



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention Week of March 2

Monday, March 3

9:30am Julia McCormick +
Pauline Chafe +
Jim & Sadie Burke +
7pm Special Intention (J&M)
Special Intention (Madeja Family)
Special Intention (KH)

Tuesday, March 4

9:30am Deceased Members of Walsh Family +
Special Intention (WF)
Anna Mondelli +

Wednesday, March 5: Ash Wednesday

9:30am Jack Janes +
Mary Fahey +
Tom Cooper & Family +
7pm John T. Walsh +
Ann Kenny +
Sadie Comerford+

Thursday, March 6

9:30am Gerald Leahy +
Special Intention (MC)
Souls in Purgatory

Friday, March 7

9:30am Frank & Constance Costigan +
Phyllis Mackey +
Dennis Mackey +
7pm Harold Downey +
Jane Power +
Elizabeth Stanley +

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:
Myles Rumsey +

Parish Schedule:

Sunday Mass:

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am

Our 11:00am Mass is
livestreamed on our
Youtube channel:
[www.youtube.com/@
divinemeracy15565](http://www.youtube.com/@divinemeracy15565)

Daily Mass:

Monday to Friday 9:30am

Monday, Wednesday &
Friday 7pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Mondays, Wednesdays,
Fridays: 8:30 to 9:15 am;
Saturdays 3-3:45pm

By appointment:

Call 709-726-9924 or email
info@divinemeracynl.com

ExpositAnnion of the Blessed Sacrament:

Adoration and Benediction
every Tuesday, 2:00 pm

Sacrament of the Sick &

Home Visits: Know
someone in hospital or
who is homebound?
Arrange a visit: call 709-
726-9924

Contact Information:

Divine Mercy Parish, 340A
Newfoundland Drive, St. John's,
NL A1A 3R9
tel. 709-726-9924 email:
info@divinemeracynl.com
www.divinemeracynl.com/

Parish Office Hours:

Mon to Thurs: 8:30am -4:00pm and
Fri 8:30 am-12pm

Join our Flocknote by texting
01556 to 514-900-0130 and
follow the prompts to enter your
email address and preferences.

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

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

Associate Pastor:
Fr. Joe Mroz, S.J.
email: ej_mroz@yahoo.ca

Inquiries for Sacrament Preparation and Faith

Formation: email:
faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com

Pastor's Note

When I worked at Camp Ekon, one of my tasks that I loved to do was to cut the grass. I liked it because it was nice to be outside rather than the camp office. Also, there was great sense of accomplishment when I began the job, could see my progress and, finally, to have completed it. Some of the most important things in our lives, however, do not have such definite beginnings and endings. This may result in our consistently lacking a sense of achievement or fulfillment. It may give us an unfreedom – a feeling that we just need more time, a feeling that never goes away. Most significantly, it may lead us to anxiety and fear, especially, with those we love the most, like family members. We may worry that when the time comes for us to let go of our loved ones, to let them “stand on their own two feet,” they won’t be ready, meaning they won’t be able. God, however, exists, and God is the principal labourer in our lives. Labouring or working with God, we are co-creators, as Saint John Paul II taught, while God is always Creator. As Saint Paul wrote, “my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.”

Saint Oscar Romero, the martyred Archbishop of San Salvador, once wrote,

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future that is not our own.

Ash Wednesday: March 5 Lent Begins

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5, 2025. This is a time when we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter, the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule March 5, 2025

9:30 am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm

Ashes will be distributed at all of our Masses

We can take a deep breath because everything does not ultimately depend on us. Our faith is not merely lived based on God’s existence but is deepened by the revelation of God in Jesus Christ. Through Christ we are shown the face of the “invisible God.” We are shown that God is not passively sitting on his heavenly throne while we struggle and suffer. On the contrary, God involves himself in our lives to an eternal depth, that is, to a degree we cannot imagine. God is closer to each of us than we are to ourselves. If it ever feels that things in this world will never be finished – that there will be peace, that human dignity will be respected, that the entirety of life will be held as sacred, that justice will reign, that our loved ones will in the end be ok if we dare to let them go, we remember that we are co-creators while God is Creator. We make our important contribution, and God will bring it to completion and do so perfectly according to his will. And so, we seek to trust in him even more. “The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grown like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.”

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

Fasting & Abstinence

As Catholics we are aware of the practices of fasting and of abstinence. Fasting is about how much or how little food we take in over a period of time. Abstinence has to do with the kinds of foods we deny ourselves. Fasting for religious purposes is a practice of self-discipline, with a long tradition in the Church. It is an aid to concentration in prayer and helps develop a sensitivity to those in need. As a Church abstinence calls us (14 years or older) to refrain from the eating of meat. Fasting allows 1 full meal a day but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and the evening. Eating between meals is prohibited. Fasting applies to those between the ages of 18 – 59 (those with medical conditions are exempt). In Canada Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the required days of fasting and abstinence.

Faith Formation Corner

To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

Lenten Events & Prayer Opportunities at Divine Mercy Parish

Novena of Grace March 4 to 12

*On Flocknote, as well as hardcopies available from the
Welcome kiosk in the foyer.*

This powerful novena is nine days of prayer in the company of St. Francis Xavier through the letters he wrote. Our Novena will include three short talks by Fr. John on the 3rd, 6th and 9th days. The talks will be taped and made available on our Flocknote. Sign up through Flocknote:

<https://divinemercuryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/186766>

Lectio Divina Through Lent

Lectio divina (“divine, or sacred reading”) is a method of attentively and prayerfully reading the Word of God. Enter the beauty and depth God’s Word through prayer each Sunday through Lent. Available Sundays Flocknote:

<https://divinemercuryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/186600>

Revised Notice:

Divine Mercy Parish Lenten Mission March 25-27 6 pm With Fr. John Sullivan, S.J.

Unfortunately, Fr. Scott Lewis who was set to talk at our Lenten Mission this year, had a bad fall and broke several ribs and his wrist. He will be unable to make the trip out to St. John’s. Please keep him in your prayers. We are disappointed and will look to have Fr. Scott with us at another time when he has mended.

Fr. John has stepped up to take his place. We have adjusted the dates and times for the Mission: Tuesday to Thursday, March 25 to 27 at 6pm in the Church. Watch for details on the theme of the Mission in upcoming bulletins. Be sure to **Save the dates!**

Word on Fire’s Pivotal Players Series on the Saints:

St. Benedict of Nursia: March 19

St. Thomas Aquinas: March 26

St. Francis of Assisi: April 2

The Series, from Word on Fire’s **Pivotal Players** will be made available through our Flocknote on Wednesdays beginning March 19. Register through Flocknote:
<https://divinemercuryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/202066>

Archbishop’s Jubilee Year Lenten Message

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

This coming week, with the celebration of Ash Wednesday, we begin the season of Lent. Lent is a special time for us, a time for recommitting ourselves to, “excelling in the work of the Lord”. There is a great deal of work to be done.

In this Jubilee Year, Pope Francis invites us as “Pilgrims of Hope” to do what we can to “Turn Debt into Hope” for the billions of people in our world who often lack the essentials of life. We are invited to participate in this “work of the Lord” both by giving to this year’s Share Lent campaign and by urging our country’s decision-makers to prioritize people and planet by providing debt justice for communities crushed by unjust and unpayable debts.

Ecologically, we are challenged as individuals and as a nation to live a lifestyle that is environmentally respectful and sustainable. Politically, we are called to recognize our rights and obligation to be informed of the concerns and issues facing our province and country and to be involved respectfully and proactively in discerning and supporting the leaders and policies that promote justice and peace in our country and around the world.

Locally and globally, we are reminded that we are “our brother’s keeper” and that we must be actively concerned and involved in assisting those brothers and sisters who are suffering because of warfare, persecution, oppression, poverty, homelessness, illness and/or abuse.

Traditionally we are invited in Lent to “excel in the works of the Lord” by our participation in the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer opens our mind to God’s presence and guidance. Fasting invites us into a “poverty of spirit” that opens our hearts to the deeper needs of ourselves and others. Almsgiving provides us with the opportunity to share ourselves and our goods and talents in ways that are a blessing to both the giver and the receiver.

In today’s Gospel passage, Jesus tells the disciples that “each tree is known by its own fruit” and that “no good tree bears bad fruit”. As we prepare to begin the Lent of this Jubilee Year, let us ask the Lord to inspire and guide us through prayer, fasting and almsgiving to excel in bearing good fruit, fruit that shows us to truly be “Pilgrims of Hope”, who excel in doing the works of the Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Peter Hundt

Archbishop of St. John’s

