

Pastor's Note

I understand the redemption Christ has offered and given through experience. Sometimes we may have an argument and maybe we said things we're embarrassed by or feel guilt and shame. On the other hand, maybe we were hurt by the words or actions of another. Probably, it's a mixture of both. In such a situation, what do we tend to do? I know for myself, I can become distant, giving and receiving "the silent treatment." As each silent interaction occurs, each time we pass each other or meet in the kitchen without saying a word, the tension, anger and regret mount. Often, both people want the silence to end, for someone to take the first step and "break the ice." But the mounting tension, anger and regret make it more difficult to do so. We may think, "For God's sake, just say something!" But this is for the other person, not oneself. Eventually, someone finally does "break the ice" – differences are aired, hurts admitted and reconciliation attempted. For me, this resembles periods of our relationship with God. We've thought, said or done things we regret, are shameful of. Suspecting God's immense displeasure, we keep our head down, distancing ourselves from God and remaining silent with him. This self-imposed tension in our relationship is broken by Jesus Christ, "the firstborn of all creation."

Wishing Fr. Joe Schuck the Best

Fr. Joe Schuck, S.J. is moving. He has been missioned as chaplain to the Jesuit Fathers in the infirmary in Pickering, Ontario.

There will be an afternoon drop-in next **Sunday, November 30th in the afternoon from 2pm to 4pm** in the foyer of the church for anyone wishing to see Fr. Joe before he leaves.

Join us as in expressing our gratitude for his presence and service in St. John's and in our parish community.

The silence or distance we create suspecting God's displeasure is a terribly sad moment of human life. It is sad because it is unnecessary and contrary to God's will and desire. Saint Paul writes, "Christ is the image of the invisible God." To hear and see Christ is to hear and see the Father. He continues, "in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his Cross." There is silence and distance. God, however, takes the first step. He steps onto Calvary and lies on the Cross. Here is the truth revealed, it exposes the lie of the Evil One. No need for silence or distance, "making peace through the blood of his Cross" is the most powerful and powerfully convincing way to unveil the immeasurable depths of God's love for each of us. To know and believe that one is always and everywhere loved by the Father – this is to be redeemed. To be loved without limits evokes our desire to love back without limits. And if we don't succeed (in this life we won't) but we still try and try even more. Love never ends.

God bless and take care,
Fr. John



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To See To Love To Serve

To See:

The Daily Examen

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 24, December 1, 8, 15

Flocknote:

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

Youtube: 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

**Only Two Weeks Away!
Mark Your Calendars and Tell your
Family & Friends**

Divine Mercy Christmas Bazaar

**Sunday, December 7, 2025
12pm to 3pm**

Donations are requested for the following tables:

** Christmas Cakes ** Baked Goods **
** Donations for a Silent Auction **
** Christmas Handicrafts**

Fudge, cookies and candy for the Children's Table

** Tea Room Sandwiches & Cookies **

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.

All proceeds will be used to support Parish Initiatives. Be sure to share the day and time of the Bazaar with family, friends and neighbours. 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 approximately 2,000 of our 3,000 tickets. If you have sold tickets and have collected money and stubs, please bring them in to the Parish Office by November 30. Help us make this a super success by taking a book or two to sell. Help us and watch the excitement grow.

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. Call Mary McGuire at 709-726-2161 to Register by November 24. Any no shows on December 10 will need to reimburse the CWL for the cost of the meal.

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.

The 30th Annual Advent Festival of Carols and Scripture will take place on the First Sunday of Advent, November 30th at the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist. Seating and Prelude Music begins at 6pm with Festival Carols & Scripture beginning at 7pm. Donations gratefully accepted for the Basilica Music Ministry
The event will be livestreamed: www.thebasilica.church

Christmas Carol Concert in Aid of St. Francis Cemetery December 7 @ 7pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church

Minimum donation of \$20 can be e-transferred to: Stfrancisroadcemetery@gmail.com. A receipt will be provided for donations of \$20.00 or more. At the same email, you can provide us with the names of loved ones you would like remembered at the concert and we will list the names at the event. You can also make your donation at the door.