



# Divine Mercy

## Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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### **Mass Intentions Week of June 23**

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Monday, June 24:	Special Intention (KB) Cathy & Gerry Feehan + Peter & Mary Kennedy & Deceased Family +
Tuesday, June 25:	Gerald Winston Stone & Deceased Family + Dianne Kennedy & Deceased Family + Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday, June 26:	Don Roche + Margaret & William Feehan & Deceased Family + Maureen Doyle +
Thursday, June 27:	Rosemarie Metcalfe + Bill Fitzpatrick & Deceased Family + Joan Russell +
Friday June 28:	John, Ann & John (Jr.) Kenny + Ruby Sharpe + Vincent Howard +

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

### **Parish Schedule:**

#### **Sunday Mass:**

#### **Saturday**

**4:00pm (Newfoundland Drive Site)**

#### **Sunday**

**9:00am (Newfoundland Drive Site)**

**11:00am (Newfoundland Drive Site)**

**4:00pm (Outer Cove Site)**

#### **Daily Mass:**

**Monday to Friday 9:30am**

Daily Mass takes place at our Newfoundland Drive site

#### **Parish Office Hours:**

Monday to Thursday: 8:30am - 4:00pm

Friday: 8:30am to 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 **Wednesday and Thursday, 11am to noon** at our St. Francis Site.

### **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@divinemerlynl.com](mailto:info@divinemerlynl.com)

### **Sacrament of the Sick & Home Visits**

Do you know someone in hospital or who is homebound? Arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick or to receive Holy Communion. Call the Parish Office at 709-726-9924

**Contact Information:** Divine Mercy Parish, 340A Newfoundland Drive, St. John's, NL A1A 3R9 tel. 709-726-9924 [www.divinemerlynl.com/](http://www.divinemerlynl.com/) email: [info@divinemerlynl.com](mailto:info@divinemerlynl.com) Join our Flocknote by texting 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.

Facebook.com/divinemerlynlparishnl

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

# Pastor's Note

The *Spiritual Exercises* of Saint Ignatius Loyola begin with what he calls the “Principle and Foundation.” It reads:

God created human beings to praise, reverence, and serve God, and by doing this, to save their souls.

God created all other things on the face of the earth to help fulfill this purpose.

From this it follows that we are to use the things of this world only to the extent that they help us to this end, and we ought to rid ourselves of the things of this world to the extent that they get in the way of this end.

For this it is necessary to make ourselves indifferent to all created things as much as we are able, so that we do not necessarily want health rather than sickness, riches rather than poverty, honor rather than dishonor, a long rather than a short life, and so in all the rest, so that we ultimately desire and choose only what is most conducive for us to the end for which God created us.

Ignatius' words sound confusing, jarring, objectionable and even a little crazy. Questions immediately arise: What does he mean one shouldn't prefer a long life to a short life? No preference for riches rather than poverty? Indifference to health or sickness? To be

honest, St. Ignatius sounds as if he sees no value in the world or in one's life. The “Principle and Foundation” expresses, however, not a cold disembodied indifference but a faith marked by an inflamed and enveloping love.

Our worship of and obedience to God is due God because God is God and we are not. As we hear in the Book of Job – “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?” or “Who shut in the sea with doors when it burst from the womb?” As creatures we are limited and so it is fitting that we obey God since he is Creator and unlimited.

But our following and service of the Lord encompasses this motive plus another centred more in our hearts. Saint Paul writes, “he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.” The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ breathes life to one's “inflamed and enveloping love.” To offer the entirety of one's self to God, to be driven by an unrestrained love as we hear in the “Principle and Foundation” is not to say “No” to life or the world. Rather, it is an uncompromising “Yes” to a love that has rescued us from death. A “Yes” to life in abundance. A “Yes” to our Lord whose whole earthly and divine life is an eternal “Yes” to every single one of you. “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new Creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new.”

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

# Faith Formation Corner

**Saint of the Week:**  
**St. Irenaeus**  
**Feast Day: June 28**

*“The glory of God is a human being fully alive.”*

When was the last time you felt fully alive? Some words and ideas are so powerful that they can change you even as you read them. This quote, attributed to St. Irenaeus, is one of them.

Born around the year 125 in Smyrna in Asia Minor, as a young man he became a disciple of Polycarp, who had, himself, been a student of St. John the Evangelist. He would travel to Rome and eventually to Lyons where he would become bishop after the martyrdom of the previous bishop. He would die around the year 200, most likely as a martyr, though the exact details are lost.

As bishop, he was especially concerned with heresies that were prevalent in the second century, and his theological work *Adversus Haereses* (Against the Heresies) is considered a masterpiece and one of the most impressive expressions of Christian doctrine in the history of the Church.

Bishop Robert Barron has argued that the genius idea found in Irenaeus’ theology is that God has no need of anything outside himself. And because God does not need the world, “he makes the world in a sheerly generous act of love.” This overflowing generosity is described in the Book of Genesis, finding its summit in creation of the human being, who is “loved into existence, as all things are, but invited to participate even more fully in God’s perfection by loving his creator in return.”

It is from this point that Bishop Barron takes up the quote from Irenaeus: *“The glory of God is a human being fully alive.”* And asks us, “Do you see how this is precisely correlative to the assertion that God needs nothing? The glory of the pagan gods and goddesses was not a human being fully alive, but rather a human being in submission, a human being doing what he’s been commanded to do. But the true God doesn’t play such manipulative games. He finds his joy in willing, in the fullest measure, our good.”

“One of the most beautiful and intriguing of Irenaeus’ ideas is that God functions as a sort of benevolent teacher, gradually educating the human race in the ways of love. He imagined Adam and Eve, not so much as adults endowed with every spiritual and intellectual perfection, but more as children or teenagers, inevitably awkward in their expression of freedom. The long history of salvation is, therefore, God’s patient attempt to train his human creatures to be his friends. All of the covenants, laws, commandments, and rituals of both ancient Israel and the church should be seen in this light: not arbitrary impositions, but the structure that the Father God gives to order his children toward full flourishing.”

What a beautiful image of God – who takes a joyful and loving interest in the lives of his children – patiently guiding and nurturing them into the fullness for which we have been created. Irenaeus’ words are a beautiful invitation. He is inviting us to live life to the fullest from the purpose we have been created for – to love. His words echo the words of Jesus in the Gospel of John: “I have come so that you may have life and have it to the fullest.” (10.10).

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**Did you miss Fr. John’s Bonus Presentation  
 on the  
 Prayers of St. Ignatius and the Early Jesuits?**

*Catch it on Youtube!*

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1XL0IsRtYw&t=119s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1XL0IsRtYw&t=119s)

*Don’t forget to like and subscribe!*

**Divine Mercy Parish on YouTube**

Our livestream has moved to YouTube! Every Sunday we livestream our 11 am Mass every week. This has become an important outreach to those who are unable to join us in person due to illness or being homebound. As we develop our channel, we hope to create and upload more inspiring and engaging content. If you would like to visit our channel, go to: [www.youtube.com/@divinemeracy15565](http://www.youtube.com/@divinemeracy15565) This Sunday’s link: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SMtnfUF9yA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SMtnfUF9yA)

# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

## Afternoon Tea and Treats

Come join us to celebrate Canada Day, **July 1<sup>st</sup> 3-4:30pm at the St. Francis Annex** for an Afternoon Tea. Meet old friends and new and enjoy some delicious goodies! All are Welcome!

## Save the Date:

**Parish BBQ – Saturday, September 21 12noon to 3pm.** Watch for upcoming bulletins for more information.

## Offertory Collection Week of June 16

Offertory	\$	5,294.00
Easter Offering	\$	10.00
Parish Maintenance	\$	30.00
Food Bank	\$	90.00
Cemetery Collection	\$	90.00
Papal Charities	\$	30.00

*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!*

## Knights of Columbus Grand in Your Hand!

Tickets for the KoC Grand in Your Hand raffle are on sale before the weekend Masses in the foyer. The winner will receive \$1,000. Only 200 tickets to be sold. The Draw date is June 29, 2024. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Catholic Cemeteries Mass

The annual Cemetery Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Cemetery, Outer Cove will take place on **July 24 at 7pm**. If the weather is inclement, the Mass will take place in the church.

## Other Cemetery Services in St. John include:

Gate of Heaven Cemetery – Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
 Kilbride Cemetery – Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm  
 Mt. Carmel Cemetery – Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
 Belvedere Cemetery – Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
 Holy Sepulchre Cemetery – Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm

## Knights of Columbus Meeting:

The 4<sup>th</sup> Degree of the K of C will hold its monthly meeting on Monday 24 June in the foyer of St. Paul's at 7 pm. The evening begins with the Rosary, followed by Guest Speaker, Gerald Butt, Master of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree on his tenure as Master over the past 4 years. All Knights and parishioners are invited to attend. Business Meeting for members only to follow. Agenda to include Installation of Officers, activity plan for July 1<sup>st</sup> and State Remembrance of repatriated Unknown Soldier.

On Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, Fr. John Costello will celebrate 25 years of ordination as a priest of the Archdiocese of St. John's. A Mass of thanksgiving will be held at the Cathedral Basilica at 7:00 pm immediately followed by a reception at the Basilica. All are welcome to attend.

## Official Notification of the Amalgamation of St. Patrick's Parish, St. John's with St. John the Baptist Parish, St. John's

On June 12, 2024, Archbishop Hundt met with members of St. Patrick's Parish to discuss the future of St. Patrick's Parish and its possible amalgamation with St. John the Baptist Parish. At meetings of the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council, the Archbishop also consulted the Council on this matter. At these meetings, the following reasons for such an amalgamation were presented:

- the number of active parishioners in St. Patrick's Parish has decreased in recent years to the point where the total regular attendance for the three weekend Masses is less than 600 people in a church having a seating capacity of 900;
- a marked decrease in the number of parish baptisms and weddings, decreasing from 116 baptisms and 34 weddings in 2009 to 34 baptisms and 15 weddings in 2019;
- that the declining number of practicing parishioners, and the rising operating and capital costs of maintaining both the large and aging parish church building and the large and aging rectory makes it increasingly difficult for St. Patrick's Parish to operate as an independent, stand-alone, Catholic Community.

Having consulted the Presbyteral Council and the Members of the Faithful of St. Patrick's Parish, the Archbishop issued a decree amalgamating St. Patrick's Parish in St. John's with St. John the Baptist Parish in St. John's on June 17, 2024. A copy of the decree is available on request via post at 200 Military Road, St. John's A1C 2E8 and via email at: [archdiocese@rcsj.org](mailto:archdiocese@rcsj.org)