**Sunday, April 16, 2023**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

2486 West 14th Street

Cleveland, Ohio 44113

(216) 781-5530

(216) 781-1124 Fax

**Website**: www.StAugustineCleveland. Org

**Parish Office Hours:**

Monday thru Friday: 9 AM to 4 PM

Saturday: 9 AM to 4 PM

Sunday: 9 AM to 2 PM

**Community Cupboard and Closet:**

Wednesdays: 5 PM to 7 PM

Saturdays: 11 AM to 2 PM

**Mass Schedule:**

Monday thru Friday: 5:30 PM

 *(Civic holidays at 10 AM)*

Saturday: 4:15 PM\*

Sunday: 8:30 AM\* and 11 AM\*

\*Interpreted for the Deaf

**Confession:**

**THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF**

**ST. AUGUSTINE**

*A Samaritan Church with a Missionary Heart*



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| **Parish Registration** – Welcome new members! Please register by calling the parish office. Parishioners who are moving are asked to contact the office to update their information**Baptism** – Baptisms may be scheduled at any time. Please call the parish office to make baptismal arrangements.  | **Funerals** – Please call the parish office to schedule funerals prior to publishing any information.**Matrimony** – Call the parish office to meet with a priest. Diocesan regulations require a minimum of 6 months preparation time.  | **Care of the Sick** – Notify the parish office of those who are hospitalized or homebound. Arrangements can be made for pastoral visits, the Sacrament of the Anointing or the Sick. We can also bring Holy Communion to the homebound. Qr code  Description automatically generated |

Saturdays 3:30 PM – 4 PM or by appointment

**Staff and Ministry Directory**

For all Parish emails, add @StAugustineCleveland.org

Administrator/Chaplain to the Blind: Rev. William O’Donnell, C.PP.S, *email:* WODonnell

Parochial Vicar/Chaplain to the Deaf: Rev. Ben Jimenez, SJ, *email:* BJimenez

Permanent Deacon: Chris DePenti, *email: CDePenti@DioceseofClevleand.org* Deaf Ministry: *email:* DeafMinistry

Parish Life Administrator: Bob Duda, *email:* BDuda Blind Ministry: *email:* BlindMinistry

Finance Manager: Aldo Fierro, *email:* AFierro Mental Health Ministry: MentalHealth

Office Manager: Doris Everetts, *email:* DEveretts Outreach Ministry: *email:* Outreach

Office Support: Kimberly Ambro, *email:* KAmbro Augustine Rainbow Camp: *email:* ARC

Director of Rainbow Camp and Volunteers: Jessica Neuhart, *email:* JNeuhart Signing Choir: *email:* SigningChoir Religious Education: Kathleen Ulintz, *email:* PSR General Information: *email:* Info

Deaf Access Co-Ordinator: Robin McMarlin, email: RMcMarlin

**Second Sunday of Easter- Divine Mercy Sunday**

Today, on Divine Mercy Sunday, we celebrate God’s everlasting mercy, which heartened the Chosen People again and again over many centuries, found its purest expression in the sacrifice of God’s only Son, and will continue to overflow into our world and all God’s creation until the end of time. Conscious of both God’s mercy and Jesus’ command to do for the least of our brothers and sisters what he has done for us, we pray that we may be merciful and forgiving to others, sharing that most precious gift God gives us.

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

Saturday, April 15th- 4:15 PM † Martha & Frank Kisiel

Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ

Sunday, April 16th- 8:30 AM † Angela Faith

Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ

Sunday, April 16th– 11 AM † Nathan McNulty

Fr. Tom O’Donnell

Monday, April 17th- 5:30 PM † Coletta Klein

Tuesday, April 18th- 5:30 PM † Stella Janusczak

Wednesday, April 19th- 5:30 PM † Ed Kaczuk

Thursday, April 20th- 5:30 PM † Bev Jarrett

Friday, April 21st- 5:30 PM † Larry Gall

Saturday, April 22nd- 4:15 PM † Bob Bencic

Fr. Joe McNulty

Sunday, April 23rd- 8:30 AM † Dave and Shirley Wolfe

Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S

Sunday, April 23rd– 11 AM † Martha & Frank Kisiel

Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S

**The Pope’s Intention for April:**

**For a culture of peace and non-violence**

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday: Acts 2:42‐47; Ps 118:2‐4, 13‐15, 22‐ 24; 1 Pt 1:3‐9; Jn 20:19‐31

Monday: Acts 4:23‐31; Ps 2:1‐3, 4‐7a, 7b‐9; Jn 3:1‐8

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

Wednesday: Acts 5:17‐26; Ps 34:2‐3, 4‐5, 6‐ 7, 8‐9; Jn 3:16‐21

Thursday: Acts 5:27‐33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17‐18, 19‐ 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 2:14, 22‐33; Ps 16:1‐2, 5, 7‐8, 9‐ 10, 11; 1 Pt 1:17‐21; Lk 24:13‐35

**Welcome!**

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, disability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity or spirituality, or marital situation. No matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue. You are invited, accepted, and respected here at St. Augustine Parish.

 *Loving God,*

 *For all who feel on the margins,*

 *but who are at the center of your heart,*

 *we ask you to open our hearts.*

 *Help us to become a church and a nation where:*

***All lives have dignity,***

***All people are loved***

***And all are welcome.***

  *Amen*

**Love Without Measure**

Today’s gospel is not only a glorious appearance of the Risen Lord. It is also a humiliating reunion between Jesus and his disciples. Remember, this is the first time that the disciples have seen Jesus since his passion and death. During the passion, all the disciples abandoned him, and Peter, the first of the apostles denied him three times. So this scene is as much a fearful reckoning than a joyful reunion. The disciples would be justly afraid of what Jesus would say to them. But he says, Peace, Do not be Afraid! At these words, the disciples rejoice.

But although the disciples are forgiven, it would be wrong to conclude that their betrayal had been erased. Although Jesus offered to the disciples his peace, this does not mean that they have been returned to the condition they were in before their sin. This is why Jesus shows them his hands and his side. His body bears the wounds of his passion. Those marks are present, in part, because of the failure of his friends. So although the gospel is about forgiveness and reconciliation, it also tells us that the failure of the disciples cannot be completely eliminated. Jesus will bear the mark of their sin always.

When we fail in some significant way, there is always the possibility of forgiveness and reconciliation. But we must also have the strength to face the consequences for what we have done. If out of selfishness or fear we betray a friend and put an important relationship at risk, we can and should apologize and ask forgiveness. But even after we are forgiven, we will always know that we placed something unworthy above the value of a friend. If we betray a confidence or tell a lie, which seriously hurts someone personally or financially, we should repent. But even if we are reconciled, we will always remember how we were weak enough to hurt another person. The wounds of our sins can be healed, but hey always remain visible. Years later, when we remember our failure, we will find ourselves saying, “Was I really that selfish? Was I really that weak? Did I fall so short from the person I was called to be?”

Today’s gospel warns us not to be so naïve. Our failures, though forgiven, still follow us. On days we are weak they haunt us still. This is why today’s gospel also gives us hope. The wounds of Jesus are present, but they are displayed on glorified body. The disciples are flawed, but they receive Jesus’ peace. Even though the failures of our lives cannot be completely erased, with God’s help, we can find the strength to continue – to build a life of growth, love and serviced. Like Jesus’ bod, we will always carry the marks of our weakness and fear. But with God’s grace we can also reflect the glory of the Resurrection, and thus find the courage to shout, “Alleluia.”



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****Easter Flowers in Church are in Memory of**

Bob Bencic

Willie Colon

Rivera Family

Mitch McMaken

Emil Solderitsch

Robert and Liz Kinney

Bican-Klemann Family

Santiago- White Familia

John and Marilyn McMaken

Madeline Chappell-Hampton

Members of Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center

Members of Mary’s Rosary Guild of the Deaf

Raymond and Jeanette Rogalski

Josefina and Antonio Rivera

Petro and Kataryna Duda

John and Mary Schepis

William Anderson

Hattie Jacenitch

William Farrell

Terry Klima

Walter Duda

Kathy Duda



**Parish Breakfast THIS Sunday**

Whether you are a long-tine parishioner, a new member of our parish family, or just visiting, you are invited to a complimentary parish breakfast this Sunday (April 16th) from 9 AM until 1 PM in Walsh Hall (basement of school building). We hope that you will be able to join us for food and fellowship.

**Parish Pastoral and Finance Council Meeting**

Members of the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils will meet this Monday, April 17th at 7 PM.

**Classical Guitar Recital**

***Next Sunday, April 23rd***

Chris McGee, a member of our music ministry, will have a classical guitar recital on Sunday, April 23, 2023 beginning at 3 PM at St. Augustine. For more information, please contact the parish office.

**Forgiveness? Who? Why?**

"Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." [Thomas] said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails of his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." John 20: 19‐31

Your teenage son or daughter does something amazingly stupid ‐ as all young people tend to do at one time or another. Their behavior might require a meeting with their teacher or principal, a run to the emergency room ‐ or, worse, picking them up late at night at the police station. You're angry with them; they have let you down; you worry if this is the start of a pattern. But you will be there for your children always; you will love them no matter what. And in that love they are bound.

The words just came out of their mouths. They saw the look on your face and they realized immediately they had crossed the line. You laughed it off, but you were devastated. They came up to you later and apologized. What was intended to be funny hurt deeply. You quietly explained why you were hurt by what they said. Now they understand the power of words and begin to appreciate the experience and struggles of others. You could have shot right back at them and they would have deserved it. But in your generous response, they are more empathetic and understanding. And in your forgiveness, they are bound.

A coworker or an associate makes a major blunder. A great deal of damage has been done. Reputations are shattered; property is destroyed. You meet with the offending party and patiently and clearly explain the situation and their accountability in the matter. You detail exactly what is expected of them to repair the damage and what must be done to take care of those who have been hurt. But you assure them that you will be there with them every step of the way. And in your peace they are bound.

O*n Easter night, Jesus gives the Eleven the power to forgive sins. The Church has traditionally read these texts as Jesus' instituting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. But even more is implied in these words: that the whole Christian community ‐ you and I ‐ possess the power to "forgive" and "retain," and the grace to "bind" and "loosen." Father Ronald Rolheiser writes in Forgotten Among the Lilies: "If we are truly members of Christ's body then when we forgive sins, the person is forgiven. Likewise it means that if we love someone and hold them in our life, that person, regardless of his or her actions, is not cut off from the body of Christ. If you continue to love somebody, they are bound . . . bound to the body of Christ, sustained in salvation." The Risen Christ gives to every one of us the "power," the "authority," the grace to forgive and to bind one another in love. May we realize this Easter season the transformation we can make happen in our own "power" to forgive and bind in the love of God.*

**St. Augustine Seniors**

50 and over

The St. Augustine Seniors will celebrate Cinco de Mayo at their meeting on Thursday, April 27th at 12 Noon in Walsh Hall. New members are always welcome.

**St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors**

St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors will gather in the Deaf Center on Tuesday, April 25th at 10 AM for their regular meeting. New members are always welcome.

**Parish School of Religion**

Classes will resume this Monday, April 17th at 5:30 PM.

For more information, please visit St. Augustine Parish website at [www.StAugustineCleveland.org](http://www.StAugustineCleveland.org), email us at PSR@staugustinecleveland.org, or call the parish office at (216) 781-5530 for more information.

**St. Augustine Signing Choir**

The St. Augustine Signing Choir will not have practice this week. Anyone interested in joining the choir, with or without signing experience, is invited to join. For more information, please contact the parish office

**Pr ay the Rosary**

We invite you to join us **every Monday through Friday** at **6 PM** in Church as we pray the rosary. If you are unable to join us in person, we encourage you to join us on livestream**.**

We live stream the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass, the 11 AM Mass on Sunday, and the weekday Rosary on the parish website, Facebook Page, and YouTube Channel. A live audio feed will be available for the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass the 11 AM Sunday Mass, and the praying of the Rosary. To access the audio feed, please call (216) 270-6331prior to mass and enter code 2020 when prompted

**Protecting God’s Children**

The Diocese of Cleveland’s “Protecting God’s Children” program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the Church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at (216) 334 -2999 or via email at response\_services@dioceseofcleveland.org. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

**Alhambra**

A number of St. Augustine Parishioners are members of the Catholic organization Carmona Caravan, a group of Catholic men and women dedicated to assisting persons with intellectual

Disabilities.

Carmona Caravan is the Cleveland based chapter of the Order of the Alhambra. They meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, and all are welcome! If you are interested in helping persons with intellectual disabilities, coming to a meeting, or learning more, please visit [www.carmonacaravan.org](http://www.carmonacaravan.org).

**Mary’s Rosary Guild of the Deaf**

**60th Anniversary**

Mary’s Rosary Guild of the Deaf will celebrate their 60th Anniversary on Sunday, April 30, 2023 from 12 Noon until 5 PM in Walsh Hall. Tickets are $25 and can be purchased by contacting the parish office at (216) 781-5530 or by mailing a check or money order payable to Mary’s Rosary Guild of the Deaf to MRGD at 2486 W. 14th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

**Parish Database Update**

If you have moved, are now solely using a cell phone, or have please call the parish office, so we can update your records. We would also like to update our parish data base with e‐mail addresses. Thank you for keeping our parishioner records current.

**Stewardship of Treasure**

We are deeply grateful for your generosity in your weekly contribution to St. Augustine Parish. Your kindness and support enable us to provide for the needs of our parish and community. The collection for the weekend of April 9, 2023 was $4,360.25. Thank you for your generosity.

*Counter Team C is scheduled for Monday.*

**Sunday Thought**

On this Sunday after Easter, we are back in the upper room where Jesus celebrated the first Eucharist with His apostles. We are told that although the doors and windows were closed securely, Jesus still appeared in their midst. Jesus was not performing some kind of magic trick by suddenly coming into His apostles’ presence. The Gospel wants us to see that although we might be all “locked up” in our own troubles and worries Jesus is still with us. This Gospel knowledge along with Jesus’ greeting of “peace” should give us great assurance when we feel alone and sad. Jesus’ greeting of peace is not just a simple “hello,” it is a promise. Jesus Christ is master over the universe and He will give us all that we need. All that we need in this life and more importantly, He will give us life eternal. Many things in life can get us down. Personal problems and world problems seem to abound, but we need the assurance that the one who has overcome death itself still lives and cares for us. Peace!

Cursillistas will gather for Ultreya on **Saturday, May 13th at 10 AM** in Walsh Hall. Cursillistas are invited to gather, pray, and share personal stories about living a life in God's Grace on the second Saturday of every month.

**Family Perspectives**

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, the Holy Spirit is given
to the Apostles empowering them to forgive sins, instituting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Sacrament of God’s healing and mercy. Thomas’ example of doubt then belief is a reminder to us that faith is hard, we have moments of weakness, but Jesus’ love and mercy are never ending. He does not abandon
us and will give us what we need.

**The Work of Peace**

*Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them,*

*"Peace be with you."*

*When their father was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, the family was devastated.* But the kids immediately rallied around their mother and, together, talked through the difficult road that lay ahead. Mom realized she couldn't do this alone ‐ and appreciated the fact that this was not only her husband but their father, too, and that they should be part of his care. And her children were adamant that, no matter what the difficulties and challenges they faced, their love for their dad was total and unwavering. With humility and gratitude and grace, they worked as one, consulting with doctors, arranging for help and care, and dividing up responsibilities. There were no "turf wars" or hurt feelings. This was about Mom and Dad and enabling them to live their final days with dignity and happiness. Despite the painful "long goodbye" they would experience in caring for their husband and father, this family was at peace.

*The graffiti was discovered by the janitor on Monday morning, scrawled on one of the school's restrooms.* The racist words and images were ugly and vicious. Of course, no one admitted to the vandalism. The students who were the targets of the graffiti were outraged and were ready to shut the school down; but the majority of students dismissed the graffiti as a stupid, insensitive prank and that everyone was taking it way too seriously. Before tensions escalated any further and outsiders could make things worse, the principal and teachers went to work. They organized small‐group listening sessions where students of different races and ethnic backgrounds could talk about the disrespect and indignities they experience; similar meetings were held for parents, as well. It was eye‐opening ‐ and difficult to listen to; but, over time, students and teachers came to understand the pain and struggles experienced by many minority students in their school. A big step forward: the following weekend, a group of students organized on their own to remove the graffiti and repaint the restroom. Much work remained to be done to heal the school, but they managed to carry on in peace.

*On Easter night, Jesus greets his terrified disciples with "Peace." But the peace of the Risen Christ is more than just the absence of conflict, more than just the quiet, unchallenged acceptance of another's heartless behavior or selfish expectations. Christ's peace is the hard work of loving when it is most difficult to love, of putting aside one's own disappointments and doubts for the sake of the common good, of forgiving when we are too angry or disappointed, of reaching out even when we are sure we will be rebuffed or rejected. The Risen One's gift of peace is centered in no less than Christ himself: to imitate his selflessness, his compassion, his joys in our own homes and hearts.*

**On the Lighter Side**

A pastor was giving a lesson to a group of children on the 23rd Psalm. He noticed that one of the little boys seemed disquieted by the phrase “Surely, goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life…” “What’s wrong with that, Johnny? ” the pastor asked. “Well, ” answered John‐ ny, “I understand about having goodness and mercy, for God is good. But I’m not sure I’d like Shirley following me around all the time.” ☺

**Augustine Rainbow Camp**

We are very excited to be gearing up for another great camp season! Online Camper Registration will open Monday, April 17.

Follow our social media accounts @Augustine.Rainbow.Camp for access to the registration link and for more information about the 2023 camp season. Applications will also be linked on the parish website and available in the rectory.

**Counters Needed**

We are in need of a few more collection counters. Volunteers are put into groups. The group meets at the parish rectory on Monday mornings at 9:00am (If Monday is a holiday, they meet on Tuesday.) to count the weekend collection. Training will be provided. If you are interested in becoming a counter, please call the parish office.

**Transformation Night**

*Lay Down Your Burdens: Finding Peace in the Midst of Chaos*

Encounter School of Ministry will host, Transformation Night, at St. Bernadette Church, 2256 Clague Road, on Tuesday, April 20, 2023 beginning at 6:30 PM. More information can be found at www.encounterschool.org/akron.

**Organ Restoration Update**

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Beginning the week of April 24th Leek Organ Company will begin the month-long process of reinstalling our 1900c Kilgen Organ.

We ask for and appreciate your patience and understanding as seating in the rear of the church will be disrupted on St. Joseph’s side during this time.

The latest photos of our organ restoration have been posted to the website. You can view the progress on our parish website under organ restoration.

**“Sir that is what I am afraid of!”**

There is a story about a soldier brought before General Robert E. Lee. Accused of misconduct, the soldier was trembling. The general said to him, "Do not be afraid, son. Here you will receive justice." The soldier looked at the general and said, "Sir that is what I am afraid of."

*Like that soldier, Peter would have reason to tremble. He had boasted about his bravery, how he would always stand by Jesus. Yet when Jesus needed him most, he nodded off. Perhaps one could forgive him for falling asleep, but later ‐ when he was wide awake ‐ he denied Jesus. "I do not know the man." Some rock! In strict justice, Peter should have been punished ‐ at the very least, removed as head of the Church. In Christ's passion, however, a deeper justice is at work. That is what we will discover this Divine Mercy Sunday.   God's justice has a name ‐ it is called the Divine Mercy.*

****The **St. Augustine Community Cupboard** is **open** on **Saturdays** from **11 AM - 2 PM** and **Wednesdays** from **5 PM - 7 PM.**

As we continue to serve the needs of our neighbors, we are seeking volunteers to assist in restocking shelves and assisting shoppers on the days we are open. In addition, we are in need of the following items:

Toilet Paper Canned Meat

Paper Towels Ketchup

Laundry Detergent Mustard

Dish Soap Mayo

Coffee Dog Food

Tea Deodorant (Men and Women)

Sugar Hand Soap (Pump Bottles)

Creamer Body Wash (Men and Women)

Flour Shampoo

 Kleenex Boxed Potatoes

We have also created an **Amazon Wish List which can be found on our parish website, www.StAugustineCleveland.org.**

For more information or to volunteer, please contact the parish office by calling (216) 781-5530.

**Community Closet**

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Our Community Closet allows individuals to come and “shop” for clothing, bedding, and footwear items.

We are in need of shoes, t-shirts and underwear and socks.

The Community Closet is open on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 PM and on Saturdays from 11 AM to 2 PM.

For more information or to volunteer please contact the Parish Office at (216) 781-5530 or email, outreach@staugustinecleveland.org.

**Community Closet and Cupboard**

**Highlights by the Numbers**

*♦ Served over 777 families in the month of March*

*♦ 127 new families came to shop during the month of March*

**Theology on Tap**

Theology on Tap invites All Young Adults in their 20s and 30s

to join Father Jacob Bearer as he dives into how “Truth with Mercy means Freedom through Love.” As we celebrate

Divine Mercy Sunday on April 14th, we will come to

recognize the gift of mercy and love given through

Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. Why do

we need Mercy? Join us on Tuesday, April 18th,

at 7:00 pm at Forest City Brewery. Registration is available at

< http://dioceseofcleveland.org/totcle > or you may pay at the door ($5). For questions, please send an email to < totclewest@gmail.com > .

**Sacrament of Confirmation**

Members of our parish will join the parishes of the Central West District for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation will be conferred at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on April 30, 2023 at 2:30 PM.

**“Law vs Mercy”**

Once in Reader’s Digest, Jim Williams of Montana, wrote: ®I was driving too fast late one night when I saw the flashing lights of a police car in my rearview mirror. As I pulled over and rolled down my window of my station wagon, I tried to dream up an excuse for my haste. But when the patrolman reached the car, he said nothing. Instead, he merely shined his flashlight in my face, then on my seven‐month‐old in his car seat, then on our three other children, who were asleep, and lastly on the two dogs in the very back of the car. Returning the beam of light to my face, he then uttered the only words of the encounter. 'Son,' he said, 'you can’t afford a ticket. Slow down.' And with that, he returned to his car and drove away.”

*Sometimes mercy triumphs over law. So it is for sinners who call out to Jesus.”*

*Let us accept God's invitation to celebrate and practice mercy. One way the Church celebrates God’s mercy throughout the year is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.  Finding time for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is another good way to receive Divine Mercy.  The Gospel command, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful," demands that we show mercy to our fellow human beings always and everywhere.  We radiate God's mercy to others by our actions, our words, and our prayers.  It is mainly through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that we practice mercy in our daily lives and become eligible for God’s merciful judgment.*

**Ask for Mercy but also Give Mercy!**

Mary and her husband suffered the tragic loss of their son, and it was her understanding of Divine Mercy that helped her and her family forgive those that took his life during a robbery. Mary tells us how her attendance at a Mother of Mercy Messengers (MOMM) Divine Mercy Program helped her overcome great obstacles and allowed her to forgive and even to pray for them. She prayed for mercy to flourish in her heart. Knowing that as long as there is life, there is hope, the family did not seek the death penalty for his murderers. How differently does the person filled with God's mercy see and react to the world.

*In order to receive mercy we must ask for it and be ready to accept it. If we do not accept it sincerely we will not change our attitude towards our past life. We read in history that in 1829 George Wilson was condemned to death for robbing the mail and killing the policeman who was on the way to arrest him. President Andrew Jackson granted him a pardon but George Wilson refused to accept it. The judge said 'Pardon is a pardon only when one accepts it. George must die'. Mercy is mercy when we accept it. We read in the life of Voltaire that he wanted to live six weeks to repent for his sins. The doctor told him he would not live six days. He died unrepentant. Having mercy at his door he refused to accept it.*

**St. Faustina and the image of the Divine Mercy**

St. Faustina of Poland is the well‐known apostle of Divine Mercy. On 30th of April, 2000, at 10:00 AM on the Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday, the Feast requested by Jesus in His communications with St. Faustina), His Holiness Pope St. John Paul II celebrated the Eucharist in Saint Peter’s Square and proceeded to the canonization of Blessed Sister Faustina. [John Paul himself would be canonized on this same Feast Day – April 27 in 2014 – by Pope Francis.]

Saint Faustina invites us by the witness of her life to keep our Faith and Hope fixed on God the Father, rich in mercy, Who saved us by the precious Blood of His Son. During her short life, the Lord Jesus assigned to St. Faustina three basic tasks:

1. to pray for souls, entrusting them to God's incomprehensible Mercy;

2. to tell the world about God's Generous Mercy;

3. to start a new movement in the Church focusing on God's Mercy.

*At the canonization of St. Faustina, Pope St. John Paul II said: “The cross, even after the Resurrection of the Son of God, speaks, and never ceases to speak, of God the Father, Who is absolutely faithful to His eternal love for man. ... Believing in this love means believing in mercy." “The Lord of Divine Mercy,” a drawing of Jesus based on the vision given to St. Faustina, shows Jesus raising his right hand in a gesture of blessing, with His left hand on his heart from which gush forth two rays, one red and one white. The picture contains the message, "Jesus, I trust in You!" (Jezu ufam Tobie). The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red for the Blood of Jesus, which is the life of souls and white for the Baptismal water which justifies souls. The whole image is symbolic of the mercy, forgiveness and love of God.*

**Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center Pilgrimage**

The Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center will have a pilgrimage to Sisters of Visitation and Our Lady of Consolation Shrine (Carey, Ohio) on May 6, 2023. The cost is $30 per person and reservations are required before April 28, 2023. For more information, please email 1946CCDC@gmail.com or call (216) 370-7722.

*“Act in a way that all those who come in contact with you will go away joyful. Sow happiness because you have received much from God.”*

*Diary of St. Faustina*

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| ***April 15th and 16th*** |
|  | ***Saturday******8:45 PM*** | ***Sunday******8:30 AM*** | ***Sunday******11 AM*** |
| **Priest****Deacon** | Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H) | Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H) | Fr. Tom O’Donnell (H)Deacon Chris DePenti |
| **Lectors** | Anne Ertle | Peggy Gerovac  | Kate SlosarChristina Howard |
| **Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament** | Theresa OrtizBonnie RobertsonHelen Bencic  | Dave MurrayJoe Lewandowski  | John KowalchikJeannie Rawlings |
| ***April 22nd and 23rd*** |
|  | ***Saturday******4:15 PM*** | ***Sunday******8:30 AM*** | ***Sunday******11 AM*** |
| **Priest****Deacon** | Fr. Joe McNulty (H)  | Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S (H) | Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S (H)  |
| **Lectors** | Michelle Rivera  | Lin Janson  | Karen HalupnikJohn Kowalchik |

**Bernadette Soubirous**

**Feast Day: April 16**

Imagine seeing our Blessed Mother not just once, but eighteen times! That is the blessing Bernadette Soubirous was given for five months in 1858. One day, Bernadette, her sister, and a friend were gathering firewood near their home in Lourdes, France. Suddenly a lovely Lady dressed in blue and white appeared to Bernadette above a rose bush in a small cave. The Lady held a rosary and made the Sign of the Cross. Bernadette, who was only 14 years old, fell to her knees and began to pray the rosary.

During one of her appearances, Bernadette asked the Lady who she was. The woman replied, “I am the Immaculate Conception.” Bernadette did not understand what this meant. It was later explained to her that the words “Immaculate Conception” describe Mary, who was free from sin from the first moment of her life in her mother’s womb. It was only then that Bernadette began to understand that it was our Blessed Mother Mary who was appearing to her.

When Bernadette reported her visions of Mary, Church officials were doubtful. Many people did not believe her because she was the only one who ever saw or spoke to Mary. Still, crowds of people came to Lourdes in hopes of seeing Jesus’ mother.

One day, Mary asked Bernadette to use her hands to dig in the mud near the cave. When Bernadette obeyed the Lady’s request, a spring began to flow from the mud. It grew larger and larger and still flows today. At our Blessed Mother’s request, a chapel was built on the site.

Millions of people have made pilgrimages to Lourdes. They bathe in the waters from the spring and pray for healing. Miraculous cures have been declared after thorough investigation by Church officials and medical experts.

After the appearances stopped, Bernadette tried to live a quiet life. She belonged to a poor family and was not in the best of health. She became a Sister of Charity of Nevers when she was 22 and died in 1879.

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| **Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament** | Migdalia Santiago-WhiteCalvin White Teresa Yurchisin  | Eddie ReyesBob DudaMaria Rivera | Christina HowardNora KowalchikSue Scialabba |

**This Week’s Events of the Parish**

Monday: PSR: 5:30 (School Building)

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 Parish Council and Finance Council Meeting: 7PM

 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Tuesday: AA Meeting: 9:30 AM (Walsh Hall)

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Wednesday: Links: 3 PM (Walsh)

 Community Cupboard and Closet: 5 PM-7PM

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 Signing Hands: 6:30 PM

 AA Meeting: 6 PM (Mylott Hall)

Thursday: Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 AA Meeting: 7 PM (Mylott Hall)

Friday: Links: 3 PM (Walsh)

 National Federation of the Blind: 5 PM

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Saturday: Community Cupboard and Closet: 11 AM – 2 PM

 Mass: 4:15 PM (Church)

Sunday: Mass: 8:30 AM (Church)

 Mass: 11 AM (Church)