

708 Milford Road (Route 101A) Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054

We Live + as we Believe + as we Worship

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY April 27, 2025

Very Rev. Robert Glasgow, V.F. Chaplain (LTC) USA (Ret.) (603) 880-4689 x113, pastor@sjnnh.org

> Rev. Ethelbert Orabuche Priest Associate

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Teri Schmitt
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MASS SCHEDULE

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CONFESSION

BAPTISM

Parents must attend a Parent Baptism Class before the baptism of their child. The class is offered the first Sunday of each month following the 10:00 AM Mass.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the office at least six months prior to the wedding date. The diocese requires Marriage Prep.

VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND AND SICK, ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office to request home or hospital visitation.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

OCIA is the process of formation offered to those who seek to become Catholic. For information, please call the office.

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU!

Go and learn the meaning of the words, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." —Mt 9:13

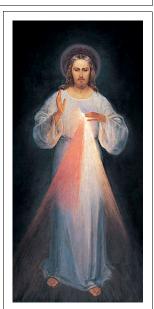
The following are excerpts from Misericors et Miserator [Lt., Merciful and Compassionate], the formal decree issued May 5, 2000 by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments which established the Second Sunday of Easter as "Divine Mercy Sunday".



SANCTUARY OF DIVINE MERCY Vilnius, Lithuania

It Is God's Mercy
That Grants Supernatural Sorrow
And Resolution to Amend

INDEED, Divine Mercy knows how to pardon even the most serious sins, and in doing so it moves the faithful to perceive a supernatural, not merely psychological, sorrow for their sins so that, ever with the help of divine grace, they may make a firm resolution not to sin any more. Such spiritual dispositions undeniably follow upon the forgiveness of mortal sin when the faithful fruitfully receive the sacrament of Penance or repent of their sin with an act of perfect charity and perfect contrition, with the resolution to receive the Sacrament of Penance as soon



THE DIVINE MERCY by E. Kazimirowski (d. 1939)

"JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU!"

as they can. Indeed, Our Lord Jesus Christ teaches us in the parable of the Prodigal Son that the sinner must confess his misery to God saying: "Father I have sinned against heaven and against you; I am no longer worthy to be called your

son" (Lk 15:18-19), realizing that this is a work of God, "for [he] was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found" (Lk 15:32).

Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday

And so with provident pastoral sensitivity and in order to impress deeply on the souls of the faithful these precepts and teachings of the Christian faith, the Supreme Pontiff, John Paul II, moved by the consideration of the Father of Mercy, has willed that the Second Sunday of Easter be dedicated to recalling with special devotion these gifts of grace and gave this Sunday the name, "Divine Mercy Sunday."

On April 20, 2000—the occasion of the canonization of Sister Mary Faustina Kowalska (d. 1938), a Polish nun—, Pope St John Paul II (d. 2005) announced that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be observed as "Divine Mercy Sunday". The following are excerpts from the Holy Father's homily. Italics added.

BEFORE saying, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you ... Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (John 20: 21-23), Jesus points to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in his heart. From that heart Sister Faustina Kowalska, the blessed—whom from now on we will call a saint—will see two rays of light shining and illuminating the world. "The two rays," Jesus himself explained to her one day, "represent blood and water."

Blood and water! We immediately think of the testimony given by the Evangelist John, who, when a solider on Calvary pierced Christ's side with his spear, sees blood and water flowing from it (cf. John 19:34). Moreover, if the blood recalls the sacrifice of the Cross and the gift of the Eucharist, the water, in Johannine symbolism, represents not only Baptism but also the gift of the Holy Spirit (cf. John 3:5; 4:14; 7:37-39).

Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified: "My daughter, say that I am love and mercy personified," Jesus will ask Sr Faustina. Christ pours out this mercy on humanity though the sending of the Spirit who, in the Trinity, is the Person-Love. And is not mercy love's "second name," understood in its deepest and most tender aspect, in its ability to take upon itself the burden of any need and, especially, in its immense capacity for forgiveness?

Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr Faustina Kowalska to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time. By divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind. In fact, it was between the First and Second World Wars that Christ entrusted his message of mercy to her. Those who remember, who were witnesses and participants in the events of those years and the horrible sufferings they caused for millions of people, know well how necessary was the message of mercy.

Jesus told Sr Faustina: "Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy." Through the work of the Polish religious, this message has become linked for ever to the 20th century, the last of the second millennium and the bridge to the third. It is not a new message but can be considered a gift of special enlightenment that helps us to relive the Gospel of Easter more intensely, to offer it as a ray of light to the men and women of our time.

[The Second Sunday of Easter] from now on throughout the Church will be called "Divine Mercy Sunday." In the various readings, the liturgy seems to indicate the path of mercy which, while re-establishing the relationship of each person with God, also creates new relations of fraternal solidarity among human beings. Christ has taught us that "man not only receives and experiences the mercy of God, but is also called 'to practice mercy' towards others: 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy' (Matthew 5:7)." He also showed us the many paths of mercy, which not only forgives sins but reaches out to all human needs. Jesus bent over every kind of human poverty, material and spiritual.

His message of mercy continues to reach us through his hands held out to suffering man. This is how Sr Faustina saw him and proclaimed him to people on all the continents when, hidden in her convent at £agiewniki in Kraków, she made her life a hymn to mercy: *Misericordias Domini in aeternum cantabo*.

"When once I asked the Lord Jesus how He could tolerate so many sins and crimes and not punish them, the Lord answered me, 'I have an eternity for punishing [these], and so I am prolonging the time of mercy for the sake of [sinners]. But woe to them if they do not recognize the time of My visitation." —From St Mary Faustina Kowalska's (d. 1938) <u>Diary</u> (No. 1160)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Apr 27, Sunday — 2nd Week of Easter 8:00 AM | Sunday Mass 10:00 AM | Sunday Mass 6:00 PM | Sunday Mass

7:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration

Apr 28, Monday

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

Apr 29, Tuesday — St Catherine of Sienna, Virgin

7:00 PM | Scouts

Apr 30, Wednesday

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

10:30 AM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled 6:30 PM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled

6:30 PM | Grief Share

May 1, Thursday

9:00 AM | Day Away 12:15 PM | Daily Mass

May 2, Friday — St Athanasius, Bishop

10:00 AM | Food Pantry

12:15 PM | Daily Mass (followed by Adoration)

May 3, Saturday — SS. Philip and James, Apostles

8:30 AM | Men's Group

8:30 AM | First Saturday Rosary 9:00 AM | First Saturday Mass

9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)

5:30 PM | Anticipatory Mass

OFFERING

13 Apr '25 (Palm Sunday): \$8,386.00 20 Apr '25 (Easter Sunday): Not available at press time.

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Apr 26, 5:30 PM	James Gallagher (req. by Tom &
	Cindy Sullivan)

Apr 27 (Sun), 10:00 AM Deborah DeBelis (req. by Jerry &

Sheila Burnett)

Apr 28 (Mon), 12:15 PM Personal Intention for a 5th

Grade Class - LIVING

INTENTION

Apr 30 (Wed), 12:15 PM Marie Lebean (req. by David)

May 3 (Sat), 5:30 AM Mark Morin (req. by Rita

Gehringer)

May 4 (Sun), 8:00 AM Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis)

The <u>Code of Canon Law</u> confirms the practice of offering Mass(es for particular intentions is ancient: "The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works" (945 §2).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

This Sunday (Apr 27)

2:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration 3:00 PM, Chaplet of Divine Mercy



GRADUATING SENIORS RECOGNITION

If you are the proud parent of a High School Senior, the parish would like to honor and pray for them at the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, June 1st (followed by a reception in the parish hall). Please email Mickayla Waclawik at mwaclawik@sjnnh.org with your High School Senior's first and last name, their picture, and their plans for after graduation [college and major(s), work, armed forces, vocation etc.]. Please submit requested information as soon as possible.

CREATION CARE

The NH Chapter of the Laudato Si' Movement and Christ the King Parish invite you to learn how to bring LAUDATO SI': ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME into our lives and the life of our parishes:

Christ the King Parish (60 South Main St, Concord), on May 3rd from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM.

PRAYER LINE

To add someone to the Parish Prayer Line, contact Teri at the parish office: (603) 880-4689, tschmitt@sjnnh.org. PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Youth volunteers and students (past, present, & future). The Grief Share Group. Bernie. Jay. Leon. Ron. Abdul. Tricia. Marie. Jay. Leon. Ron. Russ. Sue & her surgical team. Ginny. Sofia. Margaret. David. Marty. Barbara. Tom. Our Guardian Angels. Steve. Jillian. Ella. Morgan. Anthony. Pat. Matthew & Diane. Jan. Joe. Margaret. Family of Bill. Soul of Judie. Christina & Cody. Edna. Bob. Joe. Peggy. College Students. Jeff. Linda. Sue. Ginny. Alan. Orestes. The souls of Laurett, Johnny and Joe. Margaret.

Matthew & family. Wendy. Bob & Maryann. Dan & Brianna. Barbara & Elaine. Ben. Alex. Joyce. Stephen. Jan. Honey. Tom. Fred. Sue. Steve Q. Tom. For the Soul of Pope Francis. Family and friends who have stepped away from the faith. Family and friends who have stepped away from the faith. Vocations. All of our parishioners and their needs.

PARISH *online*

For parish updates, subscribe via FLOCKNOTES:

https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com Or, by texting "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576 (message/data rates may apply)

ONLINEgiving

St John Neumann Parish offers ONLINE GIVING for families to easily give one-time as well as recurring donations. You can make a secure donation via Electronic Check or Debit/Credit Card by visiting the parish website <SJNNH.ORG> and scrolling to the bottom of the homepage and clicking on <ONLINE-DOANATION>.

https://sjnnh.org/online-donation

SJN Staff

LOUISE HICKEY — Children (K-5) lhickey@sjnnh.org

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MICKAYLA WACLAWIK — High School mwaclawik@sjnnh.org

CHERI ANDERSEN — Adult candersen@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x111

ARTIE CAREW — Music music@sjnnh.org

SHEILA BURNETT — Pastoral Associate

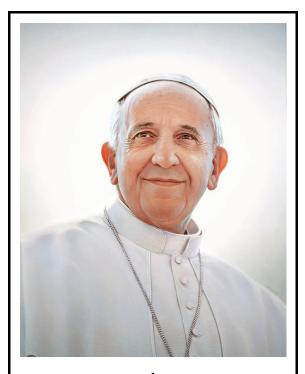
CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER & EVELYN VERBECK Outreach & Food Pantry outreach@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x116

KATHY HOPKINS — Day Away (Thursday) dayaway@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689

PARISH COUNCIL parishcouncil@sjnnh.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Arvid Skogsholm (Grand Knight) kofc@sjnnh.org



GOD, Who, in Thine ineffable providence, did will that Thy servant Francis should be numbered among the high priests; grant, we beseech Thee, that he, who on earth held the place of Thine only-begotten Son, may be joined forevermore to the fellowship of Thy holy pontiffs. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen. —Roman Missal

- V. Eternal rest grant unto Francis, O Lord.
- R/. And let the perpetual light shine upon him.

And may his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.