



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's



To See



To Love



To Serve

Summer Edition

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time: August 24, 2025

Mass Intention Week of August 24

Monday, August 25

9:30am Clara Marie Jarvis +
Special Intention (KG)
Joseph Christopher +

7pm Carol Ann Turgate +
Fr. Clem Flaherty +
Special Intention (TD)

Tuesday, August 26

9:30am Charles & Carmelita Edwards +
John, Anne, John Jr. Neary +
Mary Ann Ryan +

Wednesday, August 27

9:30am John, Katie & George Pugh +
John O'Reily +
Rita O'Brien +

7pm Thomas Neary +
Anne Barton +
Angela Roche +

Thursday, August 28

9:30am Cecilia Hannon +
Elsie Evans Greene +
Christina Duggan & Deceased Family +

Friday, August 29

9:30am William Olivia Lambe +
Special Intention (MM)
Special Intention (JM)

7pm Valerie Brown +
John Williams +
Paul Thorburn +

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:
Steve Power, Beth Boulos Ryan

Parish Schedule:

Sunday Mass:

Saturday 4:00pm Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am

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@divinemercynl.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@divinemercynl.com
www.divinemercynl.com/

Inquiries for Sacrament Preparation and Faith Formation: email: faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com

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

Offertory Collection Week of August 17

Offertory	\$ 5,008
Cemetery Offering	\$ 25
Food Bank	\$ 141
Needs of the Canadian Church	\$ 10
Walkathon	\$11,228

E-transfers can be made through dmparishnl@outlook.com

(Please include your name and indicate what the

E-transfer is for)

Thank you for your generosity. God Bless!

PASTOR'S NOTE

Why does God allow us to feel dryness in our faith? Why his apparent absence rather than presence? This doesn't just happen to us, it has happened to some of the most revered saints in the history of the Church. For example, Saints Teresa of Avila and Teresa of Calcutta recounted in their spiritual journals how God felt absent from them for more than ten years. When it happens to me, I often panic. I can look to what the world offers trying to fill the emptiness I feel within. It seems that I can prefer the illusion of the oasis instead of the grueling experience of the desert. I don't think I'm alone in this. Maybe you go through this as well. Those to whom the author of the *Letter to the Hebrews* was writing, certainly did.

In the Second Reading, we hear of "hard grace." The author teaches, "Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as sons; for what son is there whom a father does not discipline?" We are told that while this discipline is unpleasant and difficult, it will later produce "the peaceful fruit of righteousness," if we persevere in the desert. And so, we are to be encouraged, "lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed." Saint Ignatius of Loyola explained two reasons why we sometimes experience what feels like God's absence.

The first reason for Ignatius is the most obvious. Negligence! The person has become tepid in their faith – less consistent in prayer, weakened in the moral life, and generally, more focused on oneself in place of God. It's like we have become "rusty" in our faith because we have become negligence in our faith. Ignatius' second reason pertains more to the Second Reading – God is forming us.

If everything is going well, feels good in faith, it is easier to live the faith. This easiness is a bit of a slippery slope for us. At least for myself, the easiness can blind me of my focus, goal and true desire. I like the easiness. I want it to remain. My focus has begun to change. It is no longer God I desire but the good feelings my faith provides. I like joy, peacefulness of heart, generosity. These are good, these are graces from God. But they are not God. When God allows that dryness in faith, it is an enormous opportunity for the deepening of one's faith. More clarity can come. Yes, I desire "the good life" of faith – I desire consolation. But I desire something infinitely more. I truly desire the Creator of those graces and consolation. I desire God himself.

God bless and take care,
Fr. John

Divine Mercy Parish Walk-A-Thon

Thank You!

Our August 16th Parish Walk-a-thon was an amazing success. While the last few pledges are making their way into the Office, we are thrilled to report that our current total stands at \$13,526.50. This is phenomenal! Thank you to everyone who participated by coming out for the Walk and to all of those who generously pledged and supported our walkers. It was a beautiful day, and lots of fun.

We could not have done it without you!

Enjoy some of the photos taken on the day. You can find them on our website: www.divinemercynl.com/ If you have some you would like to share, please send them to faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com

Divine Mercy Parish BBQ

Saturday, September 13

12pm to 3pm

On the grounds, behind the church
340 Newfoundland Drive

Fun, Food & Friendship!

* Basketball shootout * Hockey shootout *
* Bean bag toss * 3-legged races
* Games for all ages!

We'll supply the hot dogs and hamburgers.
Donations of sweets and sides are greatly appreciated.

If you would like to help out in planning and preparing for the BBQ, or running some of the games, please call the parish office at 709-726-9924 or speak to Anna today after Mass.

This Tuesday's (August 26) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament has been canceled due to the scheduling of a Funeral Mass. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Parish Family News:

Several families have been celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism in our parish. Last weekend, the following children were baptized: Victoria Villanueva, Arya Tupil and Nathan Hodder. This Sunday, John Mberede will be baptized. We rejoice with all of these families and pray that they will continue to be blessed by the Lord and grow in holiness.