



# Divine Mercy Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's



## To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve Summer Edition

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: August 31, 2025

### Mass Intention Week of August 31

#### Monday, September 1

- 9:30am Richard Barnes +  
Special Intention (CA)  
Special Intention (RM)
- 7pm Michael Craggs +  
Deceased Hannifan & Doyle Families+  
Special Intention (JM)

#### Tuesday, September 2

- 9:30am Patricia Martin +  
Special Intention (RM)  
Anne Lambe +

#### Wednesday, September 3

- 9:30am George & Eileen Tobin +  
Kevin Walsh +  
Special Intention (HB)
- 7pm David Kirkland +  
Bernard Farwell +  
Gerard Fitzpatrick +

#### Thursday, September 4

- 9:30am Denis Lawlor +  
Special Intention (RM)  
Michael Doyle +

#### Friday, September 5

- 9:30am David Mercer +  
Frank & Constance Costigan +  
Special Intention (RM)
- 7pm Thomas Stone +  
Francis Kennedy +  
Bernadette Hoadley +

**Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:**  
**Mary Kieley, Tina Duggan**

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com)  
[www.divinemercynl.com/](http://www.divinemercynl.com/)

#### Inquiries for Sacrament Preparation and Faith Formation: email: [faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemercynl@gmail.com)

Pastor: Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Email: [john@ekon.ca](mailto:john@ekon.ca)  
Tel. 416-417-1513

Associate Pastor: Fr. Joe Mroz, S.J. email: [ej\\_mroz@yahoo.ca](mailto:ej_mroz@yahoo.ca)

### Offertory Collection Week of August 24

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 5,722</b>
<b>Initial Offering</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>
<b>New Years Day</b>	<b>\$ 5</b>
<b>Cemetery Offering</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>
<b>Food Bank</b>	<b>\$ 320</b>
<b>Walkathon</b>	<b>\$ 1,458</b>

E-transfers can be made through [dmparishnl@outlook.com](mailto: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

Some years ago, I was speaking with a university student who took their faith most seriously. They were faithful to their prayers; they attended weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; they listened to religious podcasts; and they sought to follow Christ's teaching in how they lived. They were an impressive Catholic, they did everything right. They had recently, however, noticed a change in their prayer and all things religious – they no longer felt much consolation. Prayer was dry, it felt as if they were just going through the motions. In the past, they said the time spent in Adoration would fly-by, but now they checked their watch countless times. Following Christ's teaching had been a joy, now it seemed like a tedious chore. They were confused. If they were doing everything right, what happened to their reward?

Towards the end of this week's gospel, Jesus offers a difficult teaching. He tells the religious leader, who had invited him to a meal, that when the leader invites people he should invite "the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind," instead of "your friends or your brothers or sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours." The reason? The first group of people "cannot repay you," that is, they can't invite you in return. Jesus continues, telling the leader, "You will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." Following Christ often makes us feel good. It is nice to receive thanks for some deed or charity done or to be rewarded with consolation in one's prayer. There is certainly nothing wrong with this. In a surprising way, however, receiving from God (which we always do) can be a "slippery slope" without self-reflection. Unintentionally, one can begin to desire consolations, graces and gifts from God more than one's desire for him. And so, we would be wise to be aware of our intentions. We seek to give, to serve, to praise and worship, to follow, to obey and to love not for any reward. Rather, we intend it to be a loving back – a self-giving and self-forgetting love. It isn't about being repaid, it's about loving God back. Loving back a God who is, in the words of Saint Catherine of Sienna, "crazy in love with us."

God bless and take care, Fr. John

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### Labour Day:

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, September 1 for the Labour Day Statutory holiday. We wish everyone a safe and fun holiday.

### Back to School, the Bus Run and the Parking Lot:

With school back in session this week, the morning and afternoon school bus runs begin again. We remind everyone who attends the morning Mass during the weekdays to please use the parking lot entrance at the far end of the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Divine Mercy Parish BBQ

**Saturday, September 13**

**12pm to 3pm**

On the grounds, behind the church  
340 Newfoundland Drive



- \* 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.

### *Please let us know if you will join us!*

You can help us know how many to plan for by letting us if you and your family will join us for the BBQ. Speak with Anna today after Mass or call the Parish Office during the week: 709-726-9924

If you would like to help 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.

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### Back to School

This week students, teachers and all those who work to in support of our schools and education head back to classrooms. We pray that the coming school year will be a safe, healthy and productive one and that it will be filled with a spirit of joy and love of learning. For all students heading back to school we invite you to pick up a prayer card before you leave the church today. The prayer card has a picture of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Patron Saint of Students on one side and a "Student's Prayer" on the other. Many blessings and graces for the coming year!

# Happening in September

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 faith growing through the deepening of our understanding, our prayer and our serving. In the coming weeks the Parish will unveil our new offerings. We have some amazing opportunities planned for year, with something for everyone. Watch and listen for details.

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## Sept 20 Centre for Life Walk for Life /Family Fun Day

**Where: Divine Mercy Parish Time 9am - 2 pm.**

The Centre for Life invites you to attend the Walk for Life /Family Fun Day in support of the work of the Centre. There will be live music, face painting, games, and a BBQ. Sponsor sheets are available, or a donation can be made. Call 709-579-1500 or email [centreforlife@centreforlife.ca](mailto:centreforlife@centreforlife.ca) for details.

## Seeds of Peace and Hope

### World Day of Prayer for Creation

**September 1, 2025**

Message of the Holy Father for the World Day of Prayer  
for the Care of Creation 2025

With the image of the seed, repeatedly cited in Jesus' preaching, Pope Leo XIV expresses the comparison of the grain of wheat, which must die in order to bear fruit (cf. *Jn 12:24*). Seeds are buried in the earth, and there, to our wonder, life springs up, even in the most unexpected places, pointing to the promise of new beginnings. **So, in Christ we are "seeds of Peace and Hope."** The prophetic words of Isaiah, "a spirit from on high will be poured out on us", which will accompany the ecumenical initiative of the "Season of Creation" from **September 1 to October 4**, reiterate the need for concrete actions capable of transforming the arid and parched desert into a garden, a place of rest and serenity. The message of Pope Leo XIV invites people to seize the unique opportunity to **till and keep** the garden of the world (cf. *Gen 2:15*). So, work, care, protect and preserve the soil, based on mutual respect between human beings and nature. To read Pope Leo's full message go to our Parish website: [divinemercynl.com/](http://divinemercynl.com/)

## Canonization of Saints

In April of 2025, the scheduled canonization of three saints was postponed due to the death Pope Francis. Blessed Carlos Acutis, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati and Blessed Eduard Profittlich will all be canonized next weekend – September 6 & 7. We pray in gratitude and joy for the gift God has made of their lives and their witness to God's love.

### Blessed Carlos Acutis:

Known as the First Millennial Saint, Carlos Acutis was born in 1991 and raised in Milan, Italy. He was known for his great devotion to the Eucharist and for creating an online exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles. Blessed Acutis used his tech skills to evangelize and was noted for his joyful faith and compassion for others before dying of leukemia in 2006 at the age of 15.

### Blessed Frassati:

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati was born in 1901 into a prominent family in Turin, Italy and was admired for his deep spirituality, love for the poor and enthusiasm for life. A member of the Dominican Third Order, he served the sick through the Vincent de Paul society and became known as the Champion of the Poor. He died at age 24 after contracting polio, possibly from one of many people he assisted.

**Blessed Eduard Profittlich: Martyr+** Archbishop and Jesuit Born September 11, 1890, to a hard-working and modest farming family in the Rhineland (Germany), Blessed Eduard entered the seminary in 1912 at the age of 22 and entered the Jesuit novitiate in 1913. After ordination, he served the Church in Germany and then in Estonia. In 1935 he was appointed by Pope Pius XI Estonia's first Archbishop. Religious practice and numbers grew until occupation by the Soviet Union began in 1941 Blessed Eduard was given the choice of returning to Germany, but after a process of personal discernment, and after Pope Pius left the decision in his hands, Blessed Eduard chose to stay with the Catholics in Estonia. On the night of June 27 1941, he was arrested and deported to Kirov (Russia). After severe torture and harsh interrogations, he was officially charged with espionage and counter-revolutionary activity against the Soviet Union and sentenced to death. His appeal was rejected. As was learned many years later, due to the treatment he received in prison, he had died on 22 February 1942 before he could be executed.