

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER—DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 28, 2019

MASS READINGS

MONDAY: ACTS 4:23-32, JN 3:1-8

TUESDAY: ACTS 4:32-37, JN 3: 7B-15

WEDNESDAY: ACTS 5:17-26, JN 3:16-21

THURSDAY: ACTS 5:27-33, JN 3:31-36

FRIDAY: 1 COR 15:1-8, JN 14:6-14

SATURDAY: ACTS 6:1-7, JN 6:16-21

**NEXT SUNDAY: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER-
RDGS: ACTS 5:27-32, RV 5:11-14, JN 21:1-19**

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY: THEA FARRELL

TUESDAY: SALLY BROWN

WEDNESDAY: MARY LESTER

THURSDAY: JOHN LIBBERS

FRIDAY: POOR SOULS

VIGIL: MARY LESTER

7:30: SALLY BROWN

10:00: DON & IRENE CLAPP

NOON: FOR THE PARISH

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Robert Bohan. (Larry Brunner, Greg Yantis, Geraldine Erwin, Lisa Schmidt & Tim O'Connor).

Marian Schwartz. (Bob Griffin & John Scowden families). (Karen Fox, Mike & Rosemary

Cavanaugh). (Lewis Beeler, Tim Fitzgerald, Clem & Wilbur Boehle, Laurretta Heady). Carl & Scott

Waclawik. Elizabeth Vanderkolk. Patricia Lehnen.

Rita Razon. Barb & Harold Morris.

*Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, Peace be with you."*

So full of meaning is this simple greeting. We can scarce begin to grasp what our Lord is trying to convey here by extending to those who seriously thought that their adventure with Jesus came to a screeching halt on that hill outside of Jerusalem and here he is now wishing them peace. Peace of course, is exactly what they need at this moment. They need the sort of peace which passes all understanding, a peace the world cannot give, a peace that in short, allows them to step outside themselves for a moment to gather themselves and take all this in. What they need is that most necessary inner peace which allows them to accept that their beloved Master, once thought dead, is now back in their midst and wishing them peace. He is not simply trying to calm what is obviously a fearful bunch but is trying to bestow on them a sort of pre-Pentecost gift, something which will allow them to receive the one Jesus told them to expect since he must return to his Father and our Father. This sort of peace is still available in that our risen Lord greets us each time we settle down with him in the silence of our lives and hearts. It is a peace we can find no where else and the sort of peace that makes most people very uncomfortable since it is in this peace that we do not have to become something we are not in order to please an audience or sooth a guilty conscious. It is the sort of peace that perhaps we have found, to some extent with a special someone, but this is even a greater peace than that. Here we simply allow ourselves to be loved and to grow in that love. This necessary peace is the environment in which the Holy Spirit begins to "teach us all things". Here in this peace we learn about ourselves in a very good way and are permitted to see that it is alright to make mistakes as long as we realize that the Lord is our rock and our salvation and they he and he alone has come to guide us in the way we should go. Just when the disciples thought that they were left utterly alone and in such dire straits that they would not survive the Lord arrives among them with that sort of peace in which they can live and move and have their being through that gracious gift of the Holy Spirit by which they, and we, are brought into the divine life of the Blessed Trinity. No peace matches this and no love can be found anywhere else since it is in and for this love we were created.

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APRIL 28, 2019



God's Peace

*God's tender love and peace
Is what we all long for
In a world so hopelessly chaotic
So unstable and unsure*

*It brings stability to our minds
And calmness to our souls
For that is what we desperately need
As this world can be so cold*

*We need to have God's peace
When turmoil's in our lives
For God's peace doesn't depend
On the daily pressures of life*

*When we have those stressful days
God's peace can often soothe
And bring us such a quiet hope
That chases away the blues*

*So when you feel the pressure on
Remember Jesus Christ
Receive from Him the peace He gives
As His daily dose for life!*

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Alleluia

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What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Among all of the elements of devotion to The Divine Mercy requested by our Lord through St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the Feast of Mercy holds first place. The Lord's will with regard to its establishment was already made known in His first revelation to the saint, as recorded in her *Diary*. In all, there were 14 revelations concerning the desired feast.

Our Lord's explicit desire is that this feast be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. This Sunday is designated in "The Liturgy of the Hours and the Celebration of the Eucharist" as the "Octave Day of Easter." It was officially called the *Second Sunday of Easter* after the liturgical reform of Vatican II. Now, by the Decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the name of this liturgical day has been changed to: "Second Sunday of Easter, or Divine Mercy Sunday."

'Now On Throughout the Church'

Pope John Paul II made the surprise announcement of this change in his homily at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000. There, he declared: "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church, *will be called 'Divine Mercy Sunday.'*"

By the words "the whole message," Pope John Paul II was referring to the connection between the "Easter Mystery of the Redemption" — in other words, the suffering, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Christ, followed by the sending of the Holy Spirit — and this Feast of Divine Mercy, the Octave Day of Easter, which fulfills the grace of atonement as lived through by Christ Jesus and offered to all who come to Him with trust.

This connection is evident from the scripture readings appointed for this Sunday. As John Paul said, citing the Responsorial Psalm of the Liturgy, "The Church sings ... as if receiving from Christ's lips these words of the Psalm." "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His steadfast love (= mercy) endures forever" (Ps 118:1). And then, Pope John Paul II developed the connection further: "[This comes] from the lips of the risen Christ, who bears the great message of Divine Mercy and entrusts its ministry to the Apostles in the Upper Room: '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'" (Jn 20:21-23).

The Importance of the Image

During his homily, John Paul also made clear that the Image of The Divine Mercy St. Faustina saw, which is to be venerated on Divine Mercy Sunday, represents the Risen Christ bringing mercy to the world (see *Diary* 49, 88, 299, 341, 570, 742). Pope John Paul II said: "Jesus shows His hands and His side [to the Apostles]. He points, that is, to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in His Heart, the source from which flows the great wave of mercy poured out on humanity.

"From that Heart, Sr. Faustina Kowalska, the blessed whom from now on we will call a saint, will see two rays of light shining from that Heart and illuminating the world: '**The two rays,**' Jesus Himself explained to her one day, '**represent blood and water**' (*Diary*, 299).

"*Blood and water!* We immediately think of the testimony given by the Evangelist John, who, when a soldier on Calvary pierced Christ's side with his spear, sees blood and water flowing from it (see Jn 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" (see Jn 3:5; 4:14; 7:37-39).

APRIL 28, 2019

The Meaning of the Day

Clearly, Divine Mercy Sunday is not a new feast established to celebrate St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not *primarily* about St. Faustina at all — nor is it altogether a *new* feast! As many commentators have pointed out, The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter; nevertheless, the title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does highlight and amplify the meaning of the day. In this way, it recovers an ancient liturgical tradition, reflected in a teaching attributed to St. Augustine about the Easter Octave, which he called "the days of mercy and pardon," and the Octave Day itself "the compendium of the days of mercy."

Liturgically the Easter Octave has *always* been centered on the theme of Divine Mercy and forgiveness. Divine Mercy Sunday, therefore, point us to the merciful love of God that lies behind the whole Paschal Mystery — the whole mystery of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ — made present for us in the Eucharist. In this way, it also sums up the whole Easter Octave. As Pope John Paul II pointed out in his *Regina Caeli* address on Divine Mercy Sunday, 1995: "the whole octave of Easter is like a single day," and the Octave Sunday is meant to be the day of "thanksgiving for the goodness God has shown to man in the whole Easter mystery."

Given the liturgical appropriateness of the title "Divine Mercy Sunday" for the Octave Day of Easter, therefore, the Holy See did not give this title to the Second Sunday of Easter merely as an "option," for those dioceses who happen to like that sort of thing! Rather, the decree issued on May 5, 2000, by the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship and The Discipline of the Sacraments clearly states: "the Supreme Pontiff John Paul II has graciously determined that in the Roman Missal, after the title Second Sunday of Easter, there shall henceforth be added the appellation 'or [that is] Divine Mercy Sunday'...".

Divine Mercy Sunday, therefore, is not an *optional* title for this solemnity; rather, Divine Mercy is the integral name for this Feast Day. In a similar way, the Octave Day of the Nativity of Our Lord was named by the Church "The Feast of the Mother of God."

Not Just an *Option*

This means that preaching on God's mercy is also not just an *option* for the clergy on that day — it is soundly expected. To fail to preach on God's mercy on that day would mean largely to ignore the prayers, readings and psalms appointed for that day, as well as the title "Divine Mercy Sunday" now given to that day in the Roman Missal.

Clearly, the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday does not compete with, nor endanger the integrity of, the Easter Season. After all, Divine Mercy Sunday is the Octave Day of Easter, a day that celebrates the merciful love of God shining through the whole Easter Triduum and the whole Easter mystery. It is a day of declaration of reparation for all sin, thus the Day of Atonement.

APRIL 28, 2019

Announcements and Upcoming Events

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

MAY CROWNING

St. Charles Borromeo, Peru, IN

May 1st 7p.m.

Celebrated by

Fr. Andrew DeKeyser

Saint Dunstan Schola

To sing



FIRST Communion



ADDISON CAMPOS

JESSICA CAMPOS

KATIE DANIEL

GRANT DIALS

LUCY EDWARDS

ELIZABETH FRITCH

BRANDON GAETA

REBECCA GAETA

BARRY GEIGER

ISABEL GEIGER

AZUCENA HERNANDEZ-
GUERRERO

DANIELA LOPEZ

EMILY LOPEZ

NICHOLAS MCDOLE

LINDSEY RAINEY



SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION



Saturday Sisters

FOR GIRLS GRADES 4-8

with the

Sisters

Fun, food, and prayer with the Sisters

MAY 18 • 11AM-2PM

ST. ELIZABETH CONVENT, LAFAYETTE
RSVP TO SISTER MARY JOHN AT
TINYURL.COM/SATURDAYWITHSISTERS



The St. Boniface Secular Franciscans invite you to an information meeting on May 5th at 2:15 p.m. The meeting will be held at the St. Michael's Center, at 816

North St. across from St. Boniface School. Come and see about the Secular Franciscan Order and how to live the Gospel life in the spirit of St. Francis.

SUNDAY OFFERING: \$10,942

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND: \$500.00

"FIND OUT HOW MUCH GOD HAS GIVEN YOU, AND FROM IT TAKE WHAT YOU NEED; THE REMAINDER IS NEEDED BY OTHERS"

ST. AUGUSTINE



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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GROUPS, CONTACTS AND ACTIVITIES:
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 ke@yahoo.com *RELIGIOUS EDUCATION*, FR. DOMINIC domi-
 nic@stannli.comcastbiz.net

1	2 <i>FINANCE COUNCIL MTG</i> 6PM BL	3 <i>FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS</i> 5PM CH	4
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5 *3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER*

6 <i>HB MTG</i> 6PM BT	7 <i>SAA MTG</i> 6PM BT	8	9 <i>TOURING ST. ANN</i> 4:30PM-7:30PM	10	11
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12 *4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER*

13	14	15 <i>PARISH COUNCIL MTG</i> 6PM BT	16	17	18
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19 *5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER PARISH BREAK-FAST*

20	21	22	23	24	25
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26 *6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER*

27	28	29	30	31
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CH-CHURCH
 BT-BENNETT
 BL-BEHLER
 MH-MEMORIAL HALL