have but it is a problem and we need to discern how to solve it so that we will be able to continue to grow and welcome new parishioners into our parish family.

With this in mind we would appreciate your input on what our new Mass schedule should be. We have been given a gift from God at our new parish and we want to share his gift with others.

Please take a couple of minutes to fill out one of our Mass Times Survey available from one of our ushers today after Mass. Completed surveys can be returned next weekend or dropped off in the survey box located in at our St. Paul's site in the foyer and at our St. Francis site at the back of the church.

Thank you and God Bless,

Fr. John

# More News & Resources

## 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. 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@divinemercynl.com](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com)

## Blessing of the Throats

February 3 was the Feast of St. Blaise. St. Blaise was martyred in Armenia in 316. St. Blaise was a good bishop who worked hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. One of the most famous stories told about St. Blaise is of a mother who sought help for her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. St. Blaise was able to help the child cough up the bone. St. Blaise is the patron saint of ailments of the throat. A devotion grew of blessing people's throats around the Feast of St. Blaise. Here at Divine Mercy Parish, Fr. John will be available after the Mass on Tuesday, February 6, or Wednesday, February 7 (depending on the weather) after the morning Mass for any who would like to have their throats blessed.

## Catholic Women's League at Divine Mercy:

Our members are pleased with the January 29, 2024 decision by the Federal Government to **not** extend Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) to include mental illness, until at least after the next federal election. **We feel so hopeful.** In keeping with the CWL theme, and our focus on mental health, we advocate a) for the Bill that includes mental illness in MAiD be cancelled indefinitely; b) for more and better palliative care accessible to all; and c) so important, that there be much better medical care and facilities for people with mental illness. We appreciate the support of all parishioners in this regard.

## Catholic Women's League General Meeting

The CWL General meeting is rescheduled for Tuesday, February 6, following the 9:30 Mass. Father John Sullivan, SJ will speak on our 2024 on our "Here I am Lord, send me". The agenda will also include a discussion of MAiD, mental health, and youth. Everyone is Welcome!

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Beginning February 8, 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.

## The Church wants Your Thoughts and Opinions

To help prepare for the 2024 Synod meetings in Rome in October, the Archdiocese of St. John's invites you to participate in a series of 3 Listening and Input Sessions. These sessions will introduce you to the next stage of the ongoing Synodal Journey, and offer you an opportunity to learn about, discuss and respond to the Synthesis Document. Led by the Redemptorist Adult Faith Formation Team (RAFFT), these sessions will be offered both in person and online and all are welcome to join in all three sessions or any you are available to attend.

**IN PERSON: at The Lantern, 35 Barnes Rd,**  
 Tuesday, February 6, 7:00-8:30 pm  
 Tuesday, February 20, 7:00 -8:30 pm  
 Tuesday, March 5, 7:00-8:30 pm

### ONLINE: offered by Zoom

**To register, email: [rafftcssr@gmail.com](mailto:rafftcssr@gmail.com)**  
 Tuesday, February 13, 7:00-8:30 pm  
 Tuesday, February 27, 7:00 -8:30 pm  
 Tuesday, March 12, 7:00-8:30 pm

**ALL ARE WELCOME, COME AND INVITE A FRIEND**

## Knights of Columbus Bingo:

Bingo at St. Kevin's Parish Hall, starting Monday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 7 pm Bingo starts at 8 pm.

## 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.