

Pastor's Note

For the most part, I viewed and tried to live a version of Christianity that was limited. I didn't know it was limited at the time. I thought of our faith as a life of moral imitation. For example, I would hear a story from the Gospel and see how Jesus acted. I would then try and do the same under similar circumstances. If someone wronged me, I would try and forgive because it is what the Lord did. This is a good way to live the Christian life, but it is not its totality. It's good but it remains more on the surface rather than emanating from within the person. God has more to offer and give.

In Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans, we hear Paul say, "put on the Lord Jesus Christ." To "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" is to put on his life. Our faith is not a philosophy. It is a mystical union between God and the person. We are offered his life to become our own life. It is offered by God, and requires our desire for it, our request for the grace and our cooperation with the Lord in making it a continually growing reality. This is how we are to understand the gift God offers to us. We are not merely those who try and imitate, though that's certainly good, but he has elevated us to bear him as our life. And so, we may still try and respond and act as he does, yet now there is a difference – "it is no longer I who live but he who lives in me." We are putting on Christ.

God bless and take care,

Fr. John



DIVINE MERCY PARISH
Christmas
BAZAAR
Sunday, December 7
12pm to 3pm

Divine Mercy Parish Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve:

December 24

5pm, 7pm & 9pm

Christmas Day:

December 25

11am

Feast of the Holy Family:

December 28

Saturday 4pm &

Sunday 9am &

11am

Feast of Mary,

Mother of God

December 31 5pm

January 1 10am



Advent Reconciliation Service:

Thursday, December 11 6pm

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.

Donations are requested for the following tables:



- CHRISTMAS CAKES
- BAKED GOODS
- CHRISTMAS HANDICRAFTS
- SILENT AUCTION
- CHILDREN'S TABLE
- KID'S CRAFT TABLE
- TEA ROOM
- 50/50 RAFFLE



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.

Help Us Get the News Out! Share the Bazaar information with family and friends. Take a couple of flyers and post them in community centres and anywhere with a public bulletin board. And don't forget to share it on your Facebook & Instagram.

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. Fr. John will give five recorded talks 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.*

December 3, 10, 17 & 23

Flocknote:

<https://divinemercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/234181>
Youtube: www.youtube.com/@divinemercy15565

Word on Fire: THE EUCHARIST

Discover a deeper understanding of the Eucharist – the Source and Summit of our Christian Life!
6 sessions available through our Flocknote
Wednesdays in January: Begins January 7, 2026
<https://divinemercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/230081>

To Serve:

Liturgy of the Word with Children

In January 2026, this 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>

Simbang Gabi: Christmas Novena

December 15 to 23



'Simbang Gabi' is Filipino for 'Night Mass' a beautiful 9-day series of Masses in anticipation of Christmas. The Novena will take place at 6:30 pm each evening from December 15 to 23. The Masses will also be livestreamed. Find us on YouTube: www.youtube.com/@divinemercy15565

Children's Liturgy of the Word **Begins at the 9am in January 2025**

A worship experience geared to children; this ministry has become a wonderful and vital ministry in the parish. It currently takes place every other Sunday at the 11 am Mass throughout the year. In January this ministry will be extended to our 9am Sunday Mass as well.

*Please note, due to preparations for the Bazaar, next Sunday's Children's liturgy at the 11am Mass will be cancelled. Children's Liturgy of the Word resumes on Sunday, December 21st.

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events



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 2,200 of our 3,000 tickets. If you have sold tickets and have collected money and stubs, please bring them into the Parish Office as soon as possible. Help us make this a super success by taking a book or two to sell. Help us and watch the excitement grow.

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 today **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.

Official Notification of the Extinctive Union of Holy Rosary Parish, Portugal Cove with Holy Trinity Parish, Torbay

On November 18, 2025, the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese of St. John's, was consulted regarding amalgamation of Holy Rosary Parish, Portugal Cove with Holy Trinity Parish in Torbay. The motive for an amalgamation being:

- the *de facto* closure of the Parish Church in 2022,
- the subsequent sale of the properties of the Parish, and
- the resulting extinction, for all practical purposes, of the parochial life that characterizes the present condition of the Parish.

The Presbyteral Council having been consulted, a decree for the extinctive union of Holy Rosary Parish in Portugal Cove with Holy Trinity Parish in Torbay was issued on November 24, 2025.

A copy of the decree is available on request via post at Suite 402, 33 Pippy Place, St. John's A1B 3X2 and via email at: archdiocese@rcsj.org

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.

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.

Holy Heart of Mary Alumni Choir Annual Christmas Concert and Sing-A-Long

with special guests, Bella Nova Choir (director Elizabeth Brennan), St. Teresa's Church Choir and Close Quarters, SUNDAY, December 7, 2025 at 4:00 PM. Annual Admission is a free-will offering with all proceeds going to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Program.

Official Notification of the Extinctive Union of St. Patrick's Parish, St. John's with St. John the Baptist Parish, St. John's

On November 18, 2025, the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese of St. John's, was consulted regarding amalgamation of St. Patrick's Parish, St. John's with St. John the Baptist Parish in St. John's. The motive for an amalgamation being:

- the *de facto* closure of the Parish Church in 2022,
- the subsequent sale of the properties of the Parish, and
- the resulting extinction, for all practical purposes, of the parochial life that characterizes the present condition of the Parish.

The Presbyteral Council having been consulted, a decree for the extinctive union of St. Patrick's Parish in St. John's with St. John the Baptist Parish in St. John's was issued on November 24, 2025.

A copy of the decree is available on request via post at Suite 402, 33 Pippy Place, St. John's A1B 3X2 and via email at: archdiocese@rcsj.org