

## Divine Mercy Sunday



**From The Desk of Fr. Dunstan:** This Sunday is known as “Divine Mercy” Sunday, as instituted by St. John Paul II, following the revelation of Jesus to Saint Faustina.

Who is Saint Faustina?

Saint Faustina was a nun in Poland during the 1930s. She received revelations, or messages from Jesus, which she recorded in notebooks. Some messages that Saint Faustina received from Jesus were:

- that Jesus loves each and every soul, and would like to attract all the souls to heaven,
- that all the souls are not giving the proper respect to Jesus, in the form of Eucharist, because of their sins, and
- that the people do not fully trust that Jesus came to Earth, and died for the sins of the whole world.

What is “Divine Mercy?”: Short Answer - a sort of ticket to heaven, through prayer. Long Answer - You’ve probably seen the images of Jesus, where there are two rays, one red and one white, coming out of his heart. This is the image of the Divine Mercy. The red ray represents the Blood of Christ for the life of souls, or the justification for life and the white, or pale ray, represents Water, for the forgiveness for souls. Both of these elements also appear when Jesus is pierced by a soldier at the foot of the cross.

Through this revelation, we are taught by Jesus to pray for mercy from our own sins and for the sins of the whole world. We pray for the conversion of sinners, and for every soul, that they may attain heaven and obtain sanctification and holiness.

**The Prayer:** The hour of Divine Mercy is 3:00pm - when Jesus died on the cross. It is also encouraged to say the Divine Mercy at 3:00pm. While there is a Divine Mercy chaplet that uses the rosary, the most important take away is to think and say (hopefully at 3:00pm), “Jesus, I Trust in You. Have mercy on us and on the whole world.” This puts us in the presence of God and allows us to think and participate in the Divine Mercy.

If you are able to do the chaplet, a good idea would be to do the chaplet as a Novena. A novena is “a nine day period of private or public prayer to obtain special graces, to implore special favours, or make special petitions.” This is usually said first from Good Friday, all the way to the following Saturday, which culminates to Divine Mercy Sunday. This can then be restarted on the first Friday of every month, for the next nine days, culminating on the following Sunday.

Practicing the Divine Mercy enhances the belief that we ourselves will have a peaceful death and the assurances of heavenly birth, when we die.

I encourage you to try the Divine Mercy. It will be food, for your soul, and a light for your life. Amen.

*May God Bless You.*

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**

For + JAMES KEARNS

Requested by The Kearns’ Family

**Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

For INTENTIONS OF THE DECOURCY FAMILY

Requested by THE FAMILY

**Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

For + ANTONIO & DIOLINDA PACHECO

Requested by Maria Tavares

**Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

For + SHELLY HUNT

Requested by Ed, Lisa, Maddy & Eve Valin

**Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

For INTENTIONS OF CATHERINE CHANG

### Please Pray For The Sick

David Hibberd, Christine Curran, Jacob McLean, Carl D’Sousa, Joan Tierney, Amanda Finlay, Diane Meldrum, Jack Lees, Carmel Richard



*The Sanctuary Light burns this week  
in loving memory of*

*Jim (James) Kearns*



*Help support your parish so that we are able to keep our doors open to support you when you need us. Contact the office if you wish to begin using envelopes or for more information on our Pre Authorized giving (PAG). Alternatively, scan the QR code below and the link will take you to our “Donate” button on our website where you can donate through your credit card; don’t forget to select “St. John’s Parish, Toronto” in the drop down menu. Thank you for making a gift to your Parish.*

	2019	2023
Sunday Offertory	\$ 7600	\$ 4490
Offertory PAG:	\$ 1110	\$ 1421
Easter	\$ 6796	\$ 6665
Good Friday	\$ 3575	\$ 2355



### The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

Begin with the sign of the Cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and The Apostles Creed.

1. Then on the Our Father beads, say the Following: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
2. On the 10<sup>th</sup> Hail Mary Beads say the following: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Repeat step 2 and 3 for all five decades.
4. Conclude with saying three times: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**In The News**

**THEOLOGY ON TAP** York – “Finding Peace in an Age of Anxiety. Join us and other young adults on Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, for a night with guest speaker, Justin Francis Beers, as he shares a talk/testimony on anxiety. What is causing anxiety in this age and why? How do you trust in God with all the pressures of the world? Come and learn the answers to these questions. Along with ways to reframe the way we think about dealing with our anxiety. Registration required. Limited seats available. By meeting young adults (ages 19-39) where they are, Theology on Tap is a night at a pub/restaurant that provides young adults with a theological talk, a comfortable place for discussion with their peers, and a chance to have their questions answered. Testimony/Talk | Fellowship | Discussion | Q&A | Prayer. Register <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/theology-on-tap-york-finding-peace-in-an-age-of-anxiety-tickets-607731229467>. Contact Amanda Onilla, at 437.900.1683, or [amanda@ocytoronto.org](mailto:amanda@ocytoronto.org)

**PRAYER VIGIL:** Please be advised that the Prayer Vigil, for our soon-to-be priests is being held at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica on Friday, May 12 from 5:30 pm to 10 pm. There will be praise and worship, interspersed throughout the evening, communal prayers, such as the Rosary and a sung version of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. For more information please contact the Office of Vocations via email – [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org). Please note, this event is open to the public.

**RETRouvaille WEEKEND:** Friday, April 21 to Sunday, April 23 at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, 1617 Blythe Road, Mississauga. Retrouvaille is for couples whose marriage needs a tune up or even a major overhaul. It is an effective program that has worked for thousands of couples. It is Catholic in origin and outlook but open to people of all faiths. It begins with a weekend experience and continues with a series of follow up sessions. Contact: 437.234.5610 for more information and to register.

**REFLECTING ON CARDINAL COLLINS' PASTORAL LETTER:** on the Sacred Heart of Jesus "Create in me a clean heart, O God." (Psalm 51:10). Focusing on the Sacred Heart leads us to the very heart of who Jesus is, the divine person who took on our humanity, who journeys with us, who meets us on the road, as he did with the discouraged disciples on the road to Emmaus. To learn more about the Cardinal's letter, Heart Speaks to Heart, visit [www.archtoronto.org/sacredheart](http://www.archtoronto.org/sacredheart).

**Little Levity:** Dorothy was sending her eight year old son, Jonnie, off to Mass by himself. She gave him two dollars. “One is to put in the collection plate and the other is for you to buy a candy bar for yourself on your way home,” she said. Little Jonnie went on his way walking to church, when all of a sudden he fell and dropped one of the dollars and it fell right down into the sewer drain. Jonnie looked down but could not see where it had gone. He got up, brushed off his knees, and said “Sorry Lord, I just lost your dollar.”  
*Peace begins with a smile.....Mother Teresa*

**Parish News**

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK:** Next week, April 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> we celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Week. We want to thank our volunteers and acknowledge the difference they make in strengthening our Church community through their dedicated service in parish ministry. This year's theme, “Volunteering Weaves Us Together” celebrates our volunteers for weaving our church community together using their unique gifts and abilities in their acts of service. This is reflected in 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6 “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.”

*“Thank You to each and every one of you!”*

*A special thank you to all who made our Easter celebrations a great success. All the ministry coordinators, volunteers, altar servers, Deacon, Ray and you our parish community! May the peace of the Risen Lord, stay with you always. Fr. James*

We congratulate RCIA Candidate  
*Martin Laing*



All the Church shares your joy. Be strengthened by our prayers for your new life in Christ.

And we welcome newly baptized baby  
*Eileen Jaimie Panozzo*



**HELP KEEP MASKS OUT OF LANDFILLS:** Please save your disposable Mask. St. John School has partnered with an organization that recycles disposable N95 and surgical type masks. To celebrate Earth Day/Week the students of St. John's will be collecting used disposable masks at all 3 Masses on the weekend of April 22nd and 23rd. Please drop them off at Mass that weekend and spread the word to your family and friends. Every mask helps.