



Divine Mercy Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's



To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time: February 15, 2026

Mass Intention Week of February 15

Monday, February 16

9:30am Marilyn Lawlor +
Margaret, James & Jim Butler +
Msgr. Joseph O'Brien +
Craig Quigley +

7:00pm Sheila Hennessey +
Adrian Fleming +
Special Intention (C&M)
Special Intention (RB)

Tuesday, February 17

9:30am Deceased Members of Ryan Family +
Johnathan Nixon +
Eric Hayden +
Special Intention (EM)

Wednesday, February 18

9:30am Thomas Cleary+
Michael Craggs +
Patrick Pugh+
Tony Nolan +

7:00pm Patrick Foley +
Ronald O'Brien +
Catherine Fewer +
Special Intention (WB)

Thursday, February 19

9:30am Johnathan Nixon +
Catherine Fewer +
Dr. Robert MacDonald +
Richard & Clotilda White +

Friday, February 20

9:30am Ann Woodford +
Gloria White +
Rendell Tungate +
Mary E. & Geroge Dalton +

7:00pm John Smart +
Kathleen Kennedy +
Mary Jackman +
Special Intention (HC)

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:
Joan James

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;
Fridays 6:30pm
Saturdays 3-3:45pm
By appointment: email info@divinemeracynl.com

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Holy Hour every weekday after the 9:30am Mass
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: divinemeracyparish@rcsj.org
www.divinemeracynl.com/

Inquiries for Sacrament Preparation and Faith Formation:

email: faith.divinemeracynl@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 February 8

Offertory	\$ 5,195
Initial Offering	\$ 55
Year's Day	\$ 10
Food Bank	\$ 359
Seminarian Studies	\$ 10

*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

When I was a Jesuit Novice, I remember speaking with the House Minister. A Jesuit Minister oversees the “temporal” or worldly concerns of the house. He is often the bookkeeper, shopper, custodian, car mechanic and furnace technician, to name but a few of his responsibilities. The Minister does a lot of “grunt work,” unseen by most. It requires both skill and humility. This must be the reason Saint Ignatius of Loyola allowed a Jesuit to “ambition” to become Minister. It is the only Jesuit position that permits ambition. One can ambition to be Minister because no one wants the job. In the Novitiate, our Minister was the most prayerful person I’ve ever come across. One could go into the chapel in the early hours of the day, and you’d see him praying in the dark. Likewise, if you went at night, you’d see him, again, praying in the dark. His name was Brother John Masterson, S.J. One day Br. John, who was older, spoke to me about death. He said of death, “It’s just a doorway. Nothing more.” I was taken aback by how easily he spoke of our greatest fear. It wasn’t that he didn’t care or grossly undervalued human life, rather he saw it as just a moment in the eternal totality of our life. As “Preface I” of the Funeral Mass says, “Life is changed not ended.” In this week’s Second Reading, Saint Paul teaches on death and what awaits us.

St. Paul writes, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him.” Saint Therese of Lisieux, when confronting her own death from tuberculosis, wrote in her diary that she had come to doubt heaven would be like the pictures she had seen since she was a child – fluffy clouds with chubby cherubs playing harps. She admitted that she didn’t know what it would be like, but knew it would be the most perfect life, a life we can’t even begin to imagine nor conceive of. It would be life with the Father. And if with the Father, it would a life of constant and continuous loving – both receiving and giving. This is what God has prepared “for those who love him.” An existence, a life of constant and continuous loving. The Father sighing in love. He will have that which he has desired from eternity. He will have his son or daughter, that is, you.

God Bless and Take Care,
Fr. John

Living Lent

Making the Most of the Season of Lent

Remember the formula: Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving.

Lent is a time of prayer: Lent is essentially an act of prayer spread out over 40 days. As we pray, we go on a journey, one that hopefully brings us closer to Christ and leaves us changed by the encounter with Him.

Lent is a time to fast: With the fasts of Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, meatless Fridays, and our own personal disciplines interspersed, Lent is the only time many Catholics actually fast. “What are you giving up for Lent,” is the question we keep hearing. It’s almost a game for some of us, but fasting is a form of penance, which helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ.

Lent is a time to work on discipline: The 40 days of Lent are also a good, set time to work on personal discipline in general. It can be a time of doing something positive, like spending more time in prayer, or committing yourself to regular acts of charity, or virtues.

Lent is about dying to yourself: Lenten discipline is about more than self-control—it’s about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. The suffering and death of Christ are foremost on our minds during Lent and we join in those mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ, so that we might rise with Him.

Don’t do too much: It’s tempting to make Lent some ambitious period of personal reinvention, but it’s best to keep it simple and focused. We spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don’t try to cram it all into one Lent. That’s a recipe for disaster.

Lent reminds us of our weaknesses: Of course, even when we set simple goals for ourselves during Lent, we still have trouble keeping them. Lent shows us our weakness. This can be painful but recognizing how helpless we are makes us seek God’s help with renewed urgency and sincerity.

Be patient with yourself: When we’re confronted with our own weakness, the temptation is to get angry and frustrated. “What a bad person I am!” But that’s not what God is showing us. God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as he does, with abundant and steadfast love.

Reach out in charity. As we experience weakness and suffering during Lent, we should be renewed in our compassion for those who are hungry, suffering, or otherwise in need. The third part of the Lenten formula is almsgiving. This is more than throwing a little extra in the collection plate. It’s about reaching out to others as a way of sharing the experience of God’s unconditional love.

Learn to love like Christ: Giving of ourselves amid our suffering and self-denial brings us closer to loving like Christ, who suffered and poured himself out unconditionally on the Cross for all of us. Lent is a journey through the desert to the foot of the Cross, as we seek him out, ask for his help, join in his suffering and to learn to love like him.

From Journey to the foot of the Cross: Bishop David Ricken Offers 10 Things to Remember for Lent.

To See To Love To Serve

To See:

First Communion Preparation:

Our First Communion Program for children ages 7 and up begins next Saturday, February 21 at 10 am. If you have not yet registered your child there is still time to do so. Just go to https://www.divinmercynl.com/?page_id=1243 or contact us through the parish office 709-726-9924

To Serve:

Join our Bereavement Team:

Through this vital ministry, the parish offers support, compassion and empathy to families following loss of a loved one.

The team helps with funeral arrangements:

- * Meets with family of the deceased.
- * Completes record form for the Parish Office
- * Ensures the presiding Priest for the funeral has details.
- * Follows up with the funeral home.
- * Helps with music and reading selections.
- * Helps with the funeral service.

If you think this ministry is the place to share your gifts and time, contact Nina Beresford, Coordinator of Bereavement Ministry: ninaberesfordnl@gmail.com

There will be a meeting of the Bereavement Team next Saturday, February 21 from 1pm to 2pm. If you are interested in this ministry and would like to know more, you are invited to attend.

Soup for Stations of the Cross:

Every Friday during Lent, before we come together to pray the Stations of the Cross, we sit down together to share some soup and fellowship. If you would like to pick a Friday in Lent to make a pot of soup (meatless) to share please contact the Parish Office at 709-726-9924 or email divinmercyparish@rcsj.org and we will happily schedule you in.

Helping Keep the Church Clean & Tidy:

Do you have an hour or two during the week to help us with a little light cleaning and tidying up? We are looking to create a small team of volunteers to keep us on top of things, especially in anticipation of the Mass and special celebrations. This is particularly important during the wintery months. If you can assist, we can definitely use your help!

Parking Lot Assistance:

In the busyness of Sunday Masses or Special celebrations, the parking lot can become difficult to maneuver. We are hoping to create a team of volunteers that can guide and assist in the parking lot during heavy traffic times.

If you think you have time to serve on either of these teams, contact the Parish Office at 709-726-9924, speak with Fr. John, or email us at: faith.divinmercynl@gmail.com

To Love:

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises Retreat in Everyday Life

Becoming an Easter People: Considering the Joy of the Lord

Deepen your experience of the Resurrection through Ignatian prayer. Framed by the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius of Loyola, this 12-week at home retreat offers a journey of spiritual renewal, focusing on the joy and hope found in Christ's victory over death. **The Retreat begins next Sunday, February 22 with a group meeting in the church at 1pm.**

The Retreat consists of:

- Daily Prayer –guided by the retreat text “Becoming an Easter People” by Fr. Joseph Tetlow, S.J.
- Presentations on the *Spiritual Exercises* available through Youtube.
- Small Group Faith Sharing

Cost: \$55 to cover the price of the Retreat Manual. However, if you would like to use the manual and return it at the end of the retreat we will waive the cost and provide you with a notebook for your prayer notes.

We still have a few spots left for the retreat. Sign up through flocknote: <https://divinmercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/237906>

or email Anna at faith.divinmercynl@gmail.com

Prayer for Tumbler Ridge

The recent events at Tumble Ridge Highschool in British Columbia have touched us all. Our hearts are heavy with the news of what occurred and the loss and grief that has followed. Let us offer our prayers for all those affected by this tragedy:

God of all comfort, we ask you on behalf of all those in Tumble Ridge that you will give them a deep sense of your presence, your comfort and your peace.

We don't fully understand what the students and teachers at this school need, but you do.

We especially pray for those who have lost someone they love in their deep sorrow, please bring them your comfort and strength for each step ahead.

For those still receiving medical care, bring healing.

Strengthen the first responders, investigators, the mayor and council, and all those who call Tumbler Ridge home.

Lord, in your mercy, provide your peace that passes all understanding.

Guide us as we seek to love our neighbours well, so those in need experience your compassion and comfort. In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Notes & Upcoming Events



Please watch for weather notifications on our website, our Flocknote, or call the Parish Office, 709-726-9924 for information regarding the possibility of closure.

Ash Wednesday February 18, 2026

Masses:

9:30am, 5pm & 7pm

Stations of the Cross Fridays During Lent:

February 20, 27,
March 6, 13, 20 & 27

Join us at 5pm for a hot bowl of soup
Stations of the Cross begin at 6:00pm

Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Francis of Assisi

There will be a Mass, with the distribution of Ashes on Wednesday, February 18 at 11am at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Outer Cove. All are welcome.

Fasting & Abstinence

As Catholics we are aware of the practices of fasting and of abstinence. Fasting is about how much or how little food we take in over a period of time. Abstinence has to do with the kinds of foods we deny ourselves (e.g. meat, chocolate). Fasting for religious purposes is a practice of self-discipline and has a long tradition in the Church. It is used as an aid to concentration in prayer and it also helps develop a sensitivity to those in need. As a Church abstinence calls us (aged 14 years or older) to refrain from the eating of meat. Fasting allows only 1 full meal a day but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and the evening. In addition, eating between meals is prohibited. Fasting applies to those between the ages of 18 – 59 (those with medical conditions are exempt). In Canada Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the required days of fasting and abstinence.

Keep up to date on Parish Notes and Weather Closures Be sure to stay on top of changes in our schedule due to the weather. Join our flocknote and we'll keep you up to date. Flocknote is our communication platform. We send out parish notifications and bulletins as well as using it as a faith formation tool. If you haven't signed up for Flocknote yet, now is a great time to do so.

- * no downloads
- * no passwords
- * no cost to use
- * Available on any device you access your email from.

How to subscribe:

Text 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences. Or connect us at faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com

Tax Receipts

Tax receipts for donations made to the Parish in 2025 are available for pick up. You will find them set up alphabetically in the foyer. If you do not find yours there, please contact Marion in the Parish Office. Call 709-726-9924 or email: divinemeracyparish@rcsj.org Thank you.

Catholic Women's League

The February General Meeting of the Divine Mercy CWL will take place on Sunday, February 15th, 2026 from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. in the foyer of the Church. In the event of inclement weather and the Church is closed, the meeting will be cancelled. All women of the Parish are invited to attend. A Social will follow after the meeting.

Knights of Columbus, Saint Paul's Council will host the Silver Rose in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Tuesday, February 24 at 7pm here at Divine Mercy Parish. There will be Rosary and Prayers. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the unborn.

SPECIAL SEMINARIAN STUDIES COLLECTION: February 14th – 15th 2026

We are blessed to have a young man, Evan Chafe, studying for the priesthood at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto, and to have several other men seeking to discern whether God may be calling them to a priestly vocation. The annual academic costs paid by the Archdiocese for each seminarian studying in a seminary is in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00). To assist in covering seminary education costs, a special "Seminar Studies Collection" is being taken up in all the parishes of the Archdiocese this weekend.

Donations can also be made online at www.rcsj.org (click on the "donate" header and in completing the donation form, indicate that your donation is to "Seminar Studies"). Your financial assistance in paying the costs of preparing men for the priesthood in our Archdiocese is greatly appreciated.

St. Patrick's Day Concert: Monday March 17, 2025 Join Our Lady, Queen of Families Parish for a concert with The Irish Descendants. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the concert begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30 each and are available by calling the church at 709-364-8606 or by dropping in to pick them up (110 Ashford Drive, Mount Pearl).