

March 29, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Lent



DIVINE MERCY

CATHOLIC PARISH

Loving Mercifully, Living Marian.

4337 Sal Lentini Parkway • Kenner, Louisiana 70065

Church Office: (504) 466-5016 • Church Email: office@divinemercyparish.org

www.divinemercyparish.org

Parish Staff

Pastor:
Rev. Robert T. Cooper

Parochial Vicar:
Rev. Paul Clark

Deacons:
Noel Martinsen, Drea Capaci,
Larry Oney, and David Caldero

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School
Joan Kathmann, Principal
(504) 468-3524

Director of Religious Ed.:
Jacques Delouche

Youth Minister:
Ryan Foulon

Director of Music:
Garrett Fried

Administrative Staff:
Sherryl Clements
Antoinette Silver

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. &
7:00 p.m. (Español)
Sunday: 8:30, 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Monday and Tuesday:
6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday:
7:30 a.m.

Holy Days of Obligation

See Inside the Bulletin for Schedule

Confession Times

Saturday: 3:00—3:45 p.m.
Sábado: 6:15—6:45 p.m. (Español)
Sunday: 30 minutes before Mass
Tuesday: Prior to 6:30 p.m. Mass
And by Appointment

Devotions

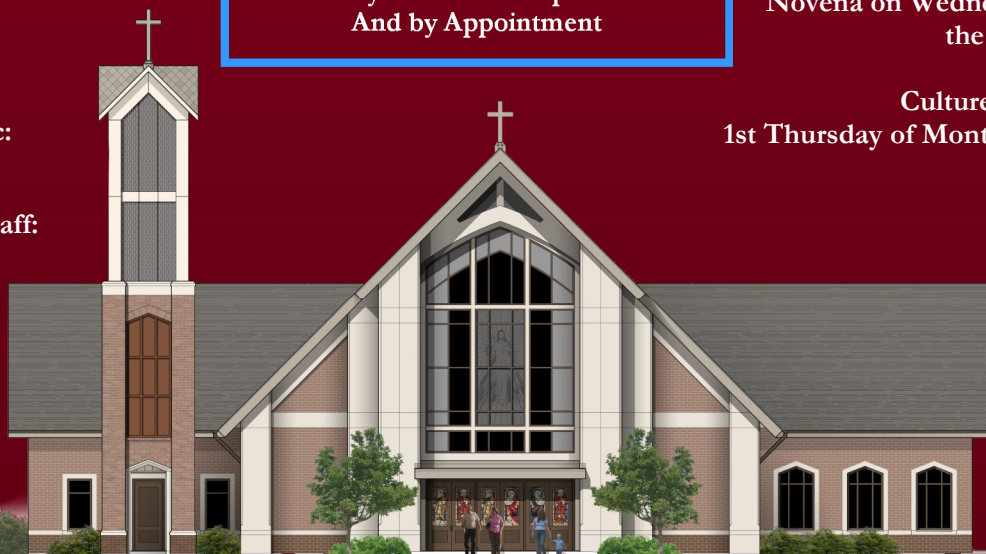
Eucharistic Adoration:
24/7 in the Adoration Chapel

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:
Thursday & Friday, 3 p.m. in
Adoration Chapel
and following
Weekday Morning Masses

Rosary:
Monday—Friday before Mass,
Sunday before 8:30 a.m. Mass, and
Sábados, 6:30 p.m. (Español)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help:
Novena on Wednesday following
the 7:30 a.m. Mass

Culture of Life Rosary
1st Thursday of Month following the
7:30 a.m. Mass





St. Joseph Sunday Missal

Today's Readings: p. 286

Next Sunday: p. 296

*To purchase a Sunday Missal for \$20,
please see an usher.*



**The Sanctuary Candle
burns this week**

**For an End to
Corona Virus**

**The Adoration Chapel
Candles burn this week**

**For
All Affected by the
Corona Virus**



**Pray for the Repose of the
Souls of those who have died.**



*May their souls and the souls of all
the faithful departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace!*



**Out of Reverence for the
Lord Jesus who so
generously shares with us
His Body and Blood in the
Eucharist,
worshipers are earnestly
invited to remain with the
congregation until Mass is
concluded.**

MASS INTENTIONS

*To schedule Mass intentions, please visit website
www.divinemercyparish.org. The link for the
Mass intentions page is under "Pray," then
"Prayer & Liturgy," then "Mass Intentions", or
contact the Parish Office.*



March 29-April 3

Saturday 4:00 pm

Bobby Jackson, Bruce Malter & Family (Living), Charles Kronlage,
Dene & Maddox Culton (Living), Denise Woodward (Living),
Diane & Wally Spath (Living), Dr. James Bohm, Gary Waguespack,
Gregory Gandolfi, Joan Stoltz Preston, Kevin M. Jeanes,
Kim & Leon Shingledecker (Living), Mike Lemmon,
Nelson Guarin Campof, Sara & Watson Aicklen, Seidel Family,
Stanley Adamcewicz, Sr., Thanksgiving to St. Peregrine, William Jackson

Sábado-Misa de las 7:00 pm

Andres Albarado Flores, Angel Castaneda, Angelita Padilla,
Carlos Enrique Letona-Cruz, Mirna Vasquez (Living), Nicanor Casais, III,
Tulia Valderrama Diez

Sunday 8:30 am

James Voyle Smith

Sunday 10:30 am

Dene & Maddox Culton (Living), Gloria Spath, Irene Burke,
Mary Fazekas-May (Living), Mirian Chacon,
Prayer Blanket Recipients-Living & Deceased

Sunday 6:00 pm Mass

All Parishioners

Weekday Masses

Monday 6:30 pm: Carlos Enrique Letona-Cruz

Tuesday 6:30 pm: JoAnn, Bruce & Jerry Malter (Living)

Wednesday 7:30 am: Bodin Hugger (Living)

Thursday 7:30 am: All Those Affected by the virus

Friday 7:30 am: All Parishioners



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 29

- Confessions, 8:00 am - 8:15 am
- Confessions, 10:00 am - 10:15 am
- Confessions, 5:30 pm - 5:45 pm

Monday, March 30

- No Mass

Tuesday, March 31

- Confessions, 6-6:30

Wednesday, April 1

- No Mass

Thursday, April 2

- No Mass

Friday, April 3

- No Way of the Cross
- No Morning Mass

Saturday, April 4

- Confessions 3-4 pm

Sunday, April 5

- Confessions, 8:00 am - 8:15 am
- Confessions, 10:00 am - 10:15 am
- Confessions, 5:30 pm - 5:45 pm

Stewardship of Treasure

Weekend of March 15, 2020

Envelopes	\$ 6,804.00
Loose	\$ 2,301.00
Online Giving	\$ 3,131.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 1,805.00
Other Income	\$ 4,738.78
Totaling	\$ 18,779.78

St. Anthony Ministry \$ 615.00

*"Let us focus on generosity, or
returning God's gifts with
increase, through the
generous sharing of our time,
talent and treasure."*

~ Fr. Cooper



GRATEFUL & GENEROUS

March 29, 2020 - Fifth Sunday of Lent

"Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' (John 11:40)"

Many of us say that we believe in God. We go to church on Sunday. We volunteer for events at our parish. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren't going our way, do we really believe and put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, being thankful for the gifts we have been given, we really do see that God is providing all that we need. It opens our hearts to see God's active presence in our daily lives.



We Will Leave the Light On!

Divine Mercy Catholic Church
4337 Sal Lentini Parkway, Kenner

**Church will be open 7 days a week from
8AM - 6PM for personal prayer.**



Online Giving Welcome to Online Giving

Divine Mercy Parish would like to thank our families who are currently giving electronically.

You may not see these fellow parishioners place an envelope in the basket every week, but their consistent giving does not go unnoticed.

Each month our parish receives a steady and predictable stream of income from those donors who have made the commitment to give to God first by having a designated contribution automatically transferred to our parish through our Online Giving Program.

If you would like to learn more about this easy, safe, and secure way of giving, please check out our website:

www.divinemercyparish.org/ways-to-give.html



Prayer Intentions

**Ruth Brown, Hunter Steudlein, Susan Hancock,
The Family of Cody Breaux, Linda Spalitta,
Paul Siragusa, Francis Brunett, Rosemary Cotham,
The Schmidt Family, Jackie Reynolds,
David Hode,
Laura Melancon, Elvira Savery,
Robert Reinhardt, All Prayer Blanket
Recipients, and All Prayer
Intentions on the Divine Mercy website.**



Names will remain on the list one month. Call 466-5016 to add a name.

Prayer Blanket Ministry



Relief to the suffering, peace to the fearful. May each Prayer Blanket Recipient know they are not alone. We are praying for their healing and comfort. This beautiful act of sacrifice

before the Lord transforms this blanket into a prayer blanket whose very threads become interwoven with pleas for healing on behalf of the recipient. To request a Prayer Blanket for someone who is ill or in need, contact Meryl Rooney at (504) 472-4383.

DIVINE MERCY YOUTH MINISTRY

We welcome all students regardless of what school they attend! Registration for LIFE TEEN and Edge is ongoing.

High School students (8-12 grade) gather on Sundays from 7:00-8:45 PM in the Parish Community Center for dinner, worship, small group discussion, preaching & teaching.

Jr High students (6-7 grade) gather on Tuesdays from 6:30-7:45 PM in the school cafeteria for games and teaching. Parents & family are invited to pray with us at the beginning of Edge Nights.

High School Highlights

May 3 - 3rd Annual LTA's (Life Teen Awards) This is a time to honor our teens for no reason other than just being awesome! The Core Team has been watching and taking notes all year long! Join us at this night for lots of entertainment and fun!

Today, we celebrate the fifth Sunday of Lent. The Gospel (John 11:1-45) presents the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Martha, Lazarus' sister, said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died," (JN 11:21). A LIFETEEN author says, "Jesus delayed His arrival." The LIFETEEN author then states, "Many teens feel that God has not always arrived 'on time' in their lives." Then the author reminds us, "that just because we may not immediately feel God's presence does not mean God is not mindful of us." At LIFETEEN and Edge we agree with the LIFETEEN author's statement that, "Jesus saves us now, just like He saved Lazarus." Come and join us!

Do you enjoy cooking?

Each Sunday at Life Nights we are able to share a meal provided by parishioners who are kind enough to cook for us! This is an important time for fellowship where friendships are formed and strengthened. This entails supplying food for about 25 people and can be anything from jambalaya, red beans & rice, pasta, pizza, etc. Pairing up with another family or two works best! If you would like to provide food one Sunday, or would like additional info on how to donate a meal, contact Ryan at the Parish Office or visit our online sign up under the volunteer section of the website (divinemercylifeteen.weebly.com).



When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him; but Mary sat at home...
Jesus said to her "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes me will never die. Do you believe this?" Martha responded, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." John 11:20. 25-27



Martha had this amazing insight. When analyzing the story of Martha and Mary, the emphasis has often been that Jesus preferred Mary, the contemplative. However, we know that both Martha and Mary became saints, so perhaps Jesus was not scolding Martha because she was doing the chores but perhaps, He was saying, "Mind your own business."
We all have different personalities; some have a natural inclination to contemplation and others to action; we sense the Lord speaking to us in times of quiet prayer, but we also feel His presence when we are fulfilling our daily duties. However, we all need to seek balance in our lives and St. Theresa of Calcutta was a perfect example of this. She regularly spent time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament but the ministry to which the Lord called her demanded most of her time in the administration of her order and the care of the poor. May we spend more time being who we are meant to be instead of trying to be someone else.
Reflection by Anne-Marie Barrilleaux



Confession - Wednesday Night Confessions scheduled for March 18, March 25, and April 1, are cancelled.

As we move forward, our Confession schedule will be as follows:
Tuesdays from 6:00 - 6:30 PM
Saturdays from 3:00 - 4:00 PM (Bilingual)
Sundays from 8:00 - 8:30 AM,
10:00 - 10:30 AM,
and 5:30 - 6:00 PM

Palm Sunday:

We ask kindly that you DO NOT bring palms to the Church in anticipation of Palm Sunday.

In order to create the most hygienic environment, palm reeds have been ordered from an independent supplier.

If Corona Virus results in a cancellation of Palm Sunday services, Palms will still be Blessed and available for Parishioners to pickup at Church.

Hosanna!

Golf Tournament



The Divine Mercy Men's Club Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled to take place this year on Monday, April 27th at Chateau Estates Golf and Country Club with a shotgun start for 10 AM.

Enjoy pre-round food and drink, on course refreshments and the after party featuring an open bar, raffle prizes and, of course, more food!

All proceeds benefit St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School and Divine Mercy Parish.
\$100 if registered by April 13th (\$125 after April 13th) and sponsorships are available.

For further information, please contact Danny Riehm at 504-481-5897 or danny@nolabenefits.com or Ryan Robbins at 504-669-7040 or ryan.robbyns@stryker.com



Mass - All Masses at Divine Mercy Parish are cancelled until further Notice.
The church will be open 7 days a week from 8 AM to 6 PM for personal prayer.

You can watch Mass live from St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans at
<https://thedailymass.com/>, televised on WLAE TV and
on the radio through Catholic Community Radio

Weekdays 12:00 – 12:30pm
Sunday 11 – 12:00pm

Bishop Barron's Chapel will record daily mass at
<https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>

Meditation on the Seven Last Words of Christ

As Jesus hung on the cross, He uttered seven last phrases of great meaning to those contemplating His passion and death. This Prayer Service will offer meditations and the extinguishing of candles on these powerful last Words of Christ:

- Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.
- Today you will be with me in paradise.
- Behold your son: behold your mother.
- My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
- I thirst.
- It is finished.
- Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

It will be celebrated on Good Friday, April 9th, at Divine Mercy Church at 12Noon in English and 1:00PM in Spanish.



PENTECOST MISSION

April 20th-21st, 2020

Save the date!

Deacon Larry and Andi Oney of Hope and Purpose Ministries will offer a **two-day mission** as we prepare to celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of the Catholic Church!

The Holy Spirit is often misunderstood, or not understood at all. Join us as we learn and discover more about God in this Third Person of the most Holy Trinity!



Easter Memorial Flowers and Lilies

The beautiful Easter lilies and spring flowers that adorn our altar and sanctuary are a special part of the celebration of Easter at Divine Mercy Parish. We invite all parishioners to share in the experience through a memorial or thanksgiving gift by using the **Easter Flowers Memorial Envelopes**. Donations toward the cost of Easter flowers in the Church may be made in memory or honor of your family members and friends. This is a wonderful way to remember loved ones, honor friends, and offer thanksgiving to God for prayers answered and blessings received. **The suggested donation is \$10.00 per remembrance.** Please place your envelopes in the collection basket, the Donation Box or bring them to the Parish Office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Memorial Envelopes will be placed on the altar throughout the Easter Season.



HISPANIC MINISTRY

Apenas Marta supo que Jesús llegaba, salió a su encuentro, mientras María permanecía en casa... Le dijo Jesús: **"Yo soy la resurrección y la vida. El que cree en mí, aunque muera vivirá. El que vive, el que cree en mí, no morirá para siempre. ¿Crees esto?"** Ella contestó: **"Sí Señor; yo creo que tú eres el Cristo, el Hijo de Dios, el que tenía que venir al mundo."** Juan 11:20, 25-27



Marta tenía esta sorprendente perspicacia. Cuando analizamos la historia de Marta y María, el énfasis ha sido que Jesús prefería a María, la contemplativa. De cualquier modo, sabemos que ambas Marta y María se convirtieron en santas, así que tal vez Jesús no regañaba a Marta por hacer el quehacer, pero tal vez, él estaba diciendo, *"metete en tus propios asuntos."*

Todos tenemos diferentes personalidades; algunos tienen una inclinación natural a la contemplación y otros a la acción; sentimos que el Señor nos habla en momentos de oración a solas, pero también sentimos Su presencia cuando hacemos las tareas diarias. De cualquier manera, necesitamos buscar el balance en nuestras vidas y Santa Teresa de Calcuta fue un ejemplo perfecto de esto. Ella regularmente oraba frente al Santísimo Sacramento del Altar, pero el ministerio al que Nuestro señor la llamo demandaba la mayor parte de su tiempo a la administración de su orden y de cuidar del pobre. Que podamos pasar más tiempo siendo quienes estamos supuestos a ser en vez de tratar de ser alguien más.

Reflexión por Anne-Marie Barrilleaux

Misa - Todas las misas en la Parroquia de la Divina Misericordia se cancelan hasta nuevo aviso.

La iglesia estará abierta los 7 días de la semana de 8 AM a 6 PM para la oración personal.

SIGAN A FRIAR SERGIO SERRANO EN FACEBOOK PARA LA TRANSMISIÓN DE LA MISA EN VIVO EN ESPAÑOL DE LUNES A SÁBADO A LAS 6 PM Y EL DOMINGO LAS 10 AM

Debido al CoronaVirus, todas las fechas y horarios de los próximos eventos están sujetos a cambios o cancelaciones.



Confesión: las confesiones del miércoles por la noche programadas para el 18 de marzo, el 25 de marzo y el 1 de abril se cancelan.

A medida que avanzamos, nuestro horario de confesión será el siguiente:

Martes de 6:00 a 6:30 p.m.

Sábados de 3:00 a 4:00 p.m. (bilingüe)

Domingos: 8:00 - 8:30 AM,

10:00 - 10:30 AM, y 5:30 - 6:00 PM

Flores y lirios conmemorativos de Pascua

Los hermosos lirios de Pascua y flores de primavera que adornan nuestro altar y el santuario son una parte especial de la celebración de la Pascua en la Parroquia de la Divina Misericordia. Invitamos a todos los feligreses a compartir la experiencia a través de un regalo conmemorativo o de acción de gracias mediante el uso de los sobres conmemorativos de las flores de Pascua. Las donaciones para el costo de las flores de Pascua en la Iglesia pueden hacerse en memoria o en honor de los miembros de su familia y amigos. Esta es una manera maravillosa de recordar a los seres queridos, honrar a los amigos y ofrecer acción de gracias a Dios por las oraciones respondidas y las bendiciones recibidas. La donación sugerida es de \$ 10.00 por remembranza. Por favor ponga sus sobres en la canasta de la colecta, el buzón de donaciones o llévelos a la Oficina Parroquial. Su generosidad es muy apreciada. Sobres Conmemorativos se colocarán en el altar durante la temporada de Pascua.



FR. COOPER'S CORNER

The Passover from Criminal to Saint

There are many saints fittingly associated with Good Friday: The Blessed Mother, the apostle John, Mary Magdalene, Simon of Cyrene, and Veronica, all of them, in one way or another, supported Jesus as He took our place on death row. The most remarkable saint of all, however, was the one who was with Jesus on death row. The Good Thief certainly was the least likely saint of Good Friday—and maybe of all time. But he is, in some ways, the most fitting Good Friday saint, because he is the greatest model of what Good Friday is all about.

As He was being nailed to the Cross, Jesus did not cry out in pain. He did not shriek, as men would be expected to do in such circumstances, either insisting on His innocence, or condemning those who sentenced them, or imploring forgiveness for their misdeeds. Jesus, instead, cried out to His Father and begged Him to forgive the sins of others: “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!” His first thought for those who were brutally killing Him was not retaliation but exculpation. He had come to call and save sinners and, even in agony, never wavered from that mission.

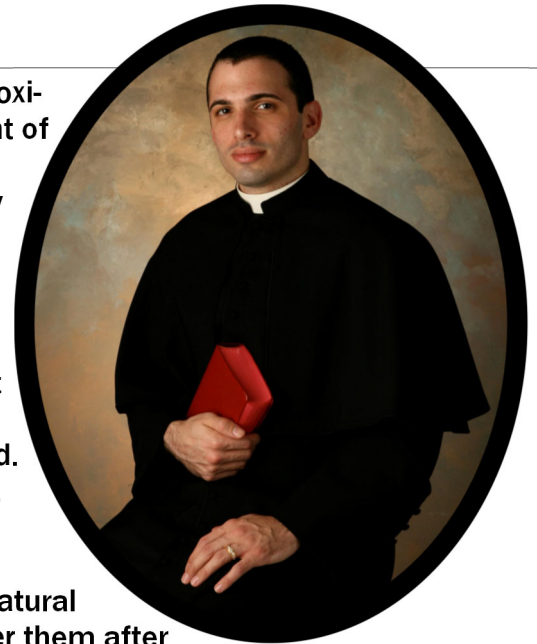
We see Him fulfill that mission in His interaction with the bandit on His right. After Jesus, hanging on the Cross, had been mocked by the Jewish leaders, by the soldiers, and even by those passing by, He received what may have been the most piercing mockery of all from the thief on His left. St. Luke tells us that the brigand “kept deriding him and saying, ‘Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!’” While the jeers from soldiers, the Sanhedrin, and the passing mob were probably anticipated, the sneers from the burglar on His side were likely totally unexpected. Jesus had long been known as the “friend of tax collectors and sinners.” He had stuck up for them and risked His reputation for their sake. To be attacked by one of those malefactors with whom Jesus identified with special predilection probably stung as much as the blistering kiss of Judas.

But God seeks to bring good out of every evil, and from the ridicule from the sinister swindler came the conversion of the dextral. We do not know what it was that got this man, so accustomed to prey on the innocent, to stick up for one. Maybe it was watching Jesus suffer the same pain of crucifixion in a totally different way from him and his fellow thief. Maybe it was hearing His strange plea to the one He called “Father” for the forgiveness of those who were executing Him. Maybe he had concluded at the end of his life that evil simply does not pay and, having wasted his life until then, he did not want to squander the few precious moments he had left.

Whatever the reason, honesty and the fear of God returned to him. He twisted toward his fellow thief and tried to revivify these traits in him before the time when there would be no time left. Even though it would have been excruciatingly painful for him to talk, he rebuked his fellow rustler and said, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.”



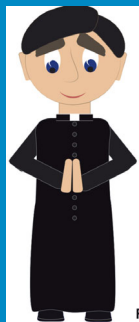
In doing so, the thief on the right earned for all eternity the paradoxical adjective “good.” He had humbly told the truth. He had thought of someone other than himself. He had stuck up for someone who was innocent. This humble, other-centered honesty is a necessary condition for effective prayer, and it occasioned what might have been the first—and maybe the only—real prayer of his life. Whereas before he might have been tempted to steal what he did not deserve, he now realized, with his pick-pocketing hands nailed to wood, that there was another way: he could ask. He saw now that there was the possibility that someone else, out of sheer goodness and generosity, might give what he could never have merited. So, he turned to the putative malefactor in the middle and asked, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”



This prayer showed tremendously deep faith in Jesus. It is quite natural for those who are about to die to desire that people will remember them after they are gone. But in this case, he was asking a dying man—one who would in fact expire before him—to keep him in mind. In doing so, moreover, he saw something that perhaps no one present on Calvary except the Blessed Mother recognized: that this despised, naked, lacerated, blood-soaked, crucified man next to him was a sovereign whose reign was not about to end but to begin. He knew that Jesus would be able to remember.

Jesus turned His aching head toward His companion in suffering. From His throne on Golgotha, with the largesse benefiting a king, Jesus vastly exceeded what was sought. Not only would the dying thief have a place in His thoughts, he would have a place in His kingdom. “Amen, I say to you,” Jesus declared, “this day you shall be with me in paradise.”

In the span of an instant, the good thief passed from a sinner to a saint, from a criminal to someone canonized even before his death. And as Jesus once promised, heaven rejoiced more for that repentant sinner than for 99 who never needed to repent. In his great Eucharistic hymn, *Adoro Te Devote*, St. Thomas Aquinas sings to his Eucharistic Lord, *peto quod petivit latro poenitens*, “I ask for what the repentant thief asked for!” There is no greater prayer. Jesus died on Good Friday wishing to be able to respond personally to that request from each of us.



Special Second Collection

There will be a special Second Collection taken at all the Easter Masses to help support Priestly Formation at Notre Dame Seminary and to assist with the various Charitable Organizations of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Thank you for your generosity as we help our young men studying for the priesthood.

Easter Triduum Adoration Chapel Schedule

The Adoration Chapel will close at 5:00PM on Wednesday, April 8th and will re-open at 9:00AM on Monday, April 13th





DIVINE WORSHIP AND SACRED MUSIC

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Memorare



REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Prayer to St. Michael

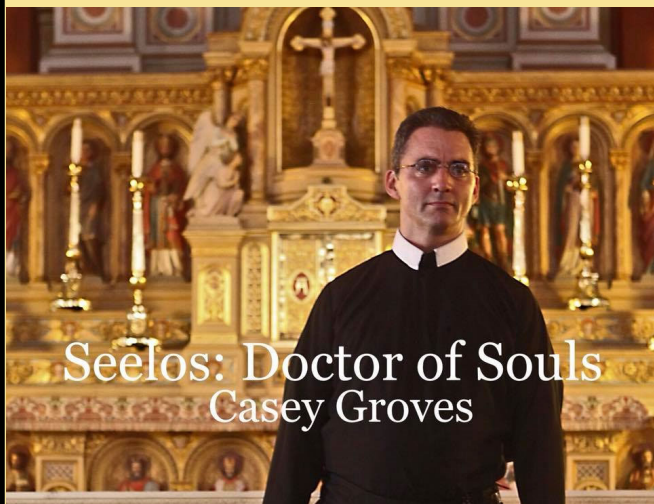
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin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



Family Prayer



Loving and faithful God, through the years the people of our archdiocese have appreciated the prayers and love of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in times of war, disaster, epidemic and illness. We come to you, Father, with Mary our Mother, and ask you to help us in the battle of today against violence, murder and racism. We implore you to give us your wisdom that we may build a community founded on the values of Jesus, which gives respect to the life and dignity of all people. Bless parents that they may form their children in faith. Bless and protect our youth that they may be peacemakers of our time. Give consolation to those who have lost loved ones through violence. Hear our prayer and give us the perseverance to be a voice for life and human dignity in our community. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. Mother Henriette Delille, pray for us that we may be a holy family.



Seelos: Doctor of Souls
Casey Groves

Divine Mercy Church is proud to present the
One Man Play:

SEELOS: DOCTOR OF SOULS
on Thursday April 16 at 7PM
in Divine Mercy Church

This is the true story of an affable itinerant priest in the 1800's whose powerful prayers of intercession resulted in the healing of countless people around the country with terminal illnesses, injuries, and troubled souls.

The play is written and performed by Casey Groves. All are invited to attend at the time when Bl. Fr. Seelos is so close to canonization. At the conclusion of the play, a free-will offering will be taken up.

Mark your calendars now and bring a friend!

Jesus, I trust in You!



The following programs and/or events have been modified, postponed, or cancelled:

- The Adult Faith Formation Scripture Study (Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John, by Dr. Edward Sri) is postponed until further notice.
- Upcoming English & Spanish Baptismal Seminars in April are pending.
- Children's Liturgy of the Word is cancelled until April 19th, Divine Mercy Sunday.
- Confirmation Preparation scheduled for March 29th is cancelled. Confirmation Mass will go on as scheduled, Apr. 29.
- Confirmation Retreat scheduled for April 4 & 5 is cancelled.
- Edge is cancelled until April 21st.
- Elementary Catechesis April 21st.
- All Fish Fries are cancelled.
- Legion of Mary: All meetings are cancelled until April 13th.
- Life Teen is cancelled until April 19th.
- At this time, the parish office will remain open per normal hours of operation. Call to check for hours before visiting. In case of changes..
- RCIA will transition to a distance learning catechetical model beginning Monday, March 16th.
- St. Anthony Ministry Food Pantry—Contact Church Office
- The Stations of the Cross are cancelled until further notice.
- The Adoration Chapel will be closed until further notice.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Due to regulations from the Louisiana Department of Health, the CDC, and internal policies of each institution, Masses, Communion Services, and visits from Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are prohibited at the following health care centers that are located within the boundaries of Divine Mercy Parish: Ochsner Kenner, Chateau Living Center, and Inspired Living.

Please be advised that the Archdiocese has setup a webpage to provide the most up-to-date information in regard to our response to the Coronavirus around the Archdiocese:

<https://clarionherald.org/following-coronavirus>

Organizational Meetings

Effective Monday, March 16th – All Organizational Meetings taking place on the campus of Divine Mercy Parish or St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School are cancelled until further notice.

St. Elizabeth School

Per a directive from Gov. John Bel Edwards and the Archdiocese of New Orleans, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School will be closed until April 13th.



Easter Triduum Schedule

The Adoration Chapel will close at 5:00PM on Wednesday, April 8th and will re-open at 9:00AM on Monday, April 13th.

Holy Thursday – April 9th

No 7:30AM Mass

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00PM followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament till Midnight.

Fr. Cooper and Fr. Clark will be available for Confessions during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until the last person in line.

Good Friday – April 10th

No 7:30AM Mass

Last Words of Christ Prayer Service
from 12Noon – 12:30PM

Candles will be extinguished as the 7 last words are read and a meditation is shared.

Last Words of Christ Prayer Service (Spanish)
from 1:00PM – 1:30PM

Good Friday Service of the
Passion of the Lord at 3:00PM

Outdoor Stations of the Cross in
Spanish at 5:00PM

Soup and Bread Community Meal hosted by the Hispanic Ministry at 5:45PM in the Parish Center

Stations of the Cross (English) at 6:30PM

Holy Saturday – April 11th

No 3:00PM Confessions or 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Solemn Easter Vigil at 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 12th

Masses at 8:30AM, 10:30 AM,
and 12:30PM in Spanish

No 6:00PM Mass

There will be a community Easter Meal hosted by the Hispanic Ministry from 1:30PM – 3:00PM in the Parish Center.

There will be No Confessions heard before any of the Masses on Easter Sunday.

**Due to the Corona Virus,
All Dates and Times for
Upcoming Events are
subject to change or
cancellation.**

**For Up to Date
Information,
Please consult the Divine
Mercy website at:
www.divinemercyparish.org
and
Archdiocese of New
Orleans website at
[https://clarionherald.org/
following-coronavirus](https://clarionherald.org/following-coronavirus)**

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration

We will celebrate the parish's Feast Day with Mass and Devotions on Sunday, April 19th, Divine Mercy Sunday. The principal Feast Day Mass will be celebrated at 10:30AM followed directly by Exposition, Procession, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Devotions from 11:30AM – 12Noon.

Confessions will be heard from 9:30AM till Mass time.

Due to the uncertainty of the coronavirus, the Parish's Feast Day Celebration (planned to immediately follow Mass and Devotions) has been postponed.



Act of Spiritual Communion

As Catholics living in the United States of America, most of us are used to having ready access to our Lord in the sacraments, most especially in the Eucharist, in which Jesus is truly, really present in His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity.

However, with the COVID-19 pandemic, we are now experiencing a reality which countless other Catholics around the world and throughout time have had to endure: the inability to receive Jesus in the Eucharist on a regular basis. So while we hope and pray with confidence that we will soon be able to attend, pray and participate at Mass as we are used to, in the meantime we are able to become familiar with and participate in a practice which is likewise widespread throughout the world and history: the Act of Spiritual Communion. Together with the ability to watch the Mass on tv or online — something obviously not possible until just a few decades ago — Spiritual Communion is a real way for us to express to God our desire to be united with Him.

A Spiritual Communion is simply a prayer in which we profess our belief in Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist and likewise ask Him to unite Himself to us. It's important to be clear: praying a Spiritual Communion is not the same thing as receiving Jesus in the Eucharist. In the Eucharist, we literally receive Jesus — His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity — in our bodies & souls under the appearance of bread and wine.

However, although a Spiritual Communion is not the same thing as the reception of Holy Communion, it nonetheless has great spiritual value and power, as we are inviting our Lord to dwell within us spiritually with the hope of soon doing so sacramentally. Throughout the centuries many saints have not only practiced making a Spiritual Communion themselves — even in addition to receiving Holy Communion — but they have highly extolled the practice to the faithful. St. Teresa of Avila wrote, "When you do not receive Communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual Communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you." And Padre Pio sought to make a Spiritual Communion throughout the day in order to always remain united with Jesus in all that he did.

In a vision, Our Lord explained it to St. Catherine of Siena by showing her two chalices: one made of gold, the other of silver. He told her that her sacramental Communion was preserved in the gold chalice and that her spiritual communions were in the silver chalice. He told Blessed Jane of the Cross that each time she communicated spiritually, she received graces of the same kind as those received in sacramental Communion.

St. Pope John Paul II was a great advocate of spiritual communion. He wrote in his encyclical *The Eucharist in its Relationship to the Church*, "Precisely for this reason, it is good to cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist. This was the origin of the practice of 'spiritual communion,' which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life. St. Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.'"

There is no one way to make a Spiritual Communion.

St. Alphonsus Liguori:

"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 now 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."

Classic:

At Thy feet, O my Jesus, I prostrate myself and I offer Thee repentance of my contrite heart, which is humbled in its nothingness and in Thy holy presence. I adore Thee in the Sacrament of Thy love, the ineffable Eucharist. I desire to receive Thee into the poor dwelling that my heart offers Thee. While waiting for the happiness of sacramental communion, I wish to possess Thee in spirit. Come to me, O my Jesus, since I, for my part, am coming to Thee! May Thy love embrace my whole being in life and in death. I believe in Thee, I hope in Thee, I love Thee. Amen.

Classic:

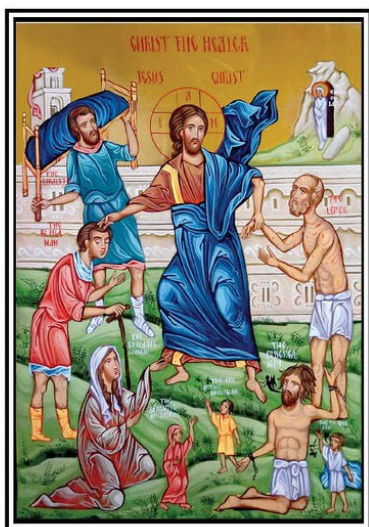
O Immaculate Queen of Heaven and Earth, Mother of God and Mediatrix of every grace: I believe that Thy dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, is truly, really, and substantially contained in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love Him above all things and I long to receive Him into my heart. Since I cannot now receive Him sacramentally, be so good as to place Him spiritually in my soul. O my Jesus, I embrace Thee as One who has already come, and I unite myself entirely to Thee. Never permit me to be separated from Thee. Amen.

In whatever form you make a Spiritual Communion, consider following the example and counsel of the saints and pray a prayer like these at those times in which you are unable to receive our Lord in the Eucharist. And have confidence that Jesus will both hear and answer your prayer.

~ Fr. Robert T. Cooper



PRAYER IN TIME OF CORONAVIRUS



O Lord Jesus Christ, in Your loving care, You traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders. Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks.

O Master and Lord, our Savior, Healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare.

For You are a Merciful and Loving God, and to you we give glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.