



Divine Mercy Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's



To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

2nd Sunday of Lent: March 1, 2026

Mass Intention Week of March 1

Monday, March 2

9:30am Melinda & Gerald Doyle +
Denis Lawlor +
Robert McGrath +
Special Intention (OM)

7:00pm Larry Synard +
Maria Redmond +
Special Intention (KT)
Special Intention (RB)

Tuesday, March 3

9:30am Carol Harris +
Deceased Members of the Gough Family +
Viki Lynch & Deceased Family +
John & Mary Wade +

Wednesday, March 4

9:30am Ann Noseworthy +
Catherine Fewer +
Tom & Wilomena Roche +
Special Intention (LS)

7:00pm Gordon O'Keefe +
Margaret McDonald +
Catherine Fewer +
Special Intention (CC)

Thursday, March 5

9:30am Joanne Brennan +
Patrick Kennedy, Jr. +
Holy Souls
Richard & Mary Wade +

Friday, March 6

9:30am Frank & Constance Costigan +
Annmarie Broderick +
Patrick Kennedy +
Michael & Anton Valencic

7:00pm Martin Ryan +
Martin Clancey +
Glen Jackson +
Isaac Montes +

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:
Jeanette Walsh, Mary Short & Anne Hyde

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: divinemercuryparish@rcsj.org

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: divinemercuryparish@rcsj.org
www.divinemercurynl.com/

Inquiries for Sacrament Preparation and Faith Formation:

email: faith.divinemercurynl@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 22

Offertory	\$ 2,415
Ash Wednesday	\$ 588
Easter Sunday	\$ 10
Food Bank	\$ 695
Seminarian Studies	\$ 285

*E-transfers can be made through divinemercuryparish@rcsj.org
(Please include your name and indicate what the E-transfer is for)
Thank you for your generosity. God Bless!*

Pastor's Note

Human beings are rational creatures. We are thinking things. One of the results of this is that we always look for cause and effect. Something happens because something has made it happen. For example, in school or at work, we do well because we work hard or we have a natural skill. We make the hockey team because we can skate faster than the others, or we're good with the puck. We have a cause that creates the effect. Pretty simple and makes sense. This reasoning, however, can become a difficulty when applied to faith unreflectively. It is problematic because it can form the contours of our relationship with God. This way of understanding things can characterize our connection with God as more contractual than covenantal. For example, God's grace is given when we deserve it, salvation offered when earned, or love shared when we perform well. Our place with God is not contractual, it is covenantal, that is, relational.

In 2 Timothy, Saint Paul dispels the notion of mere cause and effect with our relationship with God. Paul writes, God has "saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace." He continues, "This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began." God has offered salvation and called each of us to himself not because it was some achievement on our part. It was given even before humanity's existence – offered and given from eternity. Why? Saint Thérèse of Lisieux wrote in [The Story of a Soul](#), the moment of understanding regarding why God had called her. God called her because God wanted to, God wanted her. She wasn't the "Great Flower," she is the "Little Flower." She wasn't the most charismatic or intelligent nun in her convent. God chose and called her because of his love of her, he wanted her. Our faith isn't a cold calculation of cause and effect. It doesn't have the clarity of a contract. It is part of the mystery of God. We can quickly think of objections to God's choice but you are the one he has chosen, you are the one he has called. Perhaps, with confusion, doubt and a profound sense of unworthiness, we wonder why? Why? Because he wanted to, that is, he wants you. "Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory."

God Bless and Take Care,
Fr. John

The Month of March Dedicated to Saint Joseph

The Church dedicates the month of March to Saint Joseph. As most, if not all, of March falls during the season of Lent and the dedication to St. Joseph provides an opportunity to consider and embrace the sacrifice and suffering of he made as he lived each moment in God's will and anticipated the inevitable passion of his beloved foster Son.

This invites us to reflect on this great Saint's faith, humility, obedience, and selfless love. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Little is known about Joseph, as he only appears briefly in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke—never speaking a word in either one. Yet Scripture proclaims him as a "just" or "righteous" man (Matthew 1:19).

In Scripture, to be righteous means living in right relationship with God, other people and all creation. St. Joseph's righteousness was demonstrated first by his whole-hearted obedience to the Will of God. He did so despite personal cost, difficulties and danger. His mercy and compassion in protecting Mary's reputation, his faith in accepting his role as Jesus' foster father and his swift action in shielding the holy family exemplify his virtues and his faithfulness to God's plan.

The hiddenness and silence of Joseph in the gospels are a model for us of quiet, humble service and of the often everyday, yet understated living of faith in God.

As Pope Francis wrote in his apostolic letter *Patris Corde (With a Father's Heart)*, "Each of us can discover in Joseph — the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence — an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. St. Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

By dedicating the month of March to Saint Joseph, the Church encourages believers to reflect on his virtues, seek his intercession, and deepen their understanding of his significance in salvation history.

To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

To See:

Novena of Grace March 4 to 12

On Flocknote, our Parish Website, as well as hardcopies available from the Welcome kiosk in the foyer.

This powerful novena is nine days of prayer in the company of St. Francis Xavier through the letters he wrote. Our Novena includes a daily talk by Fr. John. The talks will be taped and made available from our Flocknote and on our website, along with the Novena prayers. Sign up through Flocknote to receive each day in your inbox:

<https://divinemercurparish12.flocknote.com/signup/248498>

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: ninaberfordnl@gmail.com

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.

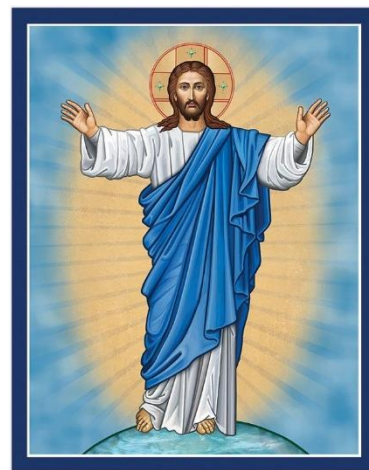
How to subscribe:

Text 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences. Or connect us at faith.divinemercurnl@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. Please RSVP so that we know how many to prepare for.

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: March 6, 13, 20 & 27

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

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.

Open for Private Prayer:

Divine Mercy Parish is open daily throughout Lent for private Stations of the Cross and other devotions.

Monday to Friday
8:30 am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm

Saturday 9am to 4pm

Saints Speak

*'Help one another with the generosity of the Lord,
and despise no one.*

*When you have the opportunity to do good,
do not let it go by.'*

~ St. Polycarp of Smyrna

2026 Chrism Mass

Tuesday March 24 at the Basilica: 7pm.

The Mass of Chrism is one of the most solemn and important diocesan celebrations of the liturgical year. It takes its name from the blessing of the Holy Oils used in the sacraments, which are blessed at this Mass and then given to the priests to take back to their parishes. The Chrism Mass is a celebration of the institution of the ministerial priesthood and is a sign of the unity and communion of the Priests with their Bishop. It is also an excellent occasion on which to celebrate the gift of the Ordained Priesthood and the ministry of the Priests of the Archdiocese. The 2026 Chrism Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral-Basilica of St. John the Baptist on **Tuesday March 24th at 7:00 p.m.** All are invited to come and join in this celebration of the gift of the Ordained Priesthood. The Mass will be live streamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@BasilicaHeritageFoundation>.

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

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.*)

Marriage Preparation:

The next Marriage Preparation course offered by the Archdiocese is scheduled for **April 11, 2026**. The deadline for registration is **March 20, 2026**. It is recommended that couples complete the course at least six months prior to their wedding. Register through this link

<https://rcsj.org/chancery/marriage-preparation/register>

Couples will receive further information upon submission of registration. The next course will take place in the Fall (late Oct).