

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON — HOUSTON



**SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
10330 HILLCROFT ST. | HOUSTON, TX 77096 | (713) 729-0221  
[WWW.STMHOUSTON.ORG](http://WWW.STMHOUSTON.ORG)

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of Easter. In 2000, Pope St. John Paul II established this Sunday as Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy is a Catholic devotion based on the conversations that a Polish nun, St. Faustina Kowalska, had with Jesus. Being from Poland, Pope St. John Paul II had a strong devotion to the Divine Mercy. The following is part of the homily John Paul II gave at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina, which I find particularly fitting for today.

Sr. Faustina Kowalska wrote in her Diary: *"I feel tremendous pain when I see the sufferings of my neighbors. All my neighbors' sufferings reverberate in my own heart; I carry their anguish in my heart in such a way that it even physically destroys me. I would like all their sorrows to fall upon me, in order to relieve my neighbor"* (Diary, p. 365). *This is the degree of compassion to which love leads, when it takes the love of God as its measure!*

It is this love which must inspire humanity today, if it is to face the crisis of the meaning of life, the challenges of the most diverse needs and, especially, the duty to defend the dignity of every human person. Thus, the message of divine mercy is also implicitly *a message about the value of every human being. Each person is precious in God's eyes; Christ gave his life for each one; to everyone the Father gives his Spirit and offers intimacy.*

This consoling message is addressed above all to those who, afflicted by a particularly harsh trial or crushed by the weight of the sins they committed, have lost all confidence in life and are tempted to give in to despair. To them the gentle face of Christ is offered; those rays from his heart touch them and shine upon them, warm them, show them the way and fill them with hope. How many souls have been consoled by the prayer *"Jesus, I trust in you"*, which Providence intimated through Sr Faustina! *This simple act of abandonment to Jesus dispels the thickest clouds and lets a ray of light penetrate every life. Jezu, ufam tobie.*

*Misericordias Domini in aeternum cantabo (Ps 88 [89]: 2). Let us too, the pilgrim Church, join our voice to the voice of Mary most holy, "Mother of Mercy", to the voice of this new saint who sings of mercy with all God's friends in the heavenly Jerusalem.*

And you, Faustina, a gift of God to our time, a gift from the land of Poland to the whole Church, obtain for us an awareness of the depth of divine mercy; help us to have a living experience of it and to bear witness to it among our brothers and sisters. May your message of light and hope spread throughout the world, spurring sinners to conversion, calming rivalries and hatred and opening individuals and nations to the practice of brotherhood. Today, fixing our gaze with you on the face of the risen Christ, let us make our own your prayer of trusting abandonment and say with firm hope: *'Christ Jesus, I trust in you! Jezu, ufam tobie!*

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Fr. Clark*

**The Parish Office will be open during regular business hours with limited staff. Please call 713-721-0221 for more information. Confessions are being heard by appointment. Please contact our office or send an email to [stmvicar@stmhouston.org](mailto:stmvicar@stmhouston.org)**

### Spiritual Communion Prayer

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

*I love You above all things, and I desire to receive you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace You as if You are already there.*

*And unite myself wholly to You.*

*Never permit me to be separated from you.*

*Amen*



## Del escritorio del P. Clark

Queridos amigos en Cristo:

Este domingo es el segundo domingo de Pascua. En 2000, el Papa San Juan Pablo II estableció este domingo como el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia. La Divina Misericordia es una devoción católica basada en las conversaciones que una monja polaca, Santa Faustina Kowalska, tuvo con Jesús. Siendo de Polonia, el Papa San Juan Pablo II tenía una fuerte devoción a la Divina Misericordia. Lo siguiente es parte de la homilía que dio Juan Pablo II en la Misa de canonización de Santa Faustina, que considero particularmente adecuada para hoy.

Sor Faustina Kowalska dejó escrito en su *Diario*: "*Experimento un dolor tremendo cuando observo los sufrimientos del prójimo. Todos los dolores del prójimo repercuten en mi corazón; llevo en mi corazón sus angustias, de modo que me destruyen también físicamente. Desearía que todos los dolores recayeran sobre mí, para aliviar al prójimo*" (p. 365). *¡Hasta ese punto de comunión lleva el amor cuando se mide según el amor a Dios!*

En este amor debe inspirarse la humanidad hoy para afrontar la crisis de sentido, los desafíos de las necesidades más diversas y, sobre todo, la exigencia de salvaguardar la dignidad de toda persona humana. Así, el mensaje de la misericordia divina es, implícitamente, también un *mensaje sobre el valor de todo hombre. Toda persona es valiosa a los ojos de Dios, Cristo dio su vida por cada uno, y a todos el Padre concede su Espíritu y ofrece el acceso a su intimidad.*

Este mensaje consolador se dirige sobre todo a quienes, afligidos por una prueba particularmente dura o abrumados por el peso de los pecados cometidos, han perdido la confianza en la vida y han sentido la tentación de caer en la desesperación. A ellos se presenta el rostro dulce de Cristo y hasta ellos llegan los haces de luz que parten de su corazón e iluminan, calientan, señalan el camino e infunden esperanza. ¡A cuántas almas ha consolado ya la invocación "Jesús, en ti confío", que la Providencia sugirió a través de sor Faustina! Este sencillo acto de abandono a Jesús disipa las nubes más densas e introduce un rayo de luz en la vida de cada uno.

*Misericordias Domini in aeternum cantabo" (Sal 89, 2). A la voz de María santísima, la "Madre de la misericordia", a la voz de esta nueva santa, que en la Jerusalén celestial canta la misericordia junto con todos los amigos de Dios, unamos también nosotros, Iglesia peregrina, nuestra voz.*

Y tú, Faustina, don de Dios a nuestro tiempo, don de la tierra de Polonia a toda la Iglesia, concédenos percibir la profundidad de la misericordia divina, ayúdanos a experimentarla en nuestra vida y a testimoniarla a nuestros hermanos. Que tu mensaje de luz y esperanza se difunda por todo el mundo, mueva a los pecadores a la conversión, elimine las rivalidades y los odios, y abra a los hombres y las naciones a la práctica de la fraternidad. Hoy, nosotros, fijando, juntamente contigo, nuestra mirada en el rostro de Cristo resucitado, hacemos nuestra tu oración de abandono confiado y decimos con firme esperanza: "Cristo, Jesús, en ti confío.

De ustedes en Cristo,

*Fr. Clark*

La Oficina Parroquial estará abierta durante el horario comercial habitual con personal limitado. Por favor llame al 713-721-0221 para más información. Las confesiones se escuchan con cita previa. Póngase en contacto con nuestra oficina o envíe un correo electrónico a [stmnvicar@stmhouston.org](mailto:stmnvicar@stmhouston.org)

### Un Acto de Comunión Espiritual

Creo, Jesús mío, que estás real y verdaderamente en el cielo y en el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar.

Os amo sobre todas las cosas y deseo vivamente recibirte dentro de mi ama, pero no pudiendo hacerlo ahora sacramentalmente,

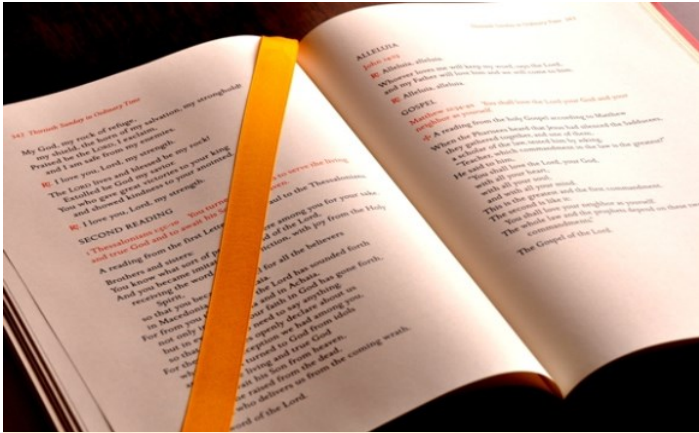
Venid al menos espiritualmente a mi corazón.

Y como si ya os hubiese recibido, os abrazo y me uno del todo a Ti.

Señor, no permitas que jamás me aparte de Ti.

Amén





## WEEKLY READINGS

Scripture Readings for the Week of April 19 2020

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Easter or Sunday of Divine Mercy</b> Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31
<b>Monday</b>	Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Jn 3:1-8
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Saint Anselm, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
<b>Wednesday</b>	Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr</b> Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest &amp; Martyr</b> Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist</b> 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

## LECTURAS SEMANALES

Lecturas de las Escrituras por la Semana del 19 de April de 2020

<b>Domingo</b>	<b>Segundo Domingo de Pascua o Domingo de la Divina Misericordia</b> He 2, 42-47; Sal 117, 2-4. 13-15. 22-24; 1 Pe 1, 3-9; Jn 20, 19-31
<b>Lunes</b>	He 4, 23-31; Sal 2, 1-3. 4-6. 7-9; Jn 3, 1-8
<b>Martes</b>	<b>San Anselmo, Obispo y Doctor de la Iglesia</b> He 4, 32-37; Sal 92, 1ab. 1c-2. 5; Jn 3, 5a, 7b-15
<b>Miércoles</b>	He 5, 17-26; Sal 33, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9; Jn 3, 16-21
<b>Jueves</b>	<b>San Jorge, Mártir; San Adalberto, Obispo y Mártir</b> He 5, 27-33; Sal 33, 2 y 9. 17-18. 19-20; Jn 3, 31-36
<b>Viernes</b>	<b>San Fidel de Sigmaringa, Presbítero y Mártir</b> He 5, 34-42; Sal 26, 1. 4. 13-14; Jn 6, 1-15
<b>Sábado</b>	<b>Fiesta de San Marcos, Evangelista</b> 1 Pe 5, 5b-14; Sal 88, 2-3. 6-7. 16-17; Mc 16, 15-20
<b>Domingo</b>	<b>Tercer Domingo de Pascua</b> He 2, 14. 22-28; Sal 15, 1-2a y 5. 7-8. 9-10. 11; 1 Pe 1, 17-21; Lc 24, 13-35

## Mass Intentions

All scheduled weekday Mass intentions are being fulfilled. You will be notified if it is necessary to reschedule your requested intention for a Saturday or Sunday Mass.

## On The Cover

Original Painting of Divine Mercy  
Eugeniusz Kazimirowski, 1934  
Vilnius, Lithuania

## Spiritual Tools While Being Unable to Attend Mass

- **Pray...**the Divine Office, the official prayer of the Church. (Resource: [divineoffice.org](http://divineoffice.org))
- **Pray...**the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Resource: [How to Pray the Rosary](#))
- **Pray...**the Scriptures or *Lectio Divina* (Resource: what is and how to do, [Lectio Divina](#))
- **Pray...**The Divine Mercy Chaplet (Resource: [How to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet](#))
- **Pray...**to make an Act of Spiritual Communion (Resource: [explanation and how to](#))
- **Pray...**as a family, the domestic church.
- **Pray...**in silent meditation, to seek the Lord in the caverns of our hearts, as we give praise and thanksgiving to him and listen to His words as guides us on our earthly pilgrimage of faith.

## Upcoming Events

All meetings, social events, ministries, faith formation classes, and public devotions are canceled until further notice.

## Online Catholic Resources

While we all hunker down to help stop the spread of the coronavirus, FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere.

### Here's how to get the content:

- Visit [formed.org](http://formed.org) with a web browser (The link can also be found on STM's [homepage](#))
- Click the "Sign Up" button
- Click the "I belong to a Parish or Organization" option, then click "Next"
- Enter Parish Access Code: **JTDG76** and click "St. Thomas More"
- Then follow the steps by completing the personal data fields.

### En español por Magnificat.net

<https://latina.magnificat.net/gratis>

## STM Online

[STM Homepage](#)

[STM Facebook](#)

[STM YouTube Channel](#)

### Stewardship for April 12, 2020

Collection	\$40,531.00
Online Giving	\$13,627.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$54,158.43</b>

### Upcoming Special Collections

Home Missions Collection  
April 26, 2020  
Catholic Communications  
May 24, 2020



### Parish Goal: \$193,000.00

Total Amount Pledged: \$59,434.50  
Total Amount Paid: \$39,764.50  
Total Number of Participant: 180  
Total Number of Households: 4184  
Average Participant Pledge: \$330.75  
Paid Over (Under) Goal: (\$153,235.50)  
Pledged Over (Under) Goal: (\$133,465.50)  
Percent Paid: 20.6%

### Online Giving

Please remember **STM** while away from the parish. Our church's website has instructions on how to register for convenient on-line giving. You will have full control of your contribution account and scheduling. Visit our homepage at [STMHOUSTON.ORG](http://STMHOUSTON.ORG) for details and registration.