



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions **Week of September 22**

Mon Sep 23	Gerald & Lucy Stamp + Linda Harding + John & Richard Roche +
Tues Sep 24	Special Intention (JH) John & Christine Molloy + John & Elsie Roche +
Wed Sep 25	Cyril, Frank & Helen Miller + Francis & Neary Family + Mary & Lawrence Ducey +
Thurs Sep 26	Special Intention (EF) Eugene Coady & Family + Special Intention (AS)
Fri Sept 27:	Maureen Doyle + Michael Hickey + Bobbie Kennedy-Gillespie +

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:
Doris Lastimado

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

One of my favorite prayers in “*O Deus Ego Amo Te*” by Saint Francis Xavier. Francis prays and tells God why he loves him. It isn’t because God can reward him with the joys of heaven, nor save him from the fires of Hell. Rather, it is because God has loved him first. I imagine the tumultuous experiences Francis had in going to Asia to proclaim the Gospel. The ocean storms ridden out on rickety sailing vessels. Having to speak but not knowing the language. Visiting places while unsure of what type of reception he may receive. Being immersed in cultures so different from his own. And yet he continued to be on the move – to India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia and Japan. He died off the coast of China while trying to find some way to enter. His heart was on fire and he sought to ignite the world with the love of Jesus Christ. But within this incredible life of constant movement, Francis retained an undisturbed peace in his heart. What was this peace, this interior knowledge? Francis loved God because he knew with every fibre of his being that God had loved him first. Sometimes, if you’re at all like me, we can forget this foundational offer and gift of our faith, that is, while being imperfect, while giving God the cold shoulder, while looking to fill the hole within our hearts with perishable things, while making oneself the most

important concern in all the world, God is eternally loving us, he loves us first.

Saint James writes about what happens when we forget this foundational offer and gift of our faith in Christ. We put ourselves first and things begin to fall apart. We may debate and dispute until another agrees with our view. We may want something and strive to get it no matter the harmful wake it leaves in our hearts and in the lives of those we love the most. We may covet and become jealous of the success of a colleague, schoolmate, friend or team member, and so we drop a few disparaging hints that they may not be all that their cracked up to be. We often try to elevate ourselves, to make ourselves into someone we think the world will love and maybe even into someone we ourselves will love. I consider this mindset tragic, even though I am tempted by it all the time – the exhausting effort to make oneself loveable even though God has already made each of us the apple of his eye. Maybe our memory isn’t perfect or as exacting as it once was. But there is one thing we must absolutely never forget – that he has loved us first.

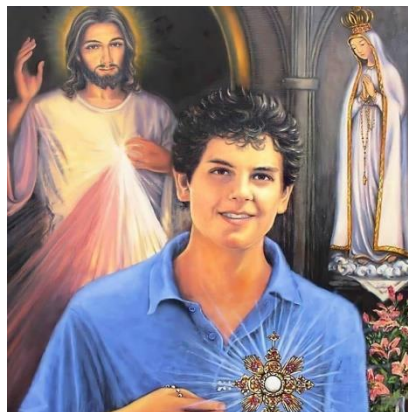
God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Blessed Carlo Acutis Relic Tour St. John's NL October 24-30

The first class relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis will be in the Archdiocese from October 23-30. On October 30 the relic will visit Divine Mercy Parish (Newfoundland Dr. site). Join us as we welcome the relic of the first millennial to be beatified.

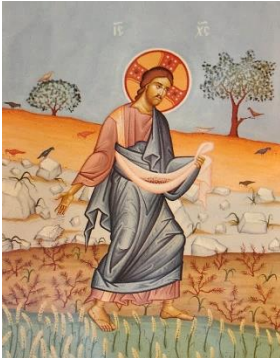
Wednesday, October 30
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
6:30pm
Celebration of the Mass
7pm
Reception to follow.



Blessed Carlo Acutis, born in 1991 is the first millennial to be beatified. Carlo was born in London England but raised in Milan Italy. Although his parents were not especially devout, Carlo developed a love for the Rosary and the Mass from a young age. His witness of faith led to his mother’s conversion. He is known for his great devotion to the Holy Eucharist. He loved to play sports and video games. As a young computer programmer, he built a website promoting Eucharistic miracles. He is considered the first “cyber-apostle.” He died on October 12, 2006 at the age of 15 of a galloping leukemia.

Faith Formation Corner

To See, To Love, To Serve



How do I make or keep Christ at the centre of my life? As Christians, our love for the Lord, and truly in response for all that he has done for us, we can find ourselves longing to know Christ more and striving to follow him. We want to be firmly rooted and living steadfast out of his love for us.

St. Ignatius of Loyola, in the *Spiritual Exercises* prayed for the grace “to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly.” With clear and precise insight, St. Ignatius understood that to grow in holiness and be a disciple of Christ, one had to devote the whole of the self – the mind heart and will. When we work to deepen our understanding of who Christ is, when we commit ourselves to prayer and when we give of ourselves through service to others, we are responding in love to the One who has loved us first.

We know that growth in holiness takes a lifetime. And, at Divine Mercy Parish we want to be intentional about these three elements of this Christian dynamic: coming to know Christ, coming to love Christ and coming to serve as Christ. This is a vision of the Christian life that helps us become a disciple of Christ or to grow in our discipleship of Christ.

In the coming weeks, the Parish will present different offerings and opportunities available this Fall under the three categories of **To See, To Love, To Serve**. You will be invited to choose from something from each category. These will include Faith Formation offerings (both in person and on Flocknote); Prayer opportunities (in the church and at home) and Service opportunities in church ministries and in our families, work and community.

We know that people are busy and that many of us are already committed to these three elements of the Christian dynamic. Our intention is not to add to the pile of “must do’s.” It is rather, to encourage and support everyone in their faith and to grow in our response to the Lord as a parish community.

Watch for more details in the coming weeks!

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

- *Is seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ?*
- *Is interested in becoming a Catholic*
- *Maybe baptised, but have not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion?*
- *Maybe have been baptised in another faith and would like to inquire about the Catholic faith?*

Divine Mercy Parish is offering the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) for those wanting to join the Church or learn more about the Catholic faith to come together in a small group to explore the gift of 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. Through the RCIA you journey through an engaging and enriching experience designed to help you come closer to God, and the Church. For more information, please contact us through the Parish Office at 709-726-9924 or email us at faith.divinercynl@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.divinercynl@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

Welcome, Fr. Joe Mroz!

Last weekend at all of the Masses, it was announced that Fr. Joe Mroz, S.J. has joined the Pastoral Team here at Divine Mercy Parish. Along with his work in the Parish, Fr. Joe will continue his chaplaincy work at the University as well as his work in hospital chaplaincy. Welcome Fr. Joe!

Novena to St. Thérèse of Lisieux

*“Let us not grow tired of prayer.
Confidence works miracles.”
~ St. Thérèse of Lisieux*



October 1 is the Feast of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Affectionately known as the “Little Flower,” St. Thérèse was named a Doctor of the Church because of the powerful influence of her spirituality, known as the “little Way,” which is about being both small and doing the smallest actions with great love for God and for the world. As we near the Feast of this beautiful saint, we offer this novena as a prayer of love and gratitude to God, with a desire to deepen our love for Christ through the actions of our everyday lives.

Offertory Collection Week of September 15

Offertory	\$ 5,564.00
Dues	\$ 2,040.00
Food Bank	\$ 40.00
Students for the Priesthood	\$ 15.00

*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!*

Knights of Columbus

The E P Roche Assembly 4th Degree of the K of C will hold its monthly meeting Monday September 30 in the foyer of St. Paul's at 7 pm. The evening begins with the Rosary and our Guest Speaker, Ms. Linda Holden, the Director of the Center for Life. All Knights and parishioners are welcome to attend. Our Business Meeting follows for members only.

The Knights would like to thank everyone who responded to their recent membership drive. If you are still considering membership, you are most welcome to speak with one of the Knights after Masses on the weekend or at the meeting on September 30.

Divine Mercy Catholic Women's League

Your support will be greatly appreciated for Bake and Craft Sale in the Church Lobby before and after all Masses on the weekend of September 28 and 29. Please bring your own bags for purchases and we can only accept cash or cheque.

Collection for the Needs of the Church in

Canada: Supporting Bishops in Their Pastoral Mission Across the Country. The Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will take place on 28-29 September 2024. We thank you in advance for your generosity and continued commitment.

For each day of the Novena:

1. *Begin with the Sign of the Cross*
2. *Novena Prayer:*

Dearest Saint Thérèse, honored by the Church as saint of the “Little Way,” teach me how to transform the every day doings of my day into acts of love for Jesus. I come to you to ask your help, (State your intention clearly and confidently)

You surrendered yourself in loving trust to Jesus. Teach me how to live a life of trust in the mercy of God. You said that you desired to spend your time in heaven by doing good on earth. Please help me by joining your prayers to mine, Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, pray for me.

3. *Quietly Reflect on Selected Scripture and Words from St. Therese – see particular day*
4. *Prayer to St Thérèse – see particular day*
5. *Pray a Glory Be and close with the sign of the Cross*

You will find the scripture passages, along with quotes from St. Therese and prayers for each day of the novena on the following page.

Novena to St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Day One – The “Little Flower”

Scripture:

Consider the lilies of the Field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you. (Luke 12:27-28)

From St. Thérèse:

“I understood that every flower created by him is beautiful, that the brilliance of the rose and the whiteness of the lily do not lessen the perfume of the violet or the sweet simplicity of the daisy. I understood that if all the lowly flowers wished to be roses, nature would no longer be enamelled with lovely hues. And so it is in the world of our souls, our Lord’s living Garden.”

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, I want to love our God the way you do, and help others also love God, as I work for the good of all people wherever they may be. Our Lord Jesus has prepared a place for us in His Kingdom. Help me to be worthy to stand in his presence. Amen.

Day Two – Vocation to Love

Scripture:

‘I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.’ (Hosea 6:6)

From St. Thérèse:

“At last I have found my true vocation: It is love!”

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, may I, like you, always be alive with Christ’s love. O Jesus, Word spoken by God and made Flesh, know that I love you. Loving you, I am drawn into Divine love itself. May you dwell forever in my heart. Amen.

Day Three – Quenching Christ’s Thirst

Scripture:

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” (John 19:28)

From St. Thérèse:

“Thou dwellest a prisoner for me night and day;

And every hour I hear thy voice implore:

“I thirst—I thirst—I thirst—for love always!”

I, too, Thy prisoner am I;

I, too, cry ever unto Thee Thine own divine and tender cry:

“I thirst! Oh, let me die of love for Thee!”

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, you wanted to be captured by the Blessed Trinity. Help us answer the Father’s call by welcoming the Son to live in our hearts and gathering in the communion of the Holy Spirit. May we be joined to all humankind, for our gracious Lord desires to quench the thirst of every person, each created in the image of the one God. Amen.

Day Four – The Little Way

Scripture:

Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” (Matthew 19:14)

From St. Thérèse:

For me to become greater is impossible; I must put up with myself just as I am with all my imperfections. But I wish to find the way to go to Heaven by a very straight, short, completely new little way. ... I would like to find an elevator to lift me up to Jesus, for I am too little to climb the rough stairway of perfection... The elevator which must raise me to the heavens is Your arms, O Jesus! For that I do not need to grow; on the contrary, I must necessarily remain small, become smaller. O my God, You have surpassed what I expected, and I want to sing Your mercies.’

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, you showed Christ’s gentleness in your face as you walked your little way to holiness. Lead us from anger, hatred, and fear for we are weak and fragile because our freedom is so often chained by sin. But look at what we strive to do with love and pray to Jesus that we may live in peace with the God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Day Five – A Life Totally for Others

Scripture:

Jesus said: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

Day Eight – Complete Confidence in God’s Mercy

From St. Thérèse:

“I know now that true charity consists in bearing all our neighbours’ defects—not being surprised at their weakness, but edified at their smallest virtues.”

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, like you, I long to see the face of Jesus with my own eyes. I want nothing more than to gaze at him forever, to live like him and to love like him. Please ask our Lord to leave on me the imprint of his hand so that I may have a heart full of compassion. Then I will be complete and through me, others might be led to him. Amen.

Day Six – A Force of Love in the Church

Scripture:

Now faith, hope and love abide; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)

From St. Thérèse:

My vocation is love, in the heart of the Church, my Mother, I will be love, and then I will be all things.

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, you let yourself be consumed by the holy fire of love. Make us ready to welcome the same Holy Spirit in the simple events of daily life. Let the flames of goodness heal our hearts, so that our thirst for God may grow within us. May we become the Church by living the gospel while on our earthly journey with the divine Trinity. Amen

Day Seven – Perseverance in Suffering

Scripture:

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. (Romans 12:12)

From St. Thérèse:

The morrow of this day will be eternity; then Jesus will return you a hundred-fold the lovely, rightful joys that you are sacrificing for him.

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, in your innocence, you wanted everything God has to offer; in your wisdom, you relied on God’s goodness and strength. Help us to trust God in our struggles, and to realize that our sufferings can be transformed in union with Christ’s, for the good of the world. Amen

Scripture: But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved. (Ephesians 2:4-5)

From St. Thérèse:

“It is not because I have been preserved from mortal sin that I lift up my heart to God in trust and love. I feel that even had I on my conscience every crime one could commit, I should lose nothing of my confidence: my heart broken with sorrow, I would throw myself into the Arms of my Saviour. I know that He loves the Prodigal Son, I have heard His words to St. Mary Magdalen, to the woman taken in adultery, and to the woman of Samaria. No one could frighten me, for I know what to believe concerning His Mercy and His Love. And I know that all that multitude of sins would disappear in an instant, even as a drop of water cast into a flaming furnace.”

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, you walked in trust toward God as a child who knew that she was loved. Inspire us, for alone in our emptiness what can we do? We can never receive, return or repay all of God’s love for us. Help us to accept our own fragile selves so that our hearts will be filled beyond measure with the mercy that flows from God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Day Nine – Doing Good on Earth from Heaven

Scripture:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 1:3)

From St. Thérèse:

“Upon my death I will let fall a shower of roses; I wish to spend my heaven in doing good upon the earth.”

Prayer:

Little Flower of Jesus, you spend your time in heaven loving us in God’s love. You often wrote of the Father’s mercy, asking us to recognize the beauty of the Son, and to live and smile with the life in the Holy Spirit. Take us by the hand, lead us to our eternal home, as an Easter people gathered in joy, joined with Mary and the angels and saints forever. Amen.