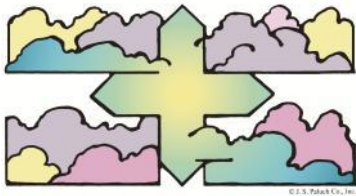


Sunday of Divine Mercy

April 3, 2016



JOINING THE COMPANY OF BELIEVERS

What will help you to believe?

Today's scripture readings tell of faith and doubt. They offer stories "recorded to help you believe," as the passage from John's Gospel (20:31) remarks today. There is an urgency about this. On this Second Sunday of Easter we are challenged to join the company of believers—countless men and women who witnessed the power of the apostles' faith.

There is no doubt that this power comes from Jesus Christ. The second reading, from the book of Revelation, reports John's mystical vision of the Son of Man, who proclaims, "Once I was dead, but now I live" (Revelation 1:18). The Gospel gathers everyone but Thomas to see the Risen Jesus and receive the Holy Spirit from him. Like Thomas, we who have come along later must have faith so that we can have life.

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Why Catholics Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday

By Rev. Alfred McBride, O.Praem.

On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II proclaimed to the world that "from now on throughout the Church this Sunday will be called Divine Mercy Sunday."

Pope John Paul had actively promoted the message of St. Faustina. In his 1980 encyclical on God's mercy, *Rich in Mercy*, he developed a scriptural and doctrinal basis for our faith in the mercy of God. By linking the revealed truth about God's mercy to one of the most solemn Sundays after Easter itself, he illumined the fact that the liturgy already proclaimed the divine mercy. The truth has been embedded for two millennia in the worship of the Church. Once again we see an illustration of the ancient saying, "The law of faith is the law of prayer."

On the Second Sunday of Easter, the responsorial psalm and Gospel for Cycles A, B and C center on the theme of mercy. In Psalm 118 we sing three times, "His mercy endures forever." The Gospel, from John 20:19-31, begins with the risen Christ

appearing to the apostles on Easter night. Jesus calms his disciples by saying and giving them "Peace." He shows them the scars of his Passion, his wounded hands and side. His glorified body retains the evidence of his saving work through his suffering, death and resurrection.

He fills them with joy and again says to them—and produces in them—"Peace." Then he breathes on them and explains what the divine breathing means with the words, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." He gives the apostles the power of God's mercy for the sinner, the gift of forgiving sins from God's treasury of mercy. The other texts speak of healing and give the assurance there is nothing to fear.

From Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday to the Eighth Day of Easter, the divine love song of mercy is chanted amid abundant alleluias. For centuries in liturgy the Church has proclaimed the mercy of God through the Word of God and the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. The tables of Word and Sacrament are heaped with the promises of Divine Mercy and its grand effect in the lives of millions. The liturgy is the storehouse of the wisdom of God and a treasure chest for all the worshippers.

Social Justice Committee

Pasta & Games

Friday, April 8 @ 6:30PM Hall

St. Mary's Center for the homeless

We are still collecting toiletries, small sizes would be best. In addition, socks would be welcome.

The Catholic Worker

We also are still collecting rice, beans, canned and boxed goods, toilet paper, and paper towels.

Thank you for your support.



Our altar flowers this weekend have been provided by Joe Green in loving memory of his son, Brantley Green.

STEWARDSHIP

Easter Sunday Collection	\$ 3,873.00
Bishop's Appeal	
Our 2016 Goal	\$ 7,651.00
Received as of 3/15/2016	\$ 700.00
Capital Improvement Campaign	
Our 2016 Goal	\$ 20,000.00
Received as of 3/15/2016	\$ 3,243.00
<i>Reclaiming Christ's Mission Together:</i>	
Our Goal	\$ 163,740.00
Pledged as of 11/2/2015	\$ 135,525.00
Remaining Balance	\$ 28,215.17
25% received as of 11/18/2015	\$ 11,512.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week

Saturday, April 2

5:00PM – Brantley Green

Sunday, April 3

10:00AM – Dick & Peggy Lynch

When we celebrate the Eucharist, heaven and earth unite. We are one with our loved ones who have gone before us. We would like to encourage you to consider remembering by name your loved ones at a mass on the weekdays or on the weekend.

Please call the office to arrange a mass.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PASCHAL BAYLON

Sunday, April 3

First Communion Class, 9AM, Rectory Conf. Rm
Choir Practice, 9:15AM, Church

Thursday, April 7

Choir Practice, 5:30PM, Church

Friday, April 8

Pasta & Games Night, 6:30PM, Hall

Sunday, April 10

Choir Practice, 9:15AM, Church

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10;
Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19;
Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;
Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 [1-14]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Second Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy)
Monday:	The Annunciation of the Lord
Tuesday:	St. Vincent Ferrer
Thursday:	St. John Baptist de la Salle

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill, especially:



Anna Alberti	Shirley & Ed Mannette
Stephen Alberti	Gary Manuel
Jocelyn Alcantara	Rosie Martin
Claudia Blancher	Sandra Meekins
Lani Borges	Sam Meo
Andrew Brown	Grady Miles
Peter Cuddyre	Dakota Neal-Soublet
Benigno Cusortelli	Bob Norris
Jerry DeMaria	Angela Paz
Alex & Dorothy Donaville	Norma Perry
Sue Ann Dunford	Sonja Phillips
Gerri Escobar	Carol Reinero
Juanita Estrella	Bea Scott
Jess Felis	Rich Selby
James Ferguson	Bill Slon
Jane Framsted	Bruce Soublet
Libia George	Margaret Soublet
Ernie Gonsalves	Rosetta Souza
Chanel Marie Gordon	Jared Springer
Sue Holmes	Nancy Stoeber
Meghan Johnson	Sandra Tanhuanpaa
Lisa Johnston	Leila Tassano
Heidi Kauzlarich	Mary Tate
Sarah Leech	Elizabeth Vallerga
	Barbara Wickhorst

And for those who have died, especially
Milt Devitt.

HELPING YOUR NEIGHBOR

If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask God simply to fill you with charity . . . with it you can accomplish what you desire.

—St. Vincent Ferrer

