



# Divine Mercy

## Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

Easter: The Resurrection of the Lord

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### **Mass Intentions**

*Week of March 31 to April 6*

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#### **Monday April 1**

*Gerry Carey & Deceased Family Members; Special Intention (MM);  
Corey Sampson*

#### **Tuesday April 2**

*Souls in Purgatory; Margaret Green;  
John, Isabelle & John (Jr) Dunne*

#### **Wednesday April 3**

*Special Intention (GN); Sara Sexton;  
Ruby Sharpe*

#### **Thursday April 4**

*Philomena, Gerald & Ed Nolan; Special Intention (AH);  
Special Intention (AMD)*

#### **Friday April 5**

*Lucy & Gerald Stamp; Arthur Joseph George; Linda Harding*

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

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### **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 at our St. Paul's site and every **Thursday, 11am to noon** and **Friday from 11am to noon** at our St. Francis Site.

**Contact Information:** Divine Mercy Parish, 340A Newfoundland Drive, St. John's, NL A1A 3R9 tel. 709-726-9924 [www.divinemercynl.com/](http://www.divinemercynl.com/) email: [info@divinemercynl.com](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com) Facebook.com/divinemercyparishnl Join our Flocknote by texting 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.  
Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Pastor Email: [john@ekon.ca](mailto:john@ekon.ca) Telephone 416-417-1513

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

***Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!***

March 31, 2024

# Pastor's Note

My favourite place to live when I was a child was Moncton, New Brunswick, in a subdivision called "Grove Hamlet." I remember playing road hockey for countless hours on our street or baseball in the park. At night, it was Capture the Flag, Red Rover, or the terrifying British Bulldog. I can almost hear my mother calling my sister and me home for lunch or see my father working around the house. I had a great childhood and its greatest time was in Moncton. Decades later, when driving to visit my mother and sister in Halifax, I decided to make a short detour and see my "old stomping ground." I saw the same houses, now thirty years older, but I didn't see anyone I knew. Thirty years is a long time yet, I hadn't expected things to be so different. I didn't stay long because I was both disappointed and even a little sad. This place that I always remembered as offering perfect happiness was gone. It was over. All I had were the diminishing vestiges of memories, memories that I now knew were no longer a reality. In a similar way, St. Mary Magdalene, outside Jesus's empty tomb, clings to her memories; she thinks they are all that remains. But he is risen!

Some of the strangest words the Lord speaks in the Gospel are those he speaks to Mary Magdalene after she recognizes him. In a completely understandable way, Mary is overjoyed to see Jesus again and she moves to embrace

him, to hug him. Surprisingly, Christ strongly says to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father." What do his words mean? What do they signify? When Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, our relationship with him and to the Father has been changed by God. No need for Mary Magdalene to cling to a mere memory of what was, but to live in what is – the Resurrection! She remembered Jesus as her rabbi, teacher, leader, prophet and friend whom she loved. The Resurrection, however, has given her (and us) a relationship not anchored to the past, but fully alive now. In his glory he has made the relationship one of siblings and as siblings, we share in his sonship with the Father – "But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

"Perfect happiness" is not to be found in a place called "Grove Hamlet." It is not something we have once sipped and nostalgically long to sip again if we can only find it. "Perfect happiness" and joy and peace are in him, the Risen Lord. We have more than mere vestigial memories. It is not a "celebration of life." It is living in life and life in abundance. It is living in the Resurrection. It is living in him, with "my Father and your Father."

God bless and take care, and Happy Easter,

Fr. John

## Divine Mercy Parish New Mass Schedule Begins April 6 & 7

Saturday 4pm (St. Paul's site)

Sunday 9am (St. Paul's site)

Sunday 11am (St. Paul's site)

Sunday 3pm (St. Francis site)

Mass will begin at 3:15 pm

following the Chaplet of Divine Mercy with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)

Be sure to pick up a bookmark with the new schedule and share it with family and friends!

# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

## Divine Mercy Sunday

### Parish Ministry Fair

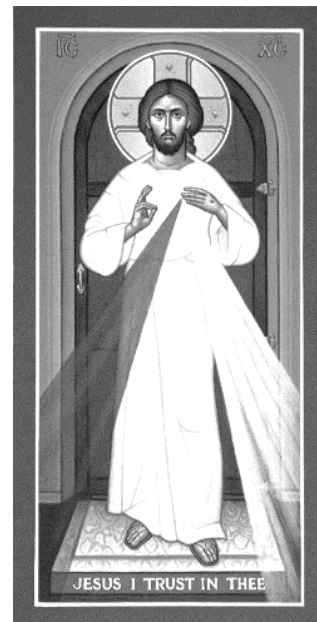
**“Gather Us In”**

**April 13-14**

**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. We hope to see you there! Enjoy some hospitality as you meet and talk with people in the different ministries of the parish. Join our scavenger hunt! Lots of fun for everyone!

April 7, 2024, the Second Sunday of Easter is also the Feast of the Divine Mercy. This beautiful and joyous feast is also the Patronal feast of our parish. Be sure to mark the date on you calendar and join us for this celebration. **Our New Mass Schedule will also begin that weekend.**



Saturday 4:00pm (St Paul’s Site)  
 Sunday 9:00am (St Paul’s Site)  
 Sunday 11:00am (St Paul’s Site)  
 Sunday 3pm (St. Francis site)  
 Mass will begin at 3:15 pm following the Chaplet of Divine Mercy with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

## Offertory Collection

**Week of March 17**

Offertory	\$	6,767.00
Initial Offering	\$	45.00
Ash Wednesday	\$	45.00
Holy Thursday	\$	85.00
Good Friday	\$	70.00
Easter Offering	\$	75.00
Flowers	\$	308.00
Food Bank	\$	145.00
D & P	\$	495.00

*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!*

## Calling All Kids! Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, March 31  
 Following the 11am Mass  
 At our Newfoundland Dr. Site In the gym

## Children’s Liturgy of the Word

A worship experienced geared to children, this ministry has become a wonderful and vital ministry at the 11am Sunday Mass in our parish. Our normal schedule of alternate Sundays will be temporarily interrupted in April. Here are the upcoming dates to note:

April 21, May 12, May 26, June 9

## A Great Symphony of Prayer:

The CCCB Ad hoc committee for the preparation of the Jubilee of 2025 announces a webinar series, A Great Symphony of Prayer. This series will include one four-part webinar series in the spring and one more four-part series in the fall. Dr. Josephine Lombardi will present these eight webinars. The theme of the Spring sessions is “A Great Symphony of Prayer: The Our Father as a Program for Life” and the sessions are scheduled April 2, 9, 23 and 30. Each session is from 1pm -2:30 pm EST. The link for registration can be found on the Archdiocesan website: [www.rcsj.org](http://www.rcsj.org).

## Sacrament Preparation for Holy Communion:

We will begin preparing children for First Holy Communion on Saturday, April 6. Our Program begins with a Family Catechesis Session, 11am to 12:30pm on April 6 at our St. Paul’s site. If you have already registered your child for Sacrament, you will be receiving a Flocknote from us in the next week. If you would like to register your child for the program, please email us at [faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com)

## **Archbishop's 2024 Easter Message**

*Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. (Isaiah 60: 1-2)*

Dear People of the Archdiocese of St. John's:

The Easter Vigil liturgy begins in darkness and then light comes into that darkness, light that is prayed over, blest, shared and praised in song. The person carrying the newly blest and lighted Paschal Candle that symbolizes the Risen Christ sings: "Christ our Light!" to which all respond: "Thanks be to God!"

Everyone present is invited to share in this "Light of Christ" by holding a taper lit from the Paschal Candle. This lighted taper is a symbol of the lit candle presented on the day of baptism, a symbol of the "Light of Christ" passed on to them to be cherished, protected and shared through a life lived as a disciple of Christ, as a "Child of the Light".

In this year's *Message for the Month of Ramadan and 'ID Al-FITR'*, entitled "Christians and Muslims: Extinguish the Fire of War and Light the Candle of Peace", the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue wrote:

***As believers, we are also witnesses to hope, ... Hope can be symbolized by a candle, whose light radiates security and joy, whereas fire, uncontrolled, can lead to the destruction of fauna and flora, infrastructure and the loss of human lives. Dear Muslim brothers and sisters, let us join in extinguishing the fires of hatred, violence and war, and instead light the gentle candle of peace, drawing upon resources for peace that are present in our rich human and religious traditions.***

Our world is very much in need of "Children of Light" and of "Witnesses to Hope". All around us there are uncontrolled "fires" of hatred, violence and war; physical "fires" in some regions of the world and verbal "fires" in our social media.

In the gospels, "Peace be with you" was the frequent greeting of the Resurrected Christ. It was a peace that he wished for all people and a peace that he wishes us as witnesses of hope and children of light to share with our world.

In their recent *Pastoral Letter on the Use of Social Media*, the Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops included the following prayer:

***Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Help us to recognize the evil latent in a communication that does not build communion.  
Help us to remove the venom from our judgements.  
Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters.  
You are faithful and trustworthy; may our words be seeds of goodness for the world:  
where there is shouting, let us practice listening;  
where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony;  
where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity;  
where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity;  
where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety;  
where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;  
where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust;  
where there is hostility, let us bring respect;  
where there is falsehood, let us bring truth. Amen.***

Asking that you join with me in opening yourselves to the peace Jesus wishes for each of us, and in being, especially during this Easter season, a "Child of Light" and a "Witness of Hope" for our world and all its people.

Yours in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ,  
+Peter Hundt  
Archbishop of St. John's.