



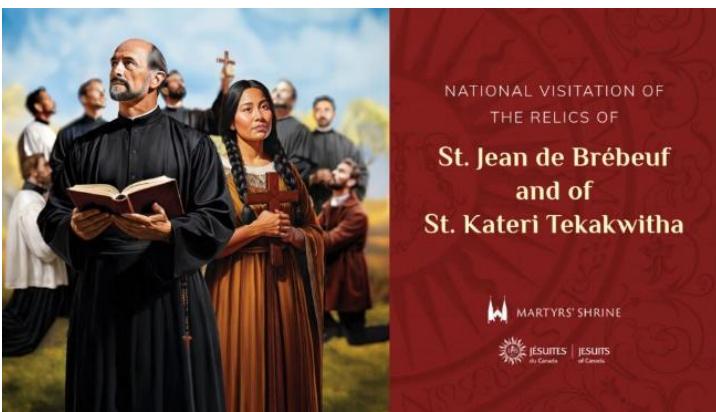
# Pastor's Note

I lived with Fr. Bill at Our Lady of Lourdes church in Toronto. Fr. Bill was a former missionary to northern India and had been at the parish for over two decades. He was much loved – he always had a new joke and allowed others to care for him, that is, to love him. He was like everyone's grandfather. When he received some gift or food, I would tease him, saying, "Now remember Bill, the Son of Man came to serve and not to be served." Then we would both laugh. I said this to Fr. Bill because I knew he had lived a life of dedicated service. Service for a Christian is not an option. It is a command certainly – "Love your neighbour as yourself," but so too is it the necessary consequence of our faith. Service flows from our faith in and relationship with Jesus Christ. A Jesuit once said to me that we are like a bowl without a bottom. God's love and mercy, and his graces flow into us, and then flows out of us into the world. And we do this because it is what the Lord has first done.

Saint Paul reminds the Christian community in Thessaloniki, that he and his disciples did not sit idly

while they were with them. So as not to be a burden, St. Paul and the others worked to earn their keep. Paul was there to serve. Pope Francis often cautioned us of clericalism. In clericalism, the priest or religious is given special treatment, held on a pedestal. Francis taught that clericalism leads to priests and religious feeling superior and distances them from the people. It seems that with clericalism, the people are there to serve the priest or religious rather than they being at the service of the people. In imitation of the Lord, priests and religious, and every Christian is here to serve. Our Christian service is not merely part of the "job description." It is most perfectly a response. Through an awareness and knowledge of God's service to us, we in turn seek to serve him back by serving his children. It is love in response to love. And so, we are like a bowl without a bottom – love flows into you and love flows out through you.

God bless and take care,  
Fr. John



## **The National Tour of the Relics of the Canadian Martyrs and St. Kateri Tekakwitha is coming to Divine Mercy Parish, Friday, November 21 5:30-9:00pm**

The major relics of the Canadian Martyrs, including the skull of St. Jean de Brebeuf and the bones of St. Charles Garnier and St. Gabriel Lalemant are travelling across Canada. The tour will also include a relic of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the first indigenous North American saint.

**Our Schedule:**  
5:30 pm: Welcoming of the Relics and Rosary  
6:00 pm: Celebration of the Mass  
7:30 pm: Veneration of the Relics

# To See To Love To Serve

## To See:

### **The Daily Examen (Change of Dates)**

St. Ignatius of Loyola thought that the Examen was a gift that came directly from God, and that God wanted it to be shared as widely as possible. Discover the treasure of this daily prayer and learn how to incorporate it in your daily conversation with the Lord. Over the next five Mondays, Fr. John will give five recorded talks which will be made available to you through our website, our YouTube channel and flocknote. *We had a little difficulty in our scheduling and so we have revised the dates for The Daily Examen. We apologize for the inconvenience.*

**November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 15**

Flocknote:

<https://divinemercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/234181>

Youtube: [www.youtube.com/@divinemercy15565](https://www.youtube.com/@divinemercy15565)

Website: <https://divinemercynl.com/>

## To Serve:

### **Liturgy of the Word with Children**

*This coming December the ministry will expand by taking place at the 9am Mass as well the 11am.* Interested in sharing your creativity and joy in faith – join this dynamic team. Call the parish office or speak with our coordinator, Averil Nunes or a member of our LWC team after Mass today!

### **Baptism Preparation Ministry:**

Discover the beauty of sharing the faith with parents preparing for the baptism of their children. The parish provides the material and program and Robyn Noseworthy, our Baptism Coordinator, will guide you through the process. We are looking for people who would like to take part in the pre-baptism meeting, as well as individuals interested in setting up and helping at Baptisms in the parish. Contact the parish office today for more details.

## To Love:

### **Novena of the Immaculate Conception:**

**November 29 to December 7**

The Immaculate Conception Novena begins on Saturday, November 29 (nine days before the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The novena and Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a beautiful opportunity to reflect on Mary's life and the profound mystery of God's Grace at work through the Son. We strive to imitate Mary as an ideal example of the Christian life lived for God. The novena offers an opportunity to ask Mary to give you the grace to imitate her profound response to the love God poured into her heart. Our Novena is available through Flocknote: <https://divinemercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/235217>

### **Advent Reconciliation Service:**

**Thursday, December 11 6pm**

Celebrate the mercy and forgiveness of God.

Come to the Sacrament with joy for what God has already done through Jesus Christ.

Come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation with confidence and trust in God who has 'loved us first.'

Join us **on Thursday, December 11 at 6pm in the church for our Advent Penitential Service.** Several Priests will be available for individual confessions. Come, experience once again, the mercy and forgiveness of the Father.

### **Visitation Ministry to the Sick and Homebound**

Are you looking for a way to make a real difference in someone else's life? We are looking for people who are willing to spend some time with homebound parishioners and those in long-term care facilities and to bring Holy Communion to them. No experience necessary. The parish will provide training and equip you for the ministry. For more information, speak with Anna after any of the weekend Masses or call the parish office at 709-726-9924.

### **Livestreaming:**

We need volunteers to help in the livestreaming of our Masses. This service ministry is great for those comfortable with computers but does not require a great knowledge or experience of technology. The parish will provide training and equip you for the ministry. For more information, speak with Anna after any of the weekend Masses or call the parish office at 709-726-9924.

# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

## Divine Mercy Christmas Bazaar

Sunday, December 7, 2025  
12pm to 3pm

Help make this a fun and successful event. We encourage all parishioners and community friends to come out, participate and support this parish fundraiser.

Donations are requested for the following tables:

- Christmas Cakes
- Baked Goods
- Donations of items suitable for a Silent Auction,
  - Christmas Handicrafts,
- Fudge, cookies and candy for the Children's Table.
- We will also need sandwiches and cookies for the Tea Room.

Donations of any of these would be appreciated.

All Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office during regular business hours or on Saturday Dec. 6, 2025 before 4:00 Mass or Sunday before 9:00 a.m.

You might also like to help with set up and clean up or by joining our planning committee. If you would speak to someone about volunteering, or have something to donate, please feel free to speak with someone on the Planning Committee: Nina Beresford, Anne George, Anna Carroll, Barbara Cole and Anna Paolo.

All proceeds will be used to support Parish Initiatives. Thank you for your continued help and support.



Tickets for our 50/50 Raffle are now available! The draw will take place at the Bazaar on December 7 at 2:30pm. The estimated jackpot is \$7,500.

Tickets are \$5 each. So far we have distributed more than 1,300 of our 3,000 tickets. Help us make this a super success by taking a book or two to sell. Help us and watch the excitement grow.

## Pick Up Your Box of Envelopes Today

Donation envelopes for 2026 are now available for pick up. You will find them in the foyer of the church. If your box is missing or has the incorrect information, or if you would like a box of envelopes, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

## Divine Mercy Parish Memorial Mass – New Date

Join us for our Annual Memorial Mass on **Tuesday, November 18 at 7pm**.

## Food Bank Giving Tree

Divine Mercy Food Bank giving tree is in the foyer.. You are invited to take a tag and buy a gift card. Insert the gift card in the tag and return it to the parish. Suggested amount for gift cards: \$20 to \$25. Please drop all gift cards in the collection plate or return to the parish office by November 30. We would like to thank you for all your generosity over the past years and most especially this year.

## CWL Advent Prayer Service & Luncheon:

All are invited to join the CWL for their Advent Prayer Service and Luncheon on Wednesday, December 10, 11:30am for 12 noon at Knights of Columbus Hall (St. Clare Ave) Cost: \$32.14 + gratuity. Those wishing to attend please call Mary McGuire at 709-726-2161. Deadline to Register: November 24. Any no shows on December 10 will need to reimburse the CWL for the cost of the meal.

## Divine Mercy CWL Annual Memorial Prayer Service

Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 beginning at 1:30 p.m. with a social to follow. Past Members and parishioners are invited to join with us for this solemn Prayer Service to celebrate the lives of our Deceased Members.

**Cursillo Movement Mass for Deceased Members and their Families:** The R.C. Cursillo Movement will be having a Mass for deceased members and their families at St. Teresa's Church on Mundy Pond Rd. in St. John's on Thursday November 27th at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

## Season of Giving Concert:

### A Fundraiser in Support of Ovarian Cancer Research

Sunday, November 30 at 7:30 PM at Divine Mercy Parish  
Admission: \$20 at the door or \$15 with a Food Bank donation  
All proceeds will be donated to Belles with Balls in support of Ovarian Cancer Research. Food Bank items will be donated to Divine Mercy Parish Food Bank to help support local families in need this holiday season.