



Divine Mercy



Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

5th Sunday of Lent: April 6, 2025

Mass Intention Week of April 6

Monday, April 7

9:30am Gerald & Lucy Stamp +
Linda Harding +
Dolly & Chi Dut Tham +
7pm Alice & Edward Quinn +
Gerald O'Toole +
Don Halleran +

Tuesday, April 8

9:30am Arthur J. George +
Richard Barnes +
Special Intention (VD)

Wednesday, April 9

9:30am Dolly & Chi Dut Tham +
Ronald & Agnes Furlong & Deceased Family +
John Power +
7pm Ann Kenny +
Ronald McCarthy +
Matilde Soto +

Thursday, April 10

9:30am Katherine Lynch +
Carol Harris +
Marina Redmond +

Friday, April 11

9:30am Ronald O'Brien +
Patrick Cleary +
Claude Ring +
7pm Jerome Conway +
Marel Penney +
Margaret Kearney +

*Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:
Rita Wilkinson*

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/@divinemercury15565

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: email info@divinemercury.nl.com

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Adoration and Benediction every Tuesday, 2:00 pm.

Contact Information:

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

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.divinemercury.nl@gmail.com

Pastor's Note

We may think that joy is an intense form of happiness. In truth, happiness and joy are not the same thing. Happiness is more of a fleeting feeling; it is a jolt of high emotion. Joy, however, is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. It is an abiding peace derived from life lived in accordance with God's love. Joy comes from an interior knowledge, a knowledge of the heart, that has unlocked the deepest mystery of God – God is love and is loving. In times of trouble, uncertainty or insecurity, it would be safe to say that one would likely not “feel” happy. Yet, given that same description, one could retain joy in the most difficult and suffering of times. Think of Jesus dying on the Cross – not an image of happiness for sure, but it is one of joy. The crucified Lord, in fact, experiences the profoundest joy. He has obeyed the Father and loves unrestrainedly. In our Second Reading for this week's Mass, we can hear the joy through Saint Paul's words.

In our passage from Philippians, St. Paul expresses words filled with Christian joy. He writes, “I regard everything

as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus the Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish.” Paul continues, “I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death.” During these last days of Lent, we continue to prepare for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We are preparing this year to receive that which God wills and desires we have. He desires and wills that we receive the free gift of the love of the crucified and risen Lord. That we see and understand the abiding presence and love of God in each of our lives. As Christians, we certainly have days in which it is hard to be happy. But we can always be joyful because we are always eternally loved by the crucified and risen Lord. “The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy. . . we were like those who dream.”

God bless and take care,
Fr. John

Solidarity Sunday – April 6, 2025

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's Turn Debt into Hope campaign invites you to give generously and thanks you warmly for your generosity. Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world. “As we work together toward a better world, your support strengthens not only our efforts, but the shared hope that we can bring about lasting change through solidarity and love. Your generosity is a testament to the boundless compassion that unites us all as one human family. May we continue to walk together in faith and action, creating a brighter future for all.” — The Most Rev. Jorge Izaguirre, Bishop of Chosica. Help create hope for and fulfil the dreams of the communities we support in the Global South by giving to your Share Lent parish collection or online at devp.org/give. Thank you for your solidarity!

Offertory Collection Week of March 30

Offertory	\$5203.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 15.00
New Year's Day	\$ 20.00
Initial Offering	\$ 45.00
Flowers	\$ 115.00
Food Bank	\$2277.00
Dev & Peace	\$ 540.00

*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!*

To See



To Love



To Serve

The parish offers different opportunities throughout the year to grow in love and keep Christ at the center of our lives. To See, To Love, To Serve, encourages us all to keep the fire of discipleship growing through the deepening of our understanding, our prayer and our serving. Our Bulletin offers a four-week cycle exploring a different aspect of Catholic Faith through the lens of Seeing, Loving and Serving. This week, we look at the theme of God’s mercy through the lives of the saints.

It’s difficult to choose just one saint to reflect on divine mercy. We might consider saints that were shown great mercy in their lives, leading to conversion and a passion for Christ. We might look at saints who became teachers - even doctors of the Church who have helped us to understand the great mystery of God’s mercy. Or we may choose to reflect on the lives of saints who, through the grace of God, became examples and witnesses to His Mercy. One such saint, was a young and unassuming girl who lived a short but grace-filled life— Maria Goretti. One of the largest crowds ever to gather for the canonization of a saint – 250,000 – showed how the simple story of Maria Goretti touched millions of people.

Born on October 16, 1890, the daughter of poor tenant farmers, Maria did not have the chance to go to school and never learned to read and write. Like St. Bernadette before her when Maria was preparing for her First Communion, she struggled in her catechism and was older than most of the other children when she made her First Communion not long before her death.

On a hot afternoon in July, when she was not quite 12 years old, Maria was sitting at the top of the stairs of her house, mending a shirt. A cart stopped outside, and a neighbor, 18-year-old Alessandro, ran up the stairs. He seized her and pulled her into a bedroom. She struggled and tried to call for help. “No, God does not wish it,” she cried out. “It is a sin. You would go to hell for it.” Alessandro stabbed the young girl multiple times with a long dagger. Maria was taken to a hospital. Her last hours were marked by compassion for others—in particular for forgiveness of her murderer. Maria’s concern through all of this was not with her own salvation, but for the salvation of her attacker. She died about 24 hours after the attack.

Alessandro would be sentenced to 30 years in prison. One night he had a dream or vision of Maria gathering flowers and offering them to him. His life changed.

When he was released after 27 years, his first act was to beg the forgiveness of Maria’s mother. She forgave him, and they attended Mass together the next day, receiving Holy Communion side by side. Alessandro, reportedly prayed to Maria every day. He later became a lay brother of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin, living in a monastery and working as its receptionist and gardener.

Devotion to the young martyr grew, miracles were worked, and in less than half a century Maria Goretti was canonized. In 1950, at Maria’s canonization, a 66-year-old Alessandro Serenelli knelt among the quarter million people and cried tears of joy.

These three lives a living example of what Bishop Barron calls the rhythm of mercy. We can ask, how can such a young woman forgive such an assault, or a mother forgive the murderer of her child? The gift of mercy and forgiveness costs. Each of us knows this in our own lives and in the experience of trying to forgive those who hurt us. Can it be anything less than our own experience of God’s mercy in Jesus Christ that gives us the strength and courage to do so?

In Maria’s own words:

*He loves, He hopes, He waits.
Our Lord prefers to wait Himself for the sinner
for years rather than keep us waiting an instant.
~ St. Maria Goretti*

Holy Week at Divine Mercy Parish

The waving of palms and the reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday; the washing of the Feet, and procession of the Eucharist from the church on Holy Thursday; the Passion and Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday; the new fire, blessing of the water and return of the Alleluia at the Easter Vigil – the Services of Holy Week are the most beautiful and unique of the Church year. Here are a few practical details to help you plan for celebrating Holy Week at Divine Mercy.

- **Palm Sunday:** The Blessing of the Palms and the Reading of the Palm Gospel will take place in the foyer of the Church at the beginning of Mass.
- **Good Friday:** Anticipating larger than normal crowds, we have coordinated with the school to use the gym for overflow. The 3pm Service will be livestreamed into the gym for the congregation.
- **Livestream:** We will livestream all of the Masses and Services of our Easter Triduum and the 11 am Sunday Masses on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday from our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@divinemercury15565

Holy Week Schedule Bookmark

Be sure to pick up a copy of our Holy Week Schedule bookmark and share it with family and friends. The schedule has both Mass times and Confession Times.

Holy Week Confession Times:

When we go to Confession, the forgiveness that flows from God's mercy in our lives is celebrated, so that we experience the gift and power of the Lord's saving Grace. We come to the Sacrament with a sense of joy for what God has already done through Jesus Christ in our lives and what God continues to do – fill us with his mercy and love. Additional Confession times have been added through Holy Week:

Monday, April 14 8:30am – 9:15am

Tuesday, April 15 2pm to 3pm

Wednesday, April 16 8:30am – 9:15 am

Wednesday, April 16 6pm to 6:45pm

Saturday, April 20 4pm to 5pm

Stations of the Cross On Good Friday

There will be two opportunities for the Stations of the Cross in the church on Good Friday morning

9:30am: Stations of the Cross

Praying with the same reflections we have used each Friday evening through Lent (based on St. John Paul II's Good Friday Stations from the Jubilee 2000)

11am: Stations of the Cross for Children

Praying with a family friendly version. This will begin with a Stations of the Cross activity that children will be able to take home.

Altar of Repose Signup Sheet:

At the end of the Holy Thursday Mass the church is emptied of the Eucharist which is carried and placed in an Altar of Repose. Throughout the Easter Triduum, the Altar of Repose will be available for all who wish to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament. Let us all accompany Christ present in the Eucharist throughout this sacred time. Signup on the sheet in the foyer or contact us by calling 709-726-9924 or use the scan code and let us know when and for how long you will be present.



Scan me!

Novena to the Divine Mercy

The Novena to the Divine Mercy will begin on Good Friday. Would you like to receive it daily through Flocknote? Signup is easy. Just click the Flocknote link below. <https://divinemercury15565.flocknote.com/signup/186767>

2025 Chrism Mass:

The Mass of Chrism takes its name from the blessing of the Holy Oils used in the sacraments, which are blessed at this Mass and then given to the priests to take back to their parishes. The 2025 Chrism Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica-Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on **Tuesday April 8th at 7:00 p.m.** For those unable to attend, the Mass will be live streamed at www.thebasilica.net