



Sunday of Divine Mercy

April 19, 2020



ATTENTION

**All scheduled masses and events are cancelled due to the ban.
As a Parish Family we pray for all who are affected by COVID-19.
The Church & Rectory will remain closed until further notice.**

If you had a mass scheduled or offered the Bread and Wine or Sanctuary Candle for a loved one, for this week or the upcoming weeks, please call the rectory to reschedule to a later date. We apologize for the inconvenience.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

"My Lord and my God"

(John 20: 19-31)

Today we celebrate the Divine Mercy Sunday; that is the gift of compassionate forgiveness that is offered to all. There is no doubt that in the middle of the pandemia some people have turned their backs on God and His commandments away from His caring love. However, we know that God sent us his Son who took away the sins of the world with him to save us. May Jesus joyful presence in each Church and in each house be the sign of our gratitude that gladdens our hearts to sing and praise the author of Divine Mercy who is the Risen Christ.

With Saint Ignatius we pray for the grace to "to be glad and to rejoice intensely because of the great glory and joy of Christ our Lord." How beautiful the world is for good people around us and people who can live the joy of love that transforms and shares our broken world. It was a challenge for our parish community to bring some hope to the street children of the Ecuadorian rainforests. I am happy to share that they have been grateful for our help in this time of need. Bishop Rafael with some priests and lay people went around bringing food to the poorest families. They were able to eat because of your solidarity with those who suffer. This is one of the many fruits of the Risen Jesus.

On this Second week of Easter we have the opportunity to hear three responses to the joy that resurrection produces. In the Acts of the Apostles we see the common practices of the early Church. Peter praises God for "the living hope" that Jesus brought to all who believe. The Gospel of John brings us the story of the apostle Thomas who needed to see the Risen Jesus in order to believe. It is only seeing that he believes. We learned as children to acclaim the Eucharist "My Lord and my God," the very same words of Thomas as a testimony of our doubting faith.

If we start to think about the joy that the Resurrection produced in the disciples, we have to think about the risks that it brings for simple fishermen like Thomas and the other apostles. Somehow they had not assimilated this joyful experience. The apostles were still traumatized by the cruel death of Jesus on a cross. The apostles heard the news from Mary Magdalene that the tomb was empty and that she had seen Him risen. Dismissing her witness words, they locked themselves out of fear of the Jewish religious leaders. It is in that moment of confusion and anxiety that Jesus full of Mercy comes to them and greets them, bringing them peace. For this reason, with the peace and joy that the Risen Jesus gives to his disciples, we can share in the mission to forgive sins since every disciple shares His same Spirit.

That is why today when we celebrate Divine Mercy we must celebrate the gift of reconciliation and peace that only the Risen Jesus can bring. Let us celebrate with the Church and her pastors the joy of forgiveness that Jesus gives to those who repent, since forgiveness and mercy are two sides of the same coin. May the color of the flowers and the joy that this Easter season brings us endures in our lives and make us witnesses of faith, bringing hope and love to our poorest brothers and sisters.

Fr. Hernán, S.J.

"Dear brothers and sisters: We can consider ourselves and call ourselves Christians, and speak of the great values of faith, but, like the disciples, we need to see Jesus touching his love. Only in this way do we go to the heart of faith and find, like the disciples, a peace and joy that are more solid than any doubt." (Pope Francis)

Weekly Remembrances

**Bread & Wine
Tabernacle Candle
Memorial Candle
Memorial Candle**



~ For the safety & well being of
the People of our Parish Community
~ † For all the lives lost to
the COVID-19 Virus



SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

April 19: Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 Peter 1:3-9

April 26: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33
Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
1 Peter 1:17-21



KEEP CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISH THROUGH FACEBOOK

Fr. Hernán and Fr. Marc and Fr Luis Mario are offering virtual Masses and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament through our Facebook page. Connect and follow us to see these transmissions in your homes. Facebook Page: Olmcsi Masses on Sundays; 10:00 am (English); 11:30 am (Spanish) Masses from Monday to Friday; 12:00 pm (Spanish); Thursdays 11am (English) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; daily at 7:00 pm (Spanish)

YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT – How can you continue supporting your parish? **1)** You may mail us your weekly contribution envelopes. **2)** You may drop off your weekly contribution envelopes. **3)** Register for online giving. The financial stress of no collections will put the physical and staffing needs of the parish in **SERIOUS JEOPARDY**. We are all together in this crisis, and our family of faith that we call the Our Lady of Mount Carmel – St. Benedicta – St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, has always been and will continue to be with you through this. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you in these trying times.

REGISTER for ONLINE GIVING - ParishPay.com/WeShare allows parishes to receive online gifts and give their parishioners a safe and easy way to do so. You are able to set up recurring donations and manage your online giving accounts. If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy! Customer service number 1-800-950-9952.

1. Visit <http://www.paritypay.com> and register for a new account.
2. Click on the collection you wish to donate to.
3. Click Recurring Donation, then enter your donation amount and frequency.

Once you've added your account information, donations will automatically deduct from your account. It's that easy!

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION - It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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 were already there, And unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

*For our brothers and sisters nearby and around the world, who are suffering from this present pandemic, that they may have the care and comfort, the healing and health they need, let us pray to the Lord...

*For those who feel alone or depressed because of their isolation, that they may reach out to others in safe ways, and that others will reach out to them, let us pray to the Lord...

*For the physical health and spiritual strength of those who work with and for the sick, that they may not lose heart, will stay healthy themselves, and will be appreciated for their efforts, let us pray to the Lord...

*For the many people, both family and strangers, who have died as a result of this virus, that their faith in God, especially in the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Redeemer Jesus Christ, will lead them to eternal light, joy, and peace in the kingdom of heaven, let us pray to the Lord...

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

You expired, O Jesus,

but the source of life gushed forth for souls and an ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O Fount of Life,

unfathomable Divine Mercy,

envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water,

which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us,

I trust in You.