



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions **Week of September 15**

Mon Sep 16	Marilyn Lawlor & Deceased Family + Gary & Chris Murphy + Special Intention (DF)
Tues Sep 17	Mary & William White + Mary & Denis Daley + Joseph & Anna Dobbin +
Wed Sep 18	Joseph D'sa + Remeza D'sa + Special Intention (TD)
Thurs Sep 19	James March + Cyrus & Madeline Hawco + Geraldine & Wilf Doyle
Fri Sept 20:	Deceased of Burke & Lawlor Families + Special Intention (TD) Special Intention (DW)

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:

Donna Marie Pyne, John Wight, Esther Costello & Don Heale

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@divinemergynl.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.divinemergynl.com/ email: info@divinemergynl.com Join our Flocknote by texting 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.

[Facebook.com/divinemergyparishnl](https://www.facebook.com/divinemergyparishnl)

Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Pastor Email: john@ekon.ca Telephone 416-417-1513

Pastor's Note

Just before the pandemic, Pope Francis instructed Catholics to give something to a person who is begging, perhaps on the street. These are challenging words from our Holy Father. We may sometimes wonder whether or not such a person would use the money to help themselves or maybe for self-harm. The Pope, however, is clear, we must give or do something. It may be money, it could be a nod of the head or a greeting which acknowledges the person, a brief conversation, food, a silent prayer that God may watch-over the person or any other form help. But we do have to do something – it's a requirement of our faith.

Saint James, in this week's Second Reading, writes starkly, "So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." Direct and to the point, with no room for compromise. Our Christian faith is not a lifeless set of beliefs to which we give our assent. Rather, it is alive and incarnational. Since God in Jesus Christ has assumed human flesh, our faith is to be similarly expressed through human life. One cannot claim to be a Christian if one does not follow God's law and teaching, the moral vision the Father has revealed most clearly for us in the life, Passion and Resurrection of Christ. Our faith is alive which means that it will affect us. Faith in Jesus Christ redeems and transforms our hearts. It involves the gradual acceptance and integration of his heart and life as our own. Did the Lord ever pretend not to see the poor, the sick or

those in need? Therefore, we are to live like him. Not, however, through mere imitation. But additionally, through transformation – that his life will become our life. The "Prayer for Generosity" attributed to Saint Ignatius of Loyola expresses this well:

Dear Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, save that of knowing that I do your will. Amen

I remember in my first year in the Jesuits. I was in the Novitiate in Minnesota. It was January and the temperature was in the low -40s. The Novices were making the long retreat. The building had an old furnace and was definitely on its last legs. I found out months later from our Novice Master that on the coldest night, the night the dying furnace would have to work the hardest, the oldest member of the Community and staff member, Br. John Masterson, probably in his mid-seventies, sat all night by the furnace with a wrench in his hand so that the young men could sleep soundly and warmly. Br. John was Christian faith in action. Let us do the same.

God bless and take care,
Fr. John

We love having you as part of our flock

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How to subscribe:

- Text 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.
- or connect with us online at divinemercurparish12.flocknote.com
- If at any time you need assistance, or would like a little more info, please contact Anna by email: faith.divinemercurnl@gmail.com

Faith Formation Corner

The Devotion to the Sorrows of Mary

Our liturgical Calendar gives shape and meaning to the year, allowing us an opportunity to orient ourselves more towards God and grow closer to the Lord. Since the 16th century, the Church has assigned special devotions to each month of the year. September is dedicated to the Seven Sorrows of Mary.

This weekend, the Church marks two important feasts in the Church: The Exaltation of the Cross, followed by the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. As is often said, Mary points continually to her Son and this is certainly true of this devotion. They are all found in the Gospels and help us recall Mary's role in salvation history. The primary biblical references are found in Luke 2:35, Simeon's prediction about a sword piercing Mary's soul, and John 19:26-27, which recalls Jesus' words from the Cross to Mary and the beloved disciple. Many early Church writers interpreted the sword as Mary's sorrows, especially as she saw Jesus die on the cross. Thus, the two passages are brought together as prediction and fulfillment. Saint Ambrose in particular sees Mary as a sorrowful yet powerful figure at the cross. Mary stood fearlessly at the cross while others fled. Mary looked on her Son's wounds with pity, but saw in them the salvation of the world. As Jesus hung on the cross, Mary did not fear to be killed, but out of love for her Son, and in unflinching obedience to the Father, became a primary witness to the outpouring of God's mercy in Jesus Christ.

Here are the seven sorrows and their Gospel references:

1. The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:22-35)
2. The Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-21)
3. The Loss of Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41-50)
4. The Carrying of the Cross (Mark 15:13-22)
5. The Crucifixion of Jesus (John 19:18-30)
6. Jesus is taken down from the Cross (John 19:39-40)
7. Jesus is Laid in the Tomb (John 19:39-41)

The Seven Sorrows of Mary are important for us to know and pray. Praying with the Seven Sorrows can be as simple as choosing one of the Gospel passages and spending time in quiet reflection on the gift of salvation that God has given us through Jesus, and Mary's cooperation in, and witness to God's mercy and redemption.

The desire for God is written in the human heart because we have been created by God and for God.

Are You Someone or Do You Know Someone who...

- *Is seeking a relationship with Jesus Christ?*
- *Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic or knowing more about the Catholic Church?*
- *Was baptized as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion?*
- *Has been baptized in another faith and would like to inquire about the Catholic faith?*

Divine Mercy Parish is offering an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare adults to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. You are invited to participate in the process with your questions, your insights, and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For more information, please contact us through the Parish Office at 709-726-9924 or email us at faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com

Calling Parents of Children of Sacramental Age!

If you have a child or children 7 years of age or more, you are invited to register them for our sacramental preparation programs for Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Our program for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin in October, after Thanksgiving. Our Confirmation Program will begin in mid-January and our First Holy Communion Program will begin in March 2025. You can get registration form by calling the parish office or emailing the Parish Faith Formation Office at faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com or by picking one up from the Welcome Kiosk today. If you have any questions about the requirements or specifics of what is involved in the preparation for the sacraments, please do not hesitate to be in contact with us.

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Divine Mercy Parish BBQ



**Saturday, September 21
12pm to 3pm**

**On the Grounds of St. Francis of Assisi
49 Outer Cove Rd.**

Everyone is invited to attend, and we would love for you to join us for our Parish BBQ. There are lots of fun and games planned. A perfect time to see old friends and make new ones.

Donations of cookies or sweets are greatly appreciated. These can be dropped off at St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday morning, September 21st.

Hope to see you there!

Offertory Collection Week of September 8

Offertory	\$ 4,874.00
Dues	\$ 3,030.00
Food Bank	\$ 180.00
Needs of the Cdn Church	\$ 15.00
Students for the Priesthood	\$ 10.00

*E-transfers can be made through 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!*

August's Grand in Your Hand Winner:

Charles Decker is the winner of August's Knight's of Columbus 'Grand in Your Hand' Raffle. Ticket No. 00158 Congratulations!

Adjustment to our Adoration Schedule:

Our regular Adoration schedule at our St. Francis site will be briefly interrupted in October. Adoration has been cancelled for October 9, 10 16 & 17. It will resume the following Wednesday, October 23rd. The Schedule at our St. Paul's will remain in place on Tuesdays at 2pm.

Divine Mercy Catholic Women's League

Important **CWL** Events in September (at our Newfoundland Drive Site):

September 16, 6:30pm: Parish Church - General Meeting and Reception of New Members

September 28-29: Bake and Craft Sale before and after all Masses in the Church Lobby. Your support will be very much appreciated.

A Prayer for Our Earth (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*)

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out on us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.

Year of Prayer in Preparation for the 2025 Jubilee

The CCCB *Ad hoc* Committee for the Preparation for the Jubilee 2025 is hosting a two-part webinar titled, "A Great Symphony of Prayer" as one meaningful way to participate in the Year of Prayer which was announced by Pope Francis on 21 January 2024. More information and a link for registration to the October four part series entitled "A Great Symphony of Prayer: Mary, the Saints and Scripture" can be found on our Archdiocesan website: www.rcsj.org