

April 19, 2020 ♦ Sunday of Divine Mercy — Second Sunday of Easter

Livestream Schedule

Daily Mass

Sunday — Friday at 9:00 AM

Saturday at 8:00 AM

Misa en español

Jueves a las 7:00 p.m. Sabado a las 7:00 p.m.

Rosary

4:00 PM each day

April 19 — Divine Mercy Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday Mass 3:00 PM Divine Mercy Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you."



Sunday of Divine Mercy — 2nd Sunday of Easter

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Gerard Francik
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frfrancik@shgparish.org

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Rev. Hilario Avendaño Associate Pastor for Hispanic Ministry

Mr. James A. Ryan Retired Deacon

Mr. James Nuzzo Deacon

Mr. Bill Arther
Permanent Deacon Intern

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jdanielson@shgparish.org

Mrs. Susan Spedden
Director of Pastorate Operations
sspedden@shgparish.org

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ASSISTING CLERGY

Rev. James Proffitt

Schedule of Livestreamed Services

April 19 — Divine Mercy Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday Mass

3:00 PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, followed by Benediction

Daily Mass

Sunday — Friday at 9:00 AM Saturday at 8:00 AM

> Misa en español Jueves a las 7:00 p.m. Sabado a las 7:00 p.m.

Rosary 4:00 PM each day

Join Videos of Sacred Heart Masses "Live" at Facebook

(click here)

Masses are "livestreamed" at Facebook each day. You can watch them "live" at their scheduled times or watch later by choosing from a list of Sacred Heart recorded videos. (It is not necessary to be a Facebook member to view the SHG videos.)

Sacred Heart Parish Website

You can find links and view our most recent videos — usually updated "live" within a minute or two — at www.shgparish.org/videos.aspx. Links and the most current video are also available on the website home page.

Sacred Heart YouTube Channel

Videos are uploaded and available afterwards on our YouTube channel.



Learn about Divine Mercy Sunday

How to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy



Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón

Segundo domingo de Pascua — 19 de abril 2020 (domingo de la Divina Misericordia)

Que es la Pascua?

comprende E1tiempo pascual cincuenta días (en griego "pentecostés", vividos y celebrados como un solo día: "los cincuenta días que median entre el domingo de la Resurrección hasta el domingo de Pentecostés se han de celebrar con alegría y júbilo, como si se tratara de un solo y único día festivo, como un gran domingo" (Normas Universales del Año Litúrgico, n 22).

El tiempo pascual es el más fuerte de todo el año, que se inaugura en la Vigilia Pascual y se celebra durante siete semanas hasta Pentecostés. Es la Pascua (paso) de Cristo, del Señor, que ha pasado el año, que se inaugura en la Vigilia Pascual y se celebra durante siete semanas, hasta Pentecostés. Es la Pascua (paso) de Cristo, del Señor, que ha pasado de la muerte a la vida, a su existencia definitiva y gloriosa. Es la pascua también de la Iglesia, su Cuerpo, que es introducida en la Vida Nueva de su Señor por medio del Espíritu que Cristo le dio el día del primer Pentecostés. El origen de esta cincuentena se remonta a los orígenes del Año litúrgico.

Los judíos tenían ya la "fiesta de las semanas" (ver Dt 16,9-10), fiesta inicialmente agrícola conmemorativa de la Alianza en el Sinaí, a los cincuenta días de la Pascua. Los cristianos organizaron muy pronto siete semanas, pero para prolongar la alegría de la Resurrección y para celebrarla al final de los cincuenta días la fiesta de Pentecostés: el don del Espíritu Santo. Ya en el siglo II tenemos el testimonio de Tertuliano que habla de que en este espacio no se ayuna, sino que se vive una prolongada alegría.

La liturgia insiste mucho en el carácter unitario de estas siete semanas. La primera semana es la "octava de Pascua', en la que ya por rradición los bautizados en la Vigilia Pascual, eran introducidos a una más profunda sintonía con el Misterio de Cristo que la liturgia celebra. La "octava de Pascua" termina con el domingo de la octava, llamado "in albis", porque ese día los recién bautizados deponían en otros tiempos los vestidos blancos recibidos el día de su Bautismo.

Misa en español (Facebook)

Jueves a las 7:00 p.m. Sabado a las 7:00 p.m.



Recursos en Español: www.archbalt.org/coronavirus-responsehispanic-ministry-resources/



"Oh Sangre y
Agua que
brotasteis del
Corazón de
Jesús como
una fuente de
misericordia
para nosotros,
en Vos
confío".

Sacramental

Bautizos: Se celebran cada segundo sábado del mes (excepto durante la cuaresma). Los padres y los padrinos requieren asistir a una clase de preparación que se realiza el tercer domingo de cada mes y los padrinos deben haber recibido todos los sacramentos de iniciación cristiana (Bautizo, Confirmación Eucaristía). Favor llamar a la oficina para mayor información.

Matrimonio: Las parejas que están planeando en casarse deben contactar sacerdote o el diacono por lo menos seis meses antes de la fecha planeada para este sacramento. Todas las parejas comprometidas deben de tomar el cursillo prematrimonial.

Unción de los Enfermos:

En caso de emergencia llamar a la oficina parroquial o a la rectoría. Por favor notificar a la oficina si sabe de alguien que se encuentre en el hospital y necesite de este sacramento.

Sacramento de la Reconciliación:

El sacramento de la confesión se celebra los sábados de 5:30 p.m. a 6:45 p.m.



Sunday of Divine Mercy — 2nd Sunday of Easter

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mrs. Katie Angerer kangerer@shgschool.org

Mr. Mathew Lane mathewlane@verizon.net

SEMINARIAN INTERN

Mr. Maurice Sunde Afor msunde@shgparish.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday:

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM 1:15 - 4:30 PM

Mailing Address:

Sacred Heart Parish P.O. Box 3672 Glyndon, MD 21071-3672

Phone Numbers

Parish Office / Rectory

410-833-1696 parish@shgparish.org

Fax 410-833-2676

Hispanic Ministry 410-830-1862

Development Office 410-833-4933

Sacred Heart School 410-833-0857

Religious Education Office

410-833-8515

Youth Ministry 410-833-7639

Convent 410-526-1327

Bulletin Deadline

Announcements are due one week before the requested bulletin date. Send notices to jment@shgparish.org.

Please Remember the Sick in Your Prayers

Lucy Angerer, Gary Bady, Andy Berendt, Mary Ellen and Mike Berry, Georgeanne Bond, Abby Renehan Cafiero, Gloria Cyford, John Dotson, Maria Ekavhiare, Theresa Eyler, Sandy Gamber, Troy Heiner, Sam Hibbard, Gerry Kleiman, Loretta McCusker, Carlyle Montanye, Scott Moser, Elaine Ortiz, Judy Schaefer, Mel Serio, Ryan Shriver, George Stifler

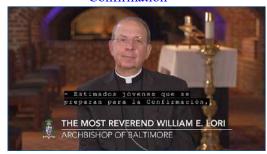
Update: First Communion and Confirmation in 2020

From the Archdiocese of Baltimore: All Confirmations and First Communions currently scheduled through the month of May are **postponed** and will be **rescheduled** at a later date. Archbishop Lori has recorded special video messages to our Confirmation and First Communion candidates. You can view them by clicking the images below:

First Communion



Confirmation



Sunday of Divine Mercy

Each year, on the Second Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates the **Sunday of Divine Mercy**. Our world's need for the message of Divine Mercy took on new urgency in the 20th century. It was during this time that the world witnessed the rise of Nazism and communism and experienced the horrors of the world at war. *Civilization was losing the understanding of the sanctity and inherent dignity of every human life*.

As these evil ideologies were taking shape, Jesus appeared to a humble Polish nun, whom we know as St. Maria Faustina Kowalska. She recorded His messages to her in her *Diary*. On one such occasion, Jesus said to St. Faustina:

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and 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 (Diary 600).

Jesus appeared to the humble Faustina and asked that we celebrate the gift of His mercy



today. Our celebration of this Easter Octave is a celebration of the mercy and forgiveness that are now available to all of us, by virtue of Christ's Resurrection. We must only run toward the outstretched arms of Christ.

How often have we doubted the Lord like Thomas in Sunday's Gospel? How often have we hidden in fear, unable to bear the shame of our sins, mistakes, and failures? No sin is unforgiveable, and no sinner is beyond redemption. We have all failed and are in need of God's mercy. It is for

this very reason that Christ suffered, died, and rose again. Christ came to offer us His infinite love and mercy, and we can receive it in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

St. John Paul II, who canonized St. Faustina, said in his 2001 homily for the Sunday of Divine Mercy, "Divine Mercy! This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity." Today we celebrate that Easter gift of God's unending, merciful love for all His children. This is at the heart of the Gospel. Let us never fail to seek the mercy that God desires to freely give us. Jesus, we trust in you.

Selections taken from the USCCB Pro-Life Action Guide for Divine Mercy Sunday.

Our Stewardship

Weekly Offering — April 12, 2020

Offertory	\$18,260.00
Maintenance	\$1,312.00
Catholic Education	\$291.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$120.00
Good Friday / Holy Land	\$770.00
Easter	\$25,899.00

Electronic Fund Contributions 4/06/20 – 4/12/20

(Not included in above total)

Offertory	\$5.251.30
Maintenance	\$287.00
Good Friday / Holy Land	
Easter	



Easter Flower Memorials

We again thank those who helped us to have modest yet beautiful arrangements of Easter flowers this year in honor of their loved ones. The names

of those honored and those contributing can be viewed by clicking here, and the printed booklet of remembrance is on display in both churches for the Easter season.

Parish Support — Thank You!

We are extremely grateful for your continued prayers, support, and generosity! The parish has received countless notes and calls of support and love during this pandemic — and more food donations than we could use in our parish alone. We have been blessed by your offertory contributions and Easter offerings during this difficult time, and we thank those who have been able to increase their giving on behalf of those who might not be able to donate due to recent financial hardship or inability to work.

We are striving to keep parish expenses as low as possible during this time while still continuing the work and ministry of the Church.

Online Giving

www.shgparish.org/parish-support.aspx

Your offertory can also be dropped in the mail slot at the Parish Office or mailed to this address:

Sacred Heart Parish
P.O. Box 3672 • Glyndon, MD 21071-3672

Parish Life

Easter Sunday Sacred Heart Parish Food Drive



(Click above to view the story and video from WBAL TV 11 at Sacred Heart.)

Online Workshops and Catechetical Certifications

Sacred Heart is now offering online Catechetical Certifications and access to workshops through the Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University at **no charge** to parishioners. Click here to learn more!



Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus offer a tremendous amount of spiritual, outreach, social, fellowship, and educational activities at our parish. Click below to browse the most recent newsletters of our Immaculate Lady Council.

April 2020 KofC newsletter March 2020 KofC newsletter

Wisdom Sayings from the Sisters of St. Joseph

- Sisters Cealy, Helen, Karen, and Mary Beth

Maxim of Love 11:1

"Your zeal will always be in proportion to the love of God you have in your heart. If it springs from a great love, then it will be great."

Click here to view a clever inspirational video of the Hallelujah Chorus found by the Sisters!



Sunday of Divine Mercy — 2nd Sunday of Easter

Normal Sacramental Ministry

Baptisms

Third Saturdays at noon and within the celebration of Mass (except during Lent). Parents are required to attend a preparation class (offered monthly). Contact the Religious Education Office for more details and to arrange for Baptism.

Reconciliation

Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 3:00 – 3:45 PM in the Little Church and by appointment. Parish Reconciliation Services are held during Advent and Lent.

Marriage

Couples planning to be married should contact a priest or deacon at least six months before the anticipated date and must take a marriage preparation course. Do not set a date until you have met with the priest or deacon.

Communion to the Sick

If someone is in the hospital or homebound and unable to attend Mass and wishes to Communion. receive please contact the Parish Office. Mass celebrated at FutureCare Nursing Cherrywood the 2nd Home on Wednesday at 10:30 AM.

The Corporal Works of Mercy during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Corporal Works of Mercy are found in the teachings of Jesus and give us a model for how we should treat all others, as if they were Christ in disguise; they "are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs":

Feed the Hungry

- Organize a network of volunteers in your community to **grocery shop** for parishioners or neighbors in need, especially the more vulnerable populations in our community.
- Casseroles and other donations are delivered to Our Daily Bread from Sacred Heart every Wednesday morning until we can resume more normal activity. You can drop off your items with the parish volunteers between 8:00 9:00 AM each Wednesday outside of the Parish Center. Please contact Mark Grabenstein (410-654-0414 or markgrabenstein@verizon.net) or Vicki Mahr (mahrfamily5@comcast.net or 410-292 -5738) with any questions. The revised casserole recipe and more details can be found later in this bulletin and at www.shgparish.org/our-daily-bread.aspx.
- Sacred Heart will continue to collect **food donations** for our parishioners. Please feel free to drop off donations **outside the Mother Seton Room** whenever you are able. Volunteers will bring the food inside each day until the need subsides. Thank you!

Give Drink to the Thirsty

- Do not purchase or hoard more water than you need.
- While handwashing is vitally important, **make an effort not to waste water** in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ who do not have access to clean water.

Shelter the Homeless

• Consider donating toiletries to a **local shelter**, since those who suffer homelessness — and the facilities that minister to them — are especially vulnerable at this time.

Visit the Sick

- While in-person visits are not advisable, please reach out via phone/video call or send a letter or card to **those who may feel particularly isolated** during this time.
- Offer to assist caregivers of chronically sick family members by grocery shopping or cooking for them so they do not have to risk exposure.
- Reach out to **health care workers** in your community who may be overworked, burdened, or in need of specific support at this time.

Visit the Prisoners

• **People in prison** are especially isolated and vulnerable during this pandemic; consider how to support those who are ministering to them and bringing them the Word of God.

Bury the Dead

- Now that funerals are limited, reach out with cards or phone calls to those who have recently lost a loved one.
- **Pray** for those you have lost; ask their intercession on behalf of all those facing death today.

Together IN CHRIST Responding to Coronavirus

Give Alms to the Poor

- Reach out to those who may have been especially burdened during this pandemic, especially those whose occupations make them **vulnerable to economic instability**.
- Remember that Catholic Relief Services continues to serve the most vulnerable.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Spiritual Works of Mercy have long been a part of the Christian tradition, appearing in the works of theologians and spiritual writers throughout history; just as Jesus attended to the spiritual well-being of those he ministered to, these Spiritual Works of Mercy guide us to "help our neighbors in their spiritual needs":

Counseling the Doubtful

- Reassure and support those who may be especially anxious during this time.
- If someone asks you for advice, orient your response to Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Instructing the Ignorant

• With public celebration of Masses unavailable, learn or teach someone how to make a Spiritual Communion.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

· Take this time to recommit to your own study and formation and, for those with children, take advantage of this time to reflect on the faith as a family:

Join with Sacred Heart Parishioners

Online Bible Study • **Small Group Sessions** Contact Jamie at jdanielson@shgparish.org

Knights of Columbus Bible Study or Rosary Email Deacon Jim Nuzzo at jnuzzo2010@comcast.net

Virtual Prayerful Sing-alongs

Email jment@shgparish.org or bill.nellies@gmail.com

From the Archdiocese of Baltimore

behalf of On Archbishop Lori, we hope that At Home with Your Faith will help



you and your family live your Catholic faith and grow closer to Christ in these challenging times. Be assured of our prayers as you embrace the sacrifices and the graces of this new way of living our faith in the domestic church, your home. www.archbalt.org/at-home/

Admonishing the Sinner

· Being confined in close quarters for long periods of time with families or housemates can test us in more ways than one! Be supportive in helping others find their way and correct their mistakes.

Comforting the Sorrowful

- Remember that a few moments of your day may make a lifetime of difference to someone who is going through a difficult time.
- Assist people who may be isolated in learning how to access spiritual resources, such as helping them view livestreamed Masses, so they can participate in community worship from home and feel connected.

Forgiving Injuries

- Commit to making a regular examination of conscience.
- Learn or teach your family members the Examen prayer and/or the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Bearing Wrongs Patiently

- Practice developing and strengthening the virtues of temperance, prudence, fortitude, and justice.
- When frustrated with someone, step away from the situation, take a few deep breaths, and pray the Our Father, asking God for patience.

Praying for the Living and the Dead

• Pray the Rosary with family members for all those who are suffering from the effects of this pandemic.

The staff and parishioners of Sacred Heart pray a virtual Rosary that is livestreamed every day at 4:00 PM. Each Hail Mary is offered for the intention of a specific family at our parish. You are invited to help lead the Rosary! If you would like to participate, please email Jamie at jdanielson@shgparish.org.

- Keep a book of prayer intentions, writing down the names of those who you are keeping in your prayers, and let people know that you are praying for them.
- Ask a friend or family member if there is anything you can **pray** for them about.

"Often it is the people closest to us who need our help. We should not go out in search of some unknown business to accomplish. It is better to begin with the simplest, which the Lord

 Pope Francis 10/12/2016

Adapted from the USCCB.



Sunday of Divine Mercy — 2nd Sunday of Easter

Sacramental Ministry

Anointing of the Sick

In case of emergency call the Parish Office/Rectory at anytime. Please notify the Parish Office if you know someone in the hospital or at home who wishes to be anointed. Masses of Anointing are celebrated several times a year.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

"Thirsting for God?" Do you know someone not baptized or baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition who is thirsting for what it means to become Catholic?

Do you know someone already Catholic but has vet received not Confirmation and Communion? They may be thirsting, too! The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) place to ask questions seek and understanding.

The RCIA is a Church rite for adults pursuing the possibility of joining the Roman Catholic Church. If you, or someone you know, are interested or would like more information, please contact Michele Hunter at 410-833-1696 or mhunter@shgparish.org.

Church Resources for COVID-19

Maryland Catholic Conference: COVID-19 Resource Hub

www.mdcatholic.org/covid-19-resource



Maryland Catholic Conference: Government Resources for COVID-19 Relief

www.mdcatholic.org/covid-govtsupport



Coronavirus Memorial Page on the Archdiocesan Website www.archbalt.org/one-church-one-family/

ONE CHURCH, ONE FAMILY

Remembering those who have died in the Covenovirus Pandemic.

The Catholic Faith. On demand. Get thousands of movies, programs, audio, and books instantly. SIGN UP

FORMED
Catholic Programming:
40-day FREE Trial!

(formed.org)

Coronavirus Update as of April 18, 2020:

- The Parish Office remains closed, and there are no public parish activities until further notice. (We are still taking your phone calls and emails and ministering to you; reach out to us at any time!)
- Churches and shrines in the Archdiocese remain closed to the public.
- Please click here to view updated liturgical guidelines from the Archdiocese of Baltimore (www.archbalt.org/coronavirus).



Scripture Readings for April 26 — **Third Sunday of Easter** Acts 2:14, 22-33 • Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11 • 1 Pt 1:17-21 • Lk 24:13-35

Through the blood of Jesus we have been delivered from the power of sin (2). We recognize him in the breaking of the bread (3), the one whom God raised from the dead (1) and who now sits at his right hand forever (Ps).

Religious Education

To all of our wonderful families, we send wishes for an Easter season filled with many life-giving blessings! It is certainly like no other Easter we have ever experienced, but the Risen Life of Jesus and His promises to us are as sure as ever! May you experience the love and joy of Jesus deeply in your hearts!

We encourage parents to continue sharing the faith with your children during this stay-at-home time. You are certainly busy keeping up with their regular school work, and your time might be limited, but you can do it, and God will help you! This was the promise you made at your child's baptism, and you have a unique opportunity to pray with your children and to talk more about God and the importance of the Catholic faith with your family as you share meals and spend more time together.

We are here to help you, too! If there is any way that we can assist you during this time or any advice or helpful resources that we can provide, please don't hesitate to contact Sister Cecilia or Heart Ment at 410-833-8515.

sr.cecilia@shgparish.org • hment@shgparish.org

Are you having trouble praying together as a family? Need some fresh ideas? This article has some wonderful and simple suggestions:



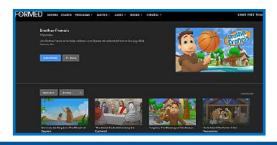


For younger children, "Brother Francis" has some terrific videos and resources that can make faith-learning *fun*.

Brother Francis videos can be found at YouTube:



And also at FORMED (free trial subscription required):



Don't forget **Holy Heroes** for Divine Mercy Sunday and every weekend of the year!





Holy Heroes has a beautiful activity series starting in Lent and all the way through Divine Mercy Sunday.

Try these free daily & weekly resources about the saints and more for at-home learning from the Sophia Institute.



And as a reminder, our Pflaum "Gospel Weekly" religion lessons are still available online, including the teacher guides to use at home.

Pflaum has additional online children's resources for April 19 and future weeks.



May God's love be with you during this unusual time of being apart — yet we are together in spirit!

Urbi et Orbi Message of His Holiness Pope Francis

Saint Peter's Basilica — Easter, April 12, 2020



Pope Francis' "Urbi et Orbi" message on Easter Sunday challenges us to ban indifference, self-centeredness, division, and forgetfulness during this time of COVID-19 —

and to spread the "contagion" of hope.

Our Daily Bread Update

The last two weeks, volunteers from Sacred Heart Parish delivered **94** casseroles and a car full of other items from parishioners to Our Daily Bread in Baltimore! *They are so grateful!* On April 15 alone, Sacred Heart volunteers brought the following food contributions to ODB:

- 57 casseroles
- Approximately 20 pounds of cheese and lunch meat
- 6-8 bags and boxes of applesauce, granola bars, snacks, jelly, peanut butter, etc.
- 6 cases of power drinks and multiple boxes of juices
- One **whole box** of "to go" containers from Lou Santoni of Santoni's Markets (SHG parishioner)

Thank you for your concern for those in need!

Revised Zippy Beef Casserole Recipe

Ingredients needed:

- 2 lb. ground beef
- 5 cups spaghetti sauce
- 16 oz. elbow macaroni, cooked (or small shells or twist noodles)
- 1 large onion, chopped Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup green pepper, chopped (optional)

Cook onion, pepper, and beef until browned. Drain off fat. Mix together all remaining ingredients, except cheese, into ungreased casserole pan. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Cover first with plastic wrap to avoid any contamination between the tomato ingredients and the aluminum foil. Then cover with sufficient aluminum foil to cover the edges. Cool completely and put the casserole in a plastic grocery shopping bag to keep it from spilling. Label with casserole name and date. PLEASE FREEZE.

Special Indulgences Related to COVID-19

"The gift of special Indulgences is granted to the faithful suffering from COVID-19 disease, commonly known as Coronavirus, as well as to health care workers, family members and all those who in any capacity, including through prayer, care for them."

(Apostolic Penitentiary, March 20, 2020)

A **plenary Indulgence** removes all of the temporal punishment due to sins and may be applied to oneself or to the souls of the deceased [*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1471]. There are four separate special Indulgences addressing four different groups:

- ♦ Those who are ill with COVID-19
- ♦ Health Care Workers and family members who are caring for those who are ill with COVID-19
- ♦ Those who offer special prayers for the end of the pandemic
- ♦ Those who may be at the point of death and are unable to receive the Anointing of the Sick or Communion

Home Altars and Prayers Spaces

Sacred Heart parishioners have some beautiful home altars and prayer spaces! If you have photos of your own altar or prayer space that you would like to share with the parish, please send them to jment@shgparish.org. You can see all of the photos by clicking here.









Click here to continue reading the requirements for each of the four groups.



April 19, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy

Children Celebrate!

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Today's Readings

Acts 2:42–47
Psalm 118:2–4, 22–24
1 Peter 1:3–4
John 20:19-29



We Pray

Jesus, help us to always have faith in you and to follow you. Amen.

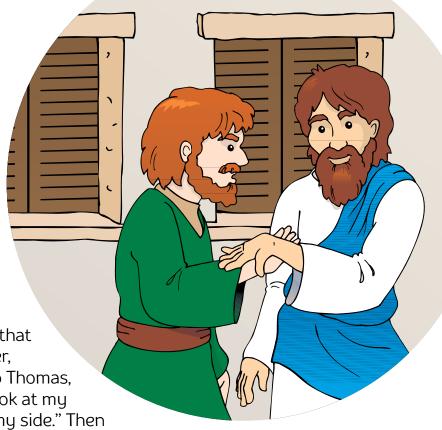


Thomas Sees Jesus and Believes

After Jesus died, the disciples hid, afraid for their own lives. Suddenly Jesus was there. He filled them with the Holy Spirit and gave them the power to forgive sins.

The Apostle Thomas was not there and didn't believe that Jesus had come. A week later, Jesus came again. He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands! Put your hand into my side." Then Thomas believed.

Jesus said, "Because Thomas saw, he believed. Blessed are those who have not seen but still believe."

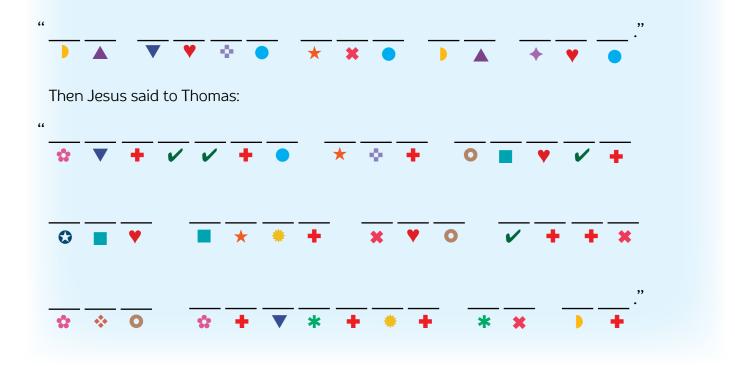


Activity

Jesus accepts Thomas and all of us just as we are. Decode the message using the following symbols.

A = ★	E = 🛨	I = ★	N = *	S = 🗸	V = *
B = 🌣	G = ◆	L = ▼	O = ♥	T = O	W = 😂
D = •	H = 🔳	M =	R = 💠	U = ❖	Y = 🔺

When Jesus appeared to the Apostles after his Resurrection, Thomas was absent. He doubted what he heard about Jesus being risen. When Jesus appeared a second time, Thomas saw Jesus and said:



Family Corner

Faith Focus

Today's Gospel tells of the different feelings that were experienced by Jesus' followers after his Death and Resurrection. Some were sad, others confused, still others afraid and skeptical. Yet, Jesus accepted them all.

Parents can apply this same acceptance to their own families. Parents, like God, hope that their children meet their full potential in life. It is important, however, that children feel unconditional acceptance from their parents.

Family Activity

This week, have each family member create a large star with his or her name on it. Attach the stars to a bulletin board or poster. During the week, everyone should pay particular attention to the others, and if one is being especially kind or caring, add a note of "well done" on that person's star. If a family member is having a hard day, write a few words of encouragement on his or her star.