



# Divine Mercy Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's



To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent: February 22, 2026

## Mass Intention Week of February 22

### Monday, February 23

9:30am Martin Roche +  
Mary Stacey +  
Ester Liat' +  
Dan & Johnny Roche +

7:00pm Anne Marie Maher +  
Bill Rumsey +  
Dorothy Lawlor +  
Fernanda Montes +

### Tuesday, February 24

9:30am Ann Broderick +  
Richard & Helen O'Donnell +  
Christopher Hogan +  
Leo & Elizabeth White +

### Wednesday, February 25

9:30am Cameron Manning +  
Paul Thorburn +  
Uriel Fagan +  
Alice Marie Cliff +

7:00pm Sean Ryan +  
Mary Keating +  
Fernanda Montes +  
Special Intention (DP)

### Thursday, February 26

9:30am Joseph Barron +  
Michael T. Kelly +  
Gerald & Lucy Stamp +  
Linda Harding +

### Friday, February 27

9:30am Ronald & Frances Byrne & Deceased Family +  
Corinne Tungate +  
Eddie Williams +  
Special Intention (PF)

7:00pm Patricia Martin +  
Lorraine Neary +  
Isaac Montes +  
Special Intention (JF)

**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;  
Fridays 6:30pm  
Saturdays 3-3:45pm  
By appointment: email [info@divinemeracynl.com](mailto: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](mailto:divinemeracyparish@rcsj.org)  
[www.divinemeracynl.com/](http://www.divinemeracynl.com/)

### Inquiries for Sacrament Preparation and Faith Formation:

email: [faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com)

Pastor: Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Email: [john@ekon.ca](mailto:john@ekon.ca)  
Tel. 416-417-1513

Associate Pastor: Fr. Joe Mroz, S.J. email: [ej\\_mroz@yahoo.ca](mailto:ej_mroz@yahoo.ca)

## Offertory Collection Week of February 15

Offertory	\$ 6,038
Initial Offering	\$ 75
Year's Day	\$ 15
Ash Wednesday	\$ 68
Food Bank	\$ 610
Seminarian Studies	\$ 615

*E-transfers can be made through [dmparishnl@outlook.com](mailto: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

All of us have had this same experience. We have prayed for some time for something of significance. Maybe it was a health issue for oneself or one's loved one; maybe to bring healing within one's family or among one's closest friends; maybe to get full employment to support one's family better; or, maybe to find that person with whom one will spend the rest of one's life. None of these are small things and none of them are bad or selfish. They are all good and we think that, "Surely, God will grant it to me." Yet we pray and pray, and the good we have asked for doesn't seem to be given. We wonder why? At this moment, when we are wondering if God hears our prayer, is concerned about our situation, or even present and active in our lives, that evil serpent we heard about from the Garden of Eden reappears.

The evil one, the devil is the "Father of Lies." He lies to get what he wants, and what he wants is to destroy. He wants to destroy the place humanity has for God. To destroy the relationship between God and each person. A relationship is always a two-way street. Therefore, through his lies, the Father of Lies tempts us to believe that God has lied to us. That God is not our loving Father, that we are not "the apple of his eye," that we are not his beloved children for whom he gave his only begotten Son. The Father of Lies may slyly propose that we have ourselves to blame for God's apparent silence and inaction – we have sinned so much that God is now vindictively punishing us, or, that God simply doesn't care. The difficult truth is that we are incapable of knowing the full story of our lives, its past, present and future, let alone the story of all humanity and creation. We don't know how all the parts of our lives fit or will fit together, in fact, we don't even know what all the parts are. Most of the parts don't yet exist. There's so much we don't know and can't know. But we're not empty handed. We know . . . We know the Cross and the empty tomb. We know that his love for each of us is not trivial or tentative. He died on the Cross for us. His love is infinitely greater than the totality of our sins. Can't even be compared. His death is his personal gift to each one of us. It allows us to always know the unknowable extent of his love. And the tomb is empty. This unknowable love, now visible to us, is forever. It is eternally given and will never be taken back.

God Bless and Take Care,  
Fr. John

## The Season of Lent The Sacrament of Reconciliation

The season of Lent with its penitential nature has a naturally strong connection to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The renewed desire for conversion and to be conformed to Christ, inevitably casts light on the shadows and weaknesses in our lives. The new life in Christ we receive at Baptism may be obscured through sin. Sin ruptures not only our relationship with God but also with one another.

By the nourishing light of the Holy Spirit, we are able to prepare for the Sacrament of Penance by examining our consciences to identify those ways in which we are not in right relationship with God and with others. It also allows us to see where we have participated or been complicit in a culture of sin that degrades the lives and the dignity of those around us and ourselves. Our hearts are made supple by the gently guidance of the Holy Spirit, so that we may experience true contrition and feel the joy of the Father's mercy.

Through the Sacrament of Penance, God offers his abundant mercy and forgiveness. In response to this gift, we are called to become vehicles of Christ's love, making amends and restoring the bonds of love that have been broken. Healed and forgiven, we are sent out into the world, carrying His mercy, peace and justice into the world.

God loves us because it is part of His essence. It is a mystery, but we can try to understand it a little bit. We need to approach the font of mercy and know what is waiting for us. It is not condemnation, but a divine embrace — to forgive us and to give us the strength to persevere. We know that when we walk out of there, this is not magic. We are going back into the same world. Often, we are going back into the same situation that we are struggling with. If we are in a family, there can be tension. If we are having issues relating to people, they are not going to change instantly. But we should never think that we are above receiving God's grace, because in the mystery of it all, God changes hearts.

We are an Easter people; Christ has died and is risen. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is not about our sinfulness. It is about the faithful and merciful love of God the Father – something we always need to remember. This Lent, let the light of God's mercy show you your deepest self.

# To See To Love To Serve

## To See:

### **First Communion Preparation:**

Our First Communion Program for children ages 7 and up has begun. 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](https://www.divinmercynl.com/?page_id=1243) or contact us through the parish office 709-726-9924

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## 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](mailto: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.**

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### **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](mailto:divinmercyparish@rcsj.org) and we will happily schedule you in.

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### **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:**

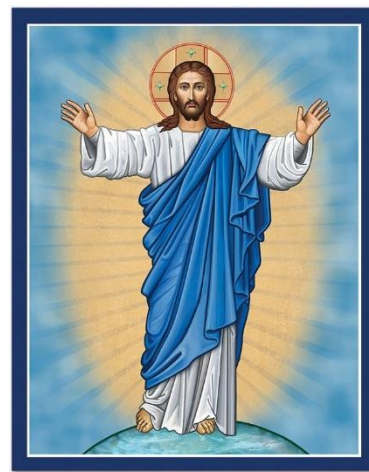
In the busyness of Sunday Masses or Special celebrations, the parking lot can become difficult to maneuver. We are hoping to create a team of volunteers that can guide and assist in the parking lot during heavy traffic times.

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](mailto:faith.divinmercynl@gmail.com)

## To Love:

### **Divine Mercy Parish Lenten Mission**

## **Christ Be Our Light** **Longing for Light, We Come to You**



Saturday, March 21  
Facilitated by Sister Mary Babic, nds

This Lent, our Parish Mission will take the form of a day retreat on Saturday, March 21 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Our theme is *Christ Be Our Light*.

The day begins at 9:30am with coffee and fellowship. This will be followed with the first input session. A light lunch will be served at noon, followed by the second input session and reflection time. Input sessions will be livestreamed and available on Youtube for those unable to attend in person.

Sister Mary is a member of the Congregation of Our Lady of Sion. She is a former Superior General of her congregation, leading her religious community through the Covid Pandemic. She is a long-time educator and has worked extensively in social outreach and ministry. Sister Mary currently serves as part of the Leadership Team for the Sisters of Sion in the Americas.

Don't miss this opportunity to reflect on and deepen your desire for Christ who is our light and our longing.

# Notes & Upcoming Events

## Stations of the Cross

### Fridays During Lent:

February 27,  
March 6, 13, 20 & 27

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

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## Lenten Penance Service

This year, there will be two opportunities to attend a Penance Service

### Family Penance Service

**Saturday, March 14 at 11am**

This is ideal for families with children who have made their First Confession or young people in the parish.

### Evening Lenten Penance Service

**Thursday, March 19 at 6:00pm**

Experience the grace of  
God's mercy in the sacrament.

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## 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](mailto:faith.divinemeracynl@gmail.com)

The **2026 Journey through Lent** video series, which includes reflections on the readings for Ash Wednesday and each Sunday in Lent including Palm Sunday, is available. It is a joint project between three CCCB offices (the *Office national de liturgie*, the National Liturgy Office, and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis). This year's spiritual reflections are delivered by the Most Reverend Daniel Miehm, Bishop of Peterborough (in English), and the Most Rev. Juan Carlos Londoño, Auxiliary Bishop of Quebec (in French). The videos are available on our Archdiocesan website: [www.rcsj.org](http://www.rcsj.org)

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## A Word of Thanks from the CWL

A Sincere *Thank You* to all Parishioners, CWL Members, and Friends who purchased tickets on the Handmade Quilt for the Valentine's Day Draw held on February 14, 2026 sponsored by the Divine Mercy CWL. It was a tremendous success. The Winner of the Handmade Quilt is Lou Puddister, Ticket No. 00547. *Congratulations!!*

A Special *Thank You* to our Anonymous Donor. Without your kind generosity and support, this event would not have been made possible. *Thank You very much!!*

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**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.

Next weekend, February 28 & March 1, the Knights will hold a membership drive. There will be a short announcement and materials available for all who are interested. Men are encouraged to stop by the info table and speak with one of the Knights after all the Sunday Masses next weekend.

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**Sullivan's Songhouse** - Sean Sullivan, Sheldon Thornhill and Rob Slaney will be performing an Irish Concert at Our Lady, Queen of Families Parish in the church (110 Ashford Drive, Mount Pearl) on **Wednesday, March 11, 2026**. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the concert begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and are available at the Parish Office or by calling 709-364-8606. (*This is a correction on last week's announcement regarding a St. Patrick's Day Concert. We apologize for the mistake.*)

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## Saints Speak

*The conscience is nature's book. He who applies what he reads there experiences God's help.*

~ St. Mark the Ascetic