

Divine Mercy Sunday



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In a series of revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Pope St. John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000.

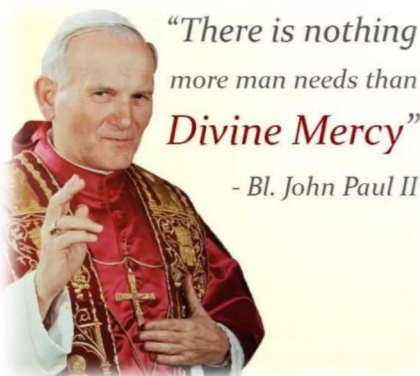
The Lord expressed His will with regard to this feast in His very first revelation to St. Faustina. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in her *Diary* entry 699:

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My mercy.



In all, St. Faustina recorded 14 revelations from Jesus concerning His desire for this feast.

Nevertheless, Divine Mercy Sunday is NOT a feast based solely on St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not primarily about St. Faustina — nor is it altogether a new feast. The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter. The title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does, however, highlight the meaning of the day.



"There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercy"
- Bl. John Paul II

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us — all of us. And, He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

A - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

B - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that all the graces of His mercy can only be received by our trust. The more we open the door of our hearts and lives to Him with trust, the more we can receive.

This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

On Sunday 24th April we will have Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions in Our Lady of Lourdes, Perth, from 2.30-3.30p.m., come and join us in celebrating the merciful love of the Lord!



Parish Newsletter for Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth & St. James', Kinross



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**For the weekend of April 23rd/24th, 2022
Divine Mercy Sunday (2nd of Easter) - Year C**



Getting more involved in the life of the parish...

I don't know about you, but I'm delighted that things are starting to get a bit more back to normal in the parishes as the restrictions that we've been used to for the past couple of years are being relaxed. I fully understand the hesitancy of some and perhaps even the lack of confidence people have after going through all we've experienced... I would like to encourage you, however, to help us start to get things as much back to normal as we can, and to get involved again in the life of the parish if you feel you've had to step back for a while. Maybe this is also an opportunity to get involved in doing something for the first time? I keep saying it, but we all have something to offer! This is what I'm thinking for the two parishes, so please pray about it, and don't be shy in coming forward to help (if you can help put your name, your contact details, and how you'd like to help on a slip of paper and hand it in, this way we can get back to you):

St. James': re-establishing teas/coffees in the church hall after the 9.00a.m. Sunday Mass and Wednesday morning Mass. Beginning again with Sunday children's liturgy. Assistance in looking after the church gardens. Re-establishing the women's group or perhaps establishing a branch of the U.C.M. (Union of Catholic Mothers). Getting more readers for weekday and Sunday Masses (maybe even some older children to read). Encouraging children who have made their 1st Holy Communion to become altar servers. Adding to our choir members. Having a group to organise parish social activities, so we can establish a calendar of different events. Church cleaning. More members for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Our Lady of Lourdes: Getting children to help serve Mass and establishing a rota of altar servers. More volunteers to read at weekday and Sunday Masses (including older children). People to join a fundraising/social events group. Assistance with gardening and maintenance of the property - establishment of a "fabric and maintenance group". Volunteer painters. More members for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and establishing a Mini-Vinnies for the children to get involved in charitable work. Help with church cleaning.

Even if every person can contribute a little of their time, energy and talents it will make a huge difference!



A Daily Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Times of Holy Mass & Confessions etc.

Monday 25th April	<i>No public Mass</i>	
Tuesday 26th April	2nd Week in Eastertide	
	<u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u>	9.15a.m. Holy Rosary 10.00a.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Mass
	<u>St. James' Parish:</u>	5.45-6.45p.m. *Holy Hour 7.00p.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Mass
Wednesday 27th April	2nd Week in Eastertide	
	<u>St. James' Parish:</u>	9.15a.m. Holy Rosary 10.00a.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Holy Mass
	<u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u>	5.45 - 6.45p.m. *Holy Hour (Confessions available) 7.00p.m. Holy Mass
Thursday 28th April	2nd Week in Eastertide - Optional Memorial of St. Louis de Montfort	
	<u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u>	9.15a.m. Holy Rosary 10.00a.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Mass
Friday 29th April	2nd Week in Eastertide - Feast of St. Catherine of Siena	
	<u>St. James' Parish:</u>	9.15a.m. Holy Rosary 10.00a.m. Holy Mass Confessions after Mass
Saturday 30th April	3rd Sunday of Easter - C. (Vigil Mass)	
	<u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u>	4.15 - 4.45p.m. Confessions 5.00p.m. Vigil Mass
	<u>St. James' Parish:</u>	7.00p.m. Vigil Mass Confessions after Mass
Sunday 1st May	3rd Sunday of Easter - C.	
	<u>St. James' Parish:</u>	9.00a.m. Holy Mass
	<u>Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish:</u>	11.00a.m. Holy Mass
	<u>Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn:</u>	5.15p.m. Holy Mass (not yet a public Mass)

*I begin each day with holy Mass, receiving Jesus hidden under the appearance of a simple piece of bread. Then I go out into the streets and I find the same Jesus hidden in the dying destitute, the AIDS patients, the lepers, the abandoned children, the hungry, and the homeless. It's the same Jesus. -
Mother Teresa*

The Holy Hour will consist of the recitation of the Holy Rosary, Litany of Loreto, silent prayer, and will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Once the Holy Rosary has been prayed. Fr. Martin will be available to hear Confessions.

This Sunday's readings from the Sacred Scriptures: - 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year C.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

Psalm 117(118)

Response: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His love has no end.

A reading from the Book of the Apocalypse 1:9-13,17-19

I was dead, and now I am to live for ever and ever.

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe
Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came again and stood among them.

Create a Sacred Space in the Home



“Acquire the habit of speaking to God as if you were alone with Him, familiarly and with confidence and love, as to the dearest and most loving of friends.” ~ St. Alphonsus Liguori

Our family recently made a major move from a little rural Mayberry town to a larger metropolitan area. Once we were somewhat settled, I resolved to set aside a particular part of our new home for prayer, quiet reading, and reflection. It became a wall in our living room that dons icons and framed images of our favourite saints, chief among them the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We have a holy water font with the image of the Immaculate Conception on it right underneath this mélange of pictures. Ben and I found ourselves walking past this little space each day and pausing, however briefly, for a quick blessing with holy water and prayer. I started blessing the girls each morning, too, and then in the evening I encouraged them to spend a few moments before bed just telling Jesus about their day. You'll be amazed at how setting aside a small portion of your home will transform the atmosphere in the house and in your family! (from an article by Jeannie Ewing)

Memorial to Fr. Colin Golden R.I.P.



Some while ago now, after the sad death of Fr. Colin Golden, and when I knew I had been appointed to Our Lady of Lourdes as Parish Priest, I ordered a statue as a memorial to Fr. Colin. The statue is a three feet high statue of St. Andrew. I chose St. Andrew because he is both patron saint of our beloved Scotland and also patron saint of Romania - a place whose people were so dear to Fr. Colin's heart. I intend to have the statue installed at the front of Our Lady's on one side of the sanctuary (probably the side opposite to where the baptismal font is located). The statue will be mounted on a shelf and an appropriate memorial plaque will be placed near the statue in memory of Fr. Colin asking for prayers for the happy repose of his soul. I know that Fr. Colin was dearly loved and is a much missed priest, and I hope this memorial will be a fitting tribute to his legacy in the parish and beyond. Should anyone wish to contribute financially towards the statue, the plinth, and the plaque, you can hand in your donation in an envelope marked "Fr. Colin's Memorial". Thank you for your generosity. The statue will probably not be in place until sometime after the Easter celebrations and donations can be handed in at any time. Thank you to those who have already handed in contributions, God bless you, Fr. Martin