



Divine Mercy Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's



To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross: September 14, 2025

Mass Intention Week of September 14

Monday, September 15

9:30am Elizabeth Pike +
Jim & Margaret Rogers +
Special Intention (DF)

7pm Isaac Montes +
Special Intention (RM)
Ritchie Friend +

Tuesday, September 16

9:30am Kevin Spearns +
Special Intention (RM)
Special Intention (RE)

Wednesday, September 17

9:30am David Warren +
Mike Kelly +
Special Intention (RM)

7pm Ann Kenny +
Jane Power +
Walter Vere Holloway +

Thursday, September 18

9:30am Mary Roche +
Special Intention (RM)
Ron Abbott +

Friday, September 19

9:30am Frank Power +
Rita Wilkinson +
Special Intention (RM)

7pm Ronald McCarthy +
Jerome Conway +
Margaret Kearney +

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:

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 September 7

Offertory	\$ 6,060
Dues	\$ 460
Food Bank	\$ 815

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

This week I spoke with someone from Toronto. The person was going through a hard time and wanted to know where God was in all of it. He didn't seem too convinced by my advice to pray and the reminder that God is always with us. When we suffer or someone we love is suffering, the Lord Jesus Christ is with us and shares in our pain. While our prayers are heard and answered by our Father, we are also coming to understand and know that God's response may be given at another time and have a form we did not expect or even want. But our prayers are absolutely heard and answered. The problem with this is that God's response may not solve our problem or remove our suffering at that moment. Understandably so, we want the crisis to go away and to go away immediately. This week we are shown two versions of love in the first two readings. Both versions are valid, and both appear in God's actions in the Old Testament and the New. The first is easy to embrace while the second version is more demanding in faith.

Having been freed from slavery in Egypt by God's direct actions, the people of Israel wander in the desert on route to the Promised Land. Their journey is longer and more difficult than they anticipated. And so, they grumbled – Why did God take us from Egypt only to be hungry, thirsty and to die in the desert? The people were then swarmed by poisonous snakes and “many children of Israel died.” They asked Moses to pray to God to remove the snakes. God told Moses to “make a poisonous serpent and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” And so, it was. The people of Israel had a big problem, poisonous snakes, and Moses prayed and God removed their suffering. God fixed the problem immediately and completely. This is the version of love that is easy for us to understand, the one

most desired and most expected. The second version is more difficult.

Saint Paul's “Kenotic Hymn” is this week's Second Reading. Kenosis is a self-emptying. To the Philippians, Paul teaches that God in Christ emptied himself. Though Christ is Lord, he took on “the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.” The Incarnate God “humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.” God's love is not revealed by the incarnation through a manner of coming to fix our problems, to remove human suffering from our earthly life. Rather, the Lord enters human life in the most profound and intimate way – He becomes one of us and like us in all things except sin. He is our constant companion and carries us through the most difficult times. When we are filled with fear and anxiety by what may happen in our lives, he whispers, “It is I. Be not afraid.” When we sit alone in our room, crying, so that no one will see, he sees and weeps with us. The Incarnate God reveals his love through fidelity, not being “Mr. Fix-it.” To whichever horizon or distant shore, we may go, be it the right or wrong one, the Lord Jesus Christ will be with us. The Incarnate God reveals that his love for you is eternal, infinite. Christ emptied himself of perfection because of God's desire for his heart's longing. And the desire for his heart's longing is you.

Unexpectedly, the Incarnate God has fixed our biggest problem – our longing for eternal love, both in this world and the one to come.

God bless and take care,
Fr. John



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To See To Love To Serve

To See, To Love, To Serve with the Canadian Martyrs

This fall we have a unique opportunity to discover and pray with the Canadian Martyrs.

September 17-25:

The novena to the Canadian Martyrs: available on Flocknote:

<https://divinemercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/225307>

We will also have some paper copies available next week.

October 24, 31 and November 7

Our Saints Series will look at three different Jesuit Saints, including St. Jean de Brebeuf and the Canadian Martyrs. The series will be available through Flocknote:

<https://divinemercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/226220>

Coming in November (date to be determined) Relics of the Canadian Martyrs will come to Divine Mercy Parish. Watch for details in upcoming bulletins.

Who Are the Canadian Martyrs?

The **Canadian Martyrs** (also known as the North American Martyrs) are a group of 17th century Jesuit priests and volunteer missionaries martyred for proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ in modern-day Canada and New York State.

These six priests and two laymen are responsible for bringing the faith into Canada where Christ was yet unknown.

Colonization of "New France," now known as Canada, gripped the hearts and minds of many in the 17th century. Thoughts of evangelizing the New World enticed many young religious, as well, to wish to brave the trials of the new territory to bring the gospel to its inhabitants.

The Canadian Martyrs are some of those from France who answered this call to evangelize. As stated in the Canadian Bishops' Permanent Council Pastoral Letter, commemorating the 350th anniversary of the deaths of these martyrs:

"These eight missionaries became exiles in order to bring the Gospel to the family of Georgian Bay Amerindians and lead them to holiness. In 15 years (1634-1649), they transformed the Huron villages there, and then what were to become the Quebec villages of Notre-Dame-de-Foy and Notre-Dame-de-Lorette, making them centers of religious fervor comparable to those in the early Church."

Father Brébeuf, with his companions, **Fr. Gabriel Lalemant** (1610-1649), **Fr. Antoine Daniel** (1600-1648), **Fr. Charles Garnier** (1606-1649), **Fr. Noël Chabanel** (1613-1649), **Fr. Isaac Jogues** (1608-1646), **René Goupil** (1608-1642), and **Jean de Lalande** (d. 1646), were tasked with having to contend with the unknown language of the Huron people when they arrived and deal with a culture vastly different from their own. Other challenges they encountered were potential starvation, a completely different diet, severe weather, the need for good shelter, dealing with mosquitos, extensive travel in a vast land, and intense fatigue.

To be accepted by the Huron, the missionaries determined to assimilate themselves into the native culture. They began by learning the local language, which proved difficult. They even devised a written language for the inhabitants which they had never had.

What began as friendship with those they had come to evangelize, eventually gave way to blaming of the missionaries for diseases that spread amongst the tribes, mistrust, and dangerous persecution. All the missionaries would eventually be martyred within a span of seven years, from 1642-1649.

Just before his death from torture, St. Jean de Brébeuf, looked at the Huron and said: "God is the witness of our sufferings and will soon be our exceeding great reward. Let us die in this faith ... Sustain with courage the few remaining torments. They will end our lives. The glory which follows them will never have an end."

Though the Jesuit's mission to "New France" ended after the deaths of its martyrs, the Hurons who had been evangelized by them migrated to other regions. This resulted in the spread of the Gospel throughout the Great Lakes and Hudson River regions. The Canadian Martyrs were canonized on June 29, 1930.

May the example of the Canadian Martyrs strengthen our apostolic spirit by being bold witnesses for Christ in our homes, cities, and nations. May we be conscious of bringing the Gospel not only to distant lands, but to the lost, lonely, and those that have never encountered Christ around us. And may we assist all missionaries by our daily prayers to strengthen their efforts in bringing the Good News of salvation to a hurting world.

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Divine Mercy Parish Sacrament Preparation for Children Age 7 +



Reconciliation
Preparation Program
October-November 2025

Confirmation
Preparation Program
January-February 2026

Holy Eucharist
Preparation Program
February-March 2026

For More info or to register:

www.divinemercynl.com



"See what the Father has given us, that we should be called children
of God; and that is what we are."
1 John 3:1

Preparing for the Sacraments:

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 Confirmation and First Holy Communion and Reconciliation. Register online by going to our website at www.divinemercynl.com/ or calling the Parish Office at 709-726 9924 or email us at info@divinemercynl.com

Perhaps you, or someone you know is considering becoming a Roman Catholic. The **Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults** or RCIA is for you. The RCIA offers a communal program of preparation for those considering the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & the Eucharist) and Reception into the Roman Catholic Community. Adults normally receive the sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. If you would like to know more, please email us at info@divinemercynl.com

Centre for Life Walk for Life /Family Fun Day September 20 9am to 2pm at Divine Mercy Parish

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 for details.

Pilgrim Image of the Divine Mercy

The parish has travelling image that may be hosted weekly in the homes of parishioners. The image is a framed picture and includes reading materials, the Diary of St. Faustina, and holy cards of the Divine Mercy. If you would like to host the pilgrim image of the Divine Mercy in your home for a week, please text 709-770-3873 or email d.m.pilgrim.image@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus:

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree meets September 18 at 7pm in the church foyer. Please attend and welcome our 12 new members. Guest Speaker is Paul Davis from the Gathering Place.

Are You Called? Come and See

On Saturday September 27th, a Vocation Awareness Day for Priesthood and Consecrated life will be held at St. John the Baptist Basilica-Cathedral from 9am-2pm. The day will begin at 9am with a Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. All are invited to attend. For men and women interested in learning more about discerning a call to the priesthood and consecrated life, presentations, discussion, and lunch will follow until 2pm. There is no cost, but registration is requested in order to prepare adequately for food. For more information or to register, please contact Fr. James Fleming at vocations@rcsj.org or (709) 834-9481.

Celebrating the Season of Creation: Divine Mercy Catholic Women's League Council Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto in Flatrock - Sunday September 21

Prayer Service begins at 2pm in the Grotto, weather permitting, followed by a social in the Community Centre next to the Grotto. In the event of inclement weather, the Prayer Service will also take place in the Community Centre. All are invited to attend this joyful Season of Creation. To prepare for the Service and Social, we need to know how many people will join us. Please RSVP to Mary McGuire at (709) 726-2161 **on or before Wednesday, September 17th**. We hope you will be able to join us.