

# EASTER SEASON

## Second Sunday

### Divine Mercy Sunday



*Mary, Mother of Mercy, help us always to have this trust in your Son, our Redeemer. Help us too, Saint Faustina, whom we remember today with special affection.*

*Fixing our weak gaze on the Divine Savior's face, we would like to repeat with you: "Jesus, I trust in you."*

*Now and for ever. Amen.*

+POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II



#### HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SEE BULLETIN FOR HOLY DAYS

Saturday Vigil	4:00pm
Sunday	8:30am
	10:30am
	12:30pm
	5:00pm

#### Daily

Monday-Friday	6:30am
Monday-Saturday	8:15am
Wednesday	6:00pm

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

2:00pm on first and third Sundays. Pre-Baptism class is at 2:00pm on second Sunday. All by appointment.

Sponsors need letter from their pastor.

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

2:30-3:30pm every Saturday; Weekly Holy Hour with Confessions from 6:30-7:30pm every Wednesday.

Anytime upon request. (Call for appointment.)

#### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

No date should be set prior to seeing a priest or deacon six months before desired date.

#### SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact the Parish office.

614.885.7814

SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG  
5750 NORTH HIGH STREET  
WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085



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**facebook**

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# SAINT MICHAEL STAFF DIRECTORY

Website: [saintmichael-cd.org](http://saintmichael-cd.org)

Parish Office: 614-885-7814

## MINISTERS TO THE PARISH

Pastor: Fr. Michael J. Lumpe

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Wojciech Stachura, SAC

Priest in Residence/Diocesan Judicial Vicar:

Fr. Robert Kitsmiller

Priest in Holy Service: Fr. Peter Fegan, O.P.

Transitional Deacon: Dcn. Sam Severance

Permanent Deacons:

Dcn. John Crerand

Dcn. Bill Demidovich

Dcn. Klaus Fricke (Retired)

Pastoral Minister: Sr. Riya Mary

[srriya@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:srriya@saintmichael-cd.org)

Youth Minister: Jake Asuncion

[jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org)

Director of RCIA: Jake Neal

[jneal@sjchcc.org](mailto:jneal@sjchcc.org)

## PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager: Kris Jesse

[kjesse@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:kjesse@saintmichael-cd.org)

Office Manager: Kathy Trafford

[ktrafford@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:ktrafford@saintmichael-cd.org)

Receptionist/Secretary: Rhonda Marinelli

[rmarinelli@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:rmarinelli@saintmichael-cd.org)

Marketing & Communications: Rebecca Lund

[rlund@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:rlund@saintmichael-cd.org)

Campus Facility and Safety Director:

Steve Moore

[smoore@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:smoore@saintmichael-cd.org)

Safe Environment Coordinator: Bethany Cook

[bcook@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:bcook@saintmichael-cd.org)

Choir Director/Organist: Ron Barrett

[rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org)

## ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Website: [stmichaelworthington.org](http://stmichaelworthington.org)

School Office: 614-885-3149

Principal: Sr. Mary Regina, O.P.

[principal@stmichaelworthington.org](mailto:principal@stmichaelworthington.org)

Preschool Director: Laura Wells

[lwells@stmichaelworthington.org](mailto:lwells@stmichaelworthington.org)

## PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Athletic Association Representative: Liz Trolli

[smaa@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:smaa@saintmichael-cd.org)

Knights of Columbus Representative:

Seth Walker

[grandknight@kofc11445.com](mailto:grandknight@kofc11445.com)

St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative:

Elaine Miracle

[svdp@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:svdp@saintmichael-cd.org)

# SAINT MICHAEL INFORMATION CENTER



## LOW-GLUTEN HOST

If you are in need of a low-gluten host, please scan this QR code for full details.



## NEW MEMBERS

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. We are often asked to provide affidavits for parishioner standing. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and contributing member in our parish. You can register by scanning the QR code above or by visiting our website at [www.saintmichael-cd.org](http://www.saintmichael-cd.org).

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

To submit a bulletin request, the request must be made no later than 12:00 p.m., Monday. Send bulletin requests to [rlund@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:rlund@saintmichael-cd.org) with "BULLETIN REQUEST" in the subject line with all details and contact person for questions. Early submission deadlines may be required surrounding holidays. All bulletin requests are subject to approval.

## HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

St. Michael's Homebound Ministry is available to bring the Eucharist to the homebound. If you or a loved one within St. Michael Parish boundaries would like someone to bring the Eucharist to you, please reach out to Sr. Riya Mary to coordinate. She can be reached by calling the Parish Office or by emailing [srriya@stmichael-cd.org](mailto:srriya@stmichael-cd.org).



## ONLINE GIVING

St. Michael offers online giving as a convenient tool for you to use. Scan the QR code to learn more or to set up online contributions.

## ADORATION CHAPEL

There is no better way to spend an hour of your week than in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Consider signing up for Adoration. Our Adoration Chapel offers Eucharistic Exposition on Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m., Thursday morning through 9:00 p.m., Friday evening. Adoration is available at all other times with the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the tabernacle. Registration is easy to do from your phone. Visit [StMichael.WeAdoreHim.com](http://StMichael.WeAdoreHim.com) to sign up. You can also visit the Church on Wednesdays for our weekly Holy Hour with Confessions from 6:30-7:30 p.m. each week.

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – APRIL 7, 2024

### DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, April 6

4:00 p.m. + Jo Kell (Meg & George Doyle)

#### Sunday, April 7

8:30 a.m. + Tony Petrarca (Live Wires)

10:30 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

12:30 p.m. Living and Deceased Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm

5:00 p.m. Diocese of Columbus Seminarians

#### Monday, April 8

6:30 a.m. + Betty Maurer (The Maurer Family)

8:15 a.m. + Thomas Pitcock (The Lund Family)

#### Tuesday, April 9

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Mark & Noella Miller  
(The Fiala-Fristad Family)

8:15 a.m. + Anne Mueller (Susan Farrell)

#### Wednesday, April 10

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Ron Stanko (Karen & Lou Griffith)

8:15 a.m. For the School

6:00 p.m. + Msgr. Frank Meagher

#### Thursday, April 11

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of St. Michael Parish Priests  
(Karen & Lou Griffith)

8:15 a.m. + Tom Cassady (Jeanne & Jerry Kraus)

#### Friday, April 12

6:30 a.m. + Larry & Diana Evans (Karen & Lou Griffith)

8:15 a.m. + Patricia Reynolds

#### Saturday, April 13

8:15 a.m. For the needs of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm

4:00 p.m. + Ron Cottrell (Dcn Klaus & Sharon Fricke)

#### Sunday, April 14

8:30 a.m. + Hubertine Bohnen (Brigitte Bohnen-Hartley)

10:30 a.m. Special Intention of Rachel Putnam (SMS 4P Families)

12:30 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

5:00 p.m. + Jeff Brader

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Holy Thursday Collection .....	\$ 474.10
Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land.....	\$ 2,084.00
Saturday Vigil Collections .....	\$ 2,660.00
Easter Sunday Collections .....	\$ 12,952.51
Online Giving Collections .....	\$ 11,156.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$29,326.61</b>



### BAPTISMS

CONGRATULATIONS ON  
THE BAPTISMS OF



**GRAHAM STEPHEN ELBERSON,  
PEYTON JOHN ELBERSON &  
MADISON AMELIA GILLILAND**

### ± MARRIAGE BANNS ±

CONGRATULATIONS TO:  
**ANDREW GARVER &  
LAUREN SAGARIA**

APRIL 13, 2024

CELEBRATING THE  
SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY  
ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH



### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to  
**John R. "Jack" Supron**  
from St. Michael Troop 123  
on earning the EAGLE rank.

Jack's Eagle Scout project created  
equipment for the Run The Race Farm  
for the Brian Muha Foundation. This  
foundation helps inner-city youth.

## PARISH CALENDAR APRIL

<b>SUNDAY, April 7</b>	Friendship Sunday after all Masses 11:30 a.m. RCIA (UMR) 2:00 p.m. Baptism (C) 2:00 p.m. Confessions (C) 3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet (C) 4:00 p.m. Pietra (LMR, field weather permitting) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (MH) 7:30 p.m. SMAA Meeting (UMR)	<b>Thursday, April 11</b>	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 5:30 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting (U) 6:00 p.m. Respect Life Ministry Meeting (UMR) 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study (LMR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)
<b>Monday, April 8</b>	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U) 6:30 p.m. K of C 4th Degree Meeting (LMR) 7:30 p.m. K of C Meeting (LMR)	<b>Friday, April 12</b>	Eucharistic Exposition (AC)
<b>Tuesday, April 9</b>	11:30 a.m. Live Wires (MH)	<b>Saturday, April 13</b>	6:45 a.m. Men's Faith & Fellowship (UMR) 7:00 a.m. Pietra (LMR) 9:30 a.m. SVDP Meeting (UMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C)
<b>Wednesday, April 10</b>	6:00 p.m. Mass, Holy Hour & Confessions (C) 6:00 p.m. Melchizedek Project (UMR)	<b>SUNDAY, April 14</b>	11:30 a.m. RCIA (UMR) 2:00 p.m. Baptism Class (UMR) 3:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (Gym) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (MH)

(U) = Undercroft/Cafeteria, (S) = School, (C) = Church, (G) = Gym, (MH) = Marian Hall, (SL) = School Library, (UMR) = Meeting room on the first floor of the Parish Ministry Center, (LMR) = Meeting room in the basement of the Parish Ministry Center, (AC) = Adoration Chapel

## FROM THE PASTOR

**ON THIS SECOND SUNDAY OF THE EASTER SEASON – ON THIS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** As we read *The Columbus Dispatch*, watch any of the network or cable news programs, or go to web pages, we might be asking ourselves why there is such a lack of peace in the world. Actually, the answer is quite simple: there are a great many in this world who do not take God seriously, nor do they humbly approach Him to receive His mercy. There is a lack of peace in the world because some still want to place their human opinions on the same level as the Divine teachings of God; for whatever reason, they feel compelled to play God by redefining right from wrong based on their human opinions, or imposing their will upon God rather than submit to the Divine will of God, and refusing to turn back to Him to beg for His mercy, compassion and forgiveness, and to receive it. And the longer we refuse to acknowledge our need for God's mercy, seek it and share it, the worse it gets. For peace, we have to recognize our need for God's mercy, ask for and receive that mercy, then share that mercy with others. This involves three steps:

**Recognize our need for God's mercy.** Like the familiar Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15), we have to realize that we have sinned, and that without God's forgiveness, we will die in our sins. But God does not desire the death of the sinner, but that the sinner must humbly return to Him and live, which leads us to the second step.

**Trust in, humbly ask for, and receive God's mercy.** In this world, Jesus established only one ordinary way for us to receive this mercy for all the sins we've committed after our Baptism: the Sacrament of Reconciliation, confessing our sins to Christ through the priest. There are a lot of people today, including Catholics, who say, "I can confess my sins directly to the Lord!" Out of real love for you, please let me be very clear: you can confess your sins to whomever you want – to your best friends, husbands or wives, parents and children, co-workers, social workers, shrinks, bartenders, radio call-in show host – to anyone you want. But you cannot receive forgiveness there, which is the point. The only means in this world in which we can be certain that the Lord forgives us is when we confess our sins to a priest, whom Jesus has ordained, and sent out from the Upper Room for this purpose.

**Share it with others.** We're called to be merciful with others. Jesus said, "Be merciful, as your heavenly Father is merciful... The measure with which you measure will be measured back to you." In another place, the Lord says, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy." The Lord's point is that the pre-requisite for our receiving mercy is our showing mercy to others. After having taught us the Lord's Prayer (the "Our Father") in which we pray, "forgive us our trespasses as we have forgiven those who have trespassed against us," the Lord instructs us, "If you forgive others their sins, your heavenly Father will forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their sins, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your sins."

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, let us remember what Lord said to Saint Faustina: "I want... the first Sunday after Easter ... to be the Feast of Mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are open all the divine floodgates through which graces flow."

**Pope Saint John Paul II** declared the Second Sunday of Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday. In his second encyclical, *Rich in Mercy*, Pope Saint John Paul II offered an extended meditation on the mystery of God's mercy, which he calls "the greatest of the attributes and perfections of God" (*Dives in Misericordia*, 13); the document *Dives in Misericordia* is available via the Vatican website at [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va). He returned to this theme throughout his pontificate, and on two occasions said:

- "As a gift to humanity, which sometimes seems bewildered and overwhelmed by the power of evil, selfishness, and fear, the Risen Lord offers His love that pardons, reconciles, and reopens hearts to love. It is a love that converts hearts and gives peace. How much the world needs to understand and accept Divine Mercy! Lord, who reveals the Father's love by Your death and Resurrection, we believe in You and confidently repeat to You today: Jesus, I trust in You, have mercy upon us and upon the whole world."

+Pope Saint John Paul II, *Regina Caeli* message, Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3, 2005

- "What is mercy if not the boundless love of God, who confronted with human sin, restrains the sentiment of severe justice and, allowing Himself to be moved by the wretchedness of His creatures, spurs Himself to the total gift of self, in the Son's cross ...? Who can say that he is free from sin and does not need God's mercy? As people of this restless time of ours, wavering between the emptiness of self-exaltation and the humiliation of despair, we have a greater need than ever for a regenerating experience of mercy."

+Pope Saint John Paul II, *Regina Caeli* message, April 10, 1994

**ON DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**, we will be hearing Confessions from 2:00-4:00 p.m., with the Divine Mercy Chaplet being prayed at 3:00 p.m.; the regular Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass will conclude Divine Mercy Sunday in our parish.

Fr. Mike





## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

AFTER THE 8:30AM & 10:30AM  
MASSES IN THE CAFETERIA

Join us for our next community breakfast  
hosted by the Knights of Columbus!  
Come enjoy good food and fellowship. The  
menu will include pancakes (gluten free  
available), sausage, bacon & eggs!

Breakfast is available at NO COST; donations  
will be accepted and all proceeds will go to  
support the Women's Care Center.



*Women's Faith & Fellowship  
Daughterhood by Candlelight*

*with Monica Richards*

Thursday, April 18th

7:00pm

Marian Hall



RSVP Now!

Join us for an evening of fellowship as we enjoy a meal and listen to Monica Richards share with us about our Daughterhood as beloved daughters of our King. Monica Richards is a full-time missionary with Damascus, wife & mother of five, and licensed Doctor of clinical Psychology. She has an amazing ability to drill fearlessly into deep issues, develop trust, & facilitate pathways toward healing and wholeness for each individual she encounters. *To host a table or RSVP as an individual, please use the QR code to join us for this amazing evening.*



# LIVE WIRES

Calling all Live Wires!

Our next Social Event will be on Tuesday, April 9th at 11:30am in Marian Hall. Bring your sack lunch and we will provide the drinks and dessert! Invite a friend to join you! We hope to see you there!

## YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Young adults of the parish are invited to join our Bible Study on Thursday evenings in the Lower Meeting Room from 6:30-7:30 p.m. All are welcome; invite a friend to join you! Questions? Email Jake Asuncion at [jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org).

## UPDATED DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY: 6:30AM, 8:15AM  
TUESDAY: 6:30AM, 8:15AM  
WEDNESDAY: 6:30AM, 8:15AM, 6:00PM  
THURSDAY: 6:30AM, 8:15AM  
FRIDAY: 6:30AM, 8:15AM  
SATURDAY: 8:15AM

Join us on Wednesday evenings as we permanently add the 6:00pm Mass to our calendar followed by our weekly Holy Hour with confessions from 6:30-7:30pm.



### St. Vincent de Paul Society February 2024 Updates:



**5**  
Number of households kept from eviction or utility cut off



**400**  
Sandwiches made for JOIN



**27**  
Neighbors served in Clothing Room



**20**  
Food bags provided to JOIN



**109**  
Neighbors served in the Food Pantry



**1 conference**  
Monetary assistance to other conferences

**Ways to donate:** Church envelopes; Online giving through St Michaels website (<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving>); Kroger Community Rewards program: (St Vincent de Paul -St. Michael Conf); Qualified Charitable Giving through your IRA account; Matching program through your employer (contact St Vincent for EIN number); Food donations in boxes in Marian Hall; clothing donations through the donation shoot behind the school gym. **Thank you for your continued support & generosity!**

## SVDP FOOD PANTRY

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is in need of pasta, spaghetti sauce, and snack/energy bars of any variety. No glass jars, please. Items can be placed in the boxes in Marian Hall. Thanks so much for your generosity.



## EXPERIENCE PIETRA ...

Join us for *Pietra*: an exercise class that strengthens body, mind, and spirit! Upcoming classes include *Pietra Kids*, *Mother/Daughter*, and our regular *Women's Saturday* morning classes. Information and sign-up can be found at the QR code or by visiting [www.viribuswellness.com/pietra](http://www.viribuswellness.com/pietra).

# DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

## Theology of the Feast of the Divine Mercy

The establishment of the Feast of The Divine Mercy on the octave day of Easter fulfilled the purpose of the restoration of the liturgical year, allowing "the faithful through their faith, hope and love to share more deeply in the whole mystery of Christ as it unfolds throughout the year" (*Moto Proprio* of Pope Paul VI, 1969, on the Liturgical Year and Roman Calendar, quoting Vatican II on the Liturgy, 102). It ensures even greater prominence to the paschal mystery of Christ, so that the faithful more effectively "lays hold of the mysteries of Christ and are filled with His saving grace" (Ibid).

How does it achieve these purposes? In a number of ways: The Feast of Mercy has its roots deeply planted in the Old and New Testament and in the early Church Tradition. It is a feast with three distinct dimensions, each emphasizing an aspect of the paschal mystery that needs to be brought out more clearly and appropriated by the faithful: merciful love, atonement, and covenant.

### **The Feast of Mercy is a Celebration and a Summation of God's Merciful Love**

The Triduum of Holy Week, along with the entire Easter season, focuses on various aspects of the paschal mystery. Holy Thursday celebrates the Mass of the Chrism and the evening Mass of the Mandatum - the washing of the feet of the disciples, ordination to the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, and the last discourse of Our Lord promising the sending of the Holy Spirit. Good Friday commemorates the passion and death of Jesus on the cross. The Easter vigil, the pinnacle of the paschal mystery, celebrates the fulfillment of the prophecies of the Redeemer who is our light and salvation, bringing us new life by water and the Holy Spirit. The Easter season continues this celebration, leading to the Ascension of the Lord and to Pentecost - the fulfillment of the promise to send the Holy Spirit.

The Feast of Mercy focuses on God's mercy as an event! It focuses on God's continuing action of mercy throughout salvation history as we see it recorded in the letter to the Romans, chapters 9, 10,11, culminating in His loving plan to have mercy on all! (See Rom 11:32.) This Feast is a summation of the event to His mercy active in our lives now. It is because of His mercy that we have forgiveness of sin and new life as children of God. This needs to be celebrated!

### **The Feast of Mercy is a Day of Atonement**

The Feast of Mercy is the fulfillment of the Old Testament Day of Atonement (see Lv 16, Lv 23:26-32 and Sir 50). It is a day of forgiveness of sins for those who approach the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is an annual celebration like the Day of Atonement - all sins and punishment are washed away in His infinite mercy. The focus of this paschal event is on God's mercy for us sinners and His free gift to those who turn to Him with trust.

Interestingly enough, the texts of the liturgy for that Sunday (Second Sunday of Easter) already focus on the forgiveness of sins and mercy. The gospel is of Jesus appearing in the upper room and bestowing the authority to forgive sins (see Jn 20:19-5 1), and the other readings are about the blood and water and the proclamation of mercy (there was no need to change the texts)!

Our Easter liturgy had fulfilled the major feasts of the Old Testament - Passover and Pentecost - and was only missing the Day of Atonement. This Feast of Mercy now completes the needed fulfillment of Old Testament feasts.

### **The Feast of Mercy is the Covenant of Mercy**

The octave day has its roots in the Old Testament and New Testament as the Day of Covenant. On the eighth day after His birth, a male child was circumcised as a sign of the covenant and given His name (Gen 17:12-14; see also Lk 2:21 for the circumcision of Jesus).

In the early church the newly baptized, newly born in Christ, wore white robes until the Sunday in White (*Dominica in Albis*) the octave day of Easter, symbolizing their innocence. The Feast of Mercy once again celebrates the white innocence we receive by the Covenant of Mercy.



St. Augustine calls these days "days of mercy and pardon" (# 156, *Dominica in Albis*) and the Sunday "the compendium of the days of mercy." And then, referring to the setting aside of the white robes, he warns, "Let not our interior purity be lessened as we set aside its exterior symbols." (#156, *Dominica in Albis*)

Like the covenant of Sinai we, too, prepare for the Feast by purification from our sins and by the sprinkling of blood and proclaiming of the law (Ex 19:14-15; Ex 24:6-8) - but this time we are cleansed by the precious blood of the Lord and the Proclamation of His mercy.

On the octave day of Easter we, too, ratify the Covenant of Mercy, reaffirming not only our Baptism, already renewed at the Easter vigil, but also the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Interestingly enough, all the elements of creation are structured in units of eight (as seen in the periodic table), and musical chords resonate with the octave.

The Feast of Mercy is the octave day of the Resurrection, which strikes the resonant chord of Easter, developing the meaning and richness of the paschal mystery and applying it in a new and deeper way. It resonates with all of nature, sounding anew the grace of the resurrection, alleluia!

### **The Feast of Mercy - the Desire of the Lord**

As we have seen, the reasons for establishing the Feast of Mercy are strong and clear in themselves. The Feast is rooted in the Old Testament, and an earlier form of the Feast was celebrated from the fourth century as *Dominica in Albis*. But, in our times, there is an additional reason that makes the need for the Feast of Mercy ever more urgent, and that strengthens the meaning and effectiveness of such a feast for the faithful. In a series of reported revelations to Saint Faustina Kowalska, Our Lord specifically and repeatedly asked that the Feast of Mercy be established on the octave day of Easter.

One day, as Saint Faustina was offering all her prayers and sufferings so that this feast would be established, as Our Lord desired, she said to Him: "They tell me that there is already such a feast and so why should I talk about it?" Jesus answered: "And who knows anything about this feast? No one! Even those who should be proclaiming My mercy and teaching people about it often do not know about it themselves. That is why I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the First Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it." (Diary 341)

The idea of this special celebration of God's mercy on the Sunday after Easter is not a new or radical idea stemming simply from private revelation. Our Lord, through Saint Faustina, is simply reemphasizing what was strongly urged by Saint Thomas the Apostle in the earliest liturgical document in existence, the "Apostolic Constitutions." There we read: "After eight days (following the feast of Easter) let there be another feast observed with honor, the eighth day itself on which He gave me, Thomas, who was hard of belief, full assurance, by showing me the print of the nails, and the wound made in His side by the spear."

### **This Feast had been Celebrated in the Early Church**

One of the greatest Doctors of the Church, St. Gregory of Nazianzen, also supports this Feast, declaring that the Octave day of Easter is even a greater Feast than Easter though it takes nothing whatever away from the greatness of the Day of the Resurrection itself. Easter Sunday is the boundary between death and life (a creation). But its eighth day, the Octave, is the fulfillment of what Easter is all about - perfect life in eternity (a second creation, more admirable and more sublime than the first).

Easter Sunday represents our creation in the life of Grace through faith in the Risen Savior. The Octave Sunday of Easter represents the fulfillment of that "creation in grace." Thus it is, as St. Augustine says, "The most privileged octave-day" and certainly merits the title "Feast of The Divine Mercy."

The "most privileged octave-day" did not even appear under that title in the revised Roman Missal - It was called that only in the "Ordo" - the book that regulates the celebration of the liturgy. Our Lord surely knew what He was saying to Saint Faustina: "And who knows anything about this feast? No one! Even those who should he proclaiming My mercy and teaching people about it often do not know about it themselves." (Diary 341)

We now have the key to understanding the image of The Divine Mercy with its rays signifying the Blood and Water that flowed from Christ's pierced side with the inscription (Jesus, I Trust In You), and to Our Lord's insistence that this image be specially venerated on the first Sunday after Easter, which is to be celebrated as the Feast of Mercy (Divine Mercy Sunday).

We can also see these rays as simultaneously symbolizing the Holy Spirit, whom Christ breathed into the Disciples during the same Octave-day appearance. On the strength of that Holy Breath, all sins are forgiven and "at-ONE-ment" with the Father is accomplished. Here, God in Christ is reconciling the world to Himself (see 2 Cor 5:18). And here the Church, the newly-born Body of Christ, is commissioned to be the instrument of reconciliation down through the ages.

**CONTINUED AFTER LECTIO DIVINA**



# Lectio Divina

## SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

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“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

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*The month of April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit.*

***“The most potent and acceptable prayer is the prayer that leaves the best effects. I don't mean it must immediately fill the soul with desire . . . The best effects (are) those that are followed up by actions; when the soul not only desires the honor of God, but really strives for it.”*** +SAINT TERESA OF AVILA

### **Monday, April 8 ~ Second Week in the Season of Easter Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38** The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, “Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.” But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end.” But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?” And the angel said to her in reply, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.” Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

**Meditation:** We see the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy and the unfolding of God's plan of redemption in the events leading up to the Incarnation, the birth of the Messiah. The new era of salvation begins with the conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary. This child to be born is conceived by the gracious action of the Holy Spirit upon Mary, who finds favor with God. As Eve was the mother of all humanity doomed to sin, now Mary becomes the mother of the new Adam who will father a new humanity by his grace (Romans 5:12-21). This child to be conceived in her womb is the fulfillment of all God's promises. He will be “great” and “Son of the Most High” and “King” (Luke 1:32-33), and his name shall be called “Jesus”, which means “the Lord saves.” “He will save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). The promise of an everlasting kingdom to the house of David (Isaiah 9:6-7) is fulfilled in the King to be born in Mary's womb.

**Prayer:** O God, who willed that your Word should take on the reality of human flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary, grant, we pray, that we, who confess our Redeemer to be God and man, may merit to become partakers even in his divine nature. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** When the word of God is delivered by the angel Gabriel to Mary, she knows she is hearing something beyond human capability. It will surely take a miracle which surpasses all that God has done previously. Her question, “how shall this be, since I have no husband” is not prompted by doubt or skepticism, but by wonderment! She is a true hearer of the Word and she immediately responds with faith and trust. Mary's prompt response of “yes” to the divine message is a model of faith for all believers. Mary believed God's promises even when they seemed impossible. She was full of grace because she trusted that what God said was true and would be fulfilled. She was willing and eager to do God's will, even if it seemed difficult or costly. God gives us grace and he expects us to respond with the same willingness, obedience, and heartfelt trust as Mary did. When God commands he also gives the help, strength, and

means to respond. We can either yield to his grace or resist and go our own way. Do you believe in God's promises? Do you yield to his grace?

## **Tuesday, April 9 ~ Second Week in the Season of Easter**

**Holy Gospel: John 3:7b-15** Jesus said to Nicodemus: "'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus answered and said to him, 'How can this happen?' Jesus answered and said to him, "You are the teacher of Israel and you do not understand this? Amen, amen, I say to you, we speak of what we know and we testify to what we have seen, but you people do not accept our testimony. If I tell you about earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

**Meditation:** Jesus spoke to Nicodemus of the power of his cross and a "new birth in the Spirit." The Hebrew word for "spirit" means both "wind" and "breath." Jesus said to Nicodemus: "You can hear, feel, and see the effects of the wind, but you do not know where it comes from. In like manner, you can see the effects of the Holy Spirit in the lives of those the Spirit touches." Jesus was explaining to Nicodemus the necessity of the crucifixion and resurrection by analogy with Moses and the bronze serpent in the desert. When the people of Israel were afflicted with serpents in the wilderness because of their sin, God instructed Moses: "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and every one who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live" (Book of Numbers 21:8).

**Prayer:** Enable us, we pray, almighty God, to proclaim the power of the risen Lord, that we, who have received the pledge of his gift, may come to possess all he gives when it is fully revealed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** The bronze serpent points to the cross of Christ which defeats sin and death and obtains everlasting life for those who believe. The result of Jesus "being lifted up on the cross" and his rising and exaltation to the Father's right hand in heaven, is our "new birth in the Spirit" and adoption as sons and daughters of God. God not only redeems us, but he fills us with his own divine life and power that we might share in his glory. Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit that we may have power to be his witnesses and to spread and defend the gospel by word and action, and to never be ashamed of the Cross of Christ. The Holy Spirit gives us his seven-fold gifts of wisdom and understanding, right judgment and courage, knowledge and reverence for God and his ways, and a holy fear in God's presence (ref. Isaiah 11) that we may live for God and serve him in the power of his strength. Do you thirst for new life in the Spirit?

## **Wednesday, April 10 ~ Second Week in the Season of Easter**

**Holy Gospel: John 3:16-21** God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only-begotten Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

**Meditation:** Do you know the love which surpasses all else? A true lover holds nothing back but gives the best that can be offered, even everything in their possession for the beloved. God proved his love for us by giving us the best he had to offer – his only begotten Son who freely gave himself as an offering to God for our sake and as the atoning sacrifice for our sin and the sin of the world. Abraham's willing sacrifice of his only son, Isaac prefigures the perfect offering and sacrifice of God's beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. This passage in the gospel of John tells us of the great breadth and width of God's love. Not an excluding love for just a few or for a single nation, but a redemptive love that embraces the whole world, and a personal love for each and every individual whom God has created. God is a loving Father who cannot rest until his wandering children have returned home to him. Saint Augustine says, God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us to love. God gives us the freedom to choose whom and what we will love.

**Prayer:** As we recall year by year the mysteries by which, through the restoration of its original dignity, human nature has received the hope of rising again, we earnestly beseech your mercy, Lord, that what we celebrate in faith we may possess in unending love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Jesus shows us the paradox of love and judgment. We can love the darkness of sin and unbelief or we can love the light of God's truth, beauty, and goodness. This all takes place by the choices we make – our “free will.” If our love is guided by what is true, and good and beautiful then we will choose for God and love him above all else. What we love shows what we prefer. Do you love God above all else? Does he take first place in your life, in your thoughts, and actions? Are your choices guided by the love of God? If not, why not?

**Thursday, April 11 ~ Second Week in the Season of Easter  
Memorial: Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr**

**Holy Gospel: John 3:31-36** The one who comes from above is above all. The one who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of earthly things. But the one who comes from heaven is above all. He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony. Whoever does accept his testimony certifies that God is trustworthy. For the one whom God sent speaks the words of God. He does not ration his gift of the Spirit. The Father loves the Son and has given everything over to him. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains upon him.

**Meditation:** God's truth has consequences and he gives us the freedom to choose how we will respond. The choice he gives us has eternal consequences – everlasting life or everlasting death. God challenged his people in the Old Covenant: “See I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil...I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice, and cleaving to him” (Deuteronomy 30:15-20). And he issues the same challenge to the people of the New Covenant today. And so we must ask ourselves... Do you weigh the consequences of your choices? Do they lead you towards life or towards death? If you choose to obey God's voice and to do his will, then you will know and experience that life which comes from God himself. If you choose to follow your own way apart from God and his will, then you choose for death – a spiritual death which poisons and then kills the soul until there is nothing left but an empty person devoid of love, truth, goodness, purity, peace, and joy. Do your choices lead you towards God or away from God?

**Prayer:** O God, restorer and lover of innocence, direct the hearts of your servants towards yourself, that those you have set free from the darkness of unbelief may never stray from the light of your truth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Prayer (Saint Stanislaus):** O God, for whose honor the Bishop Saint Stanislaus fell beneath the swords of his persecutors, grant we pray, that we may persevere strong in faith even until death. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Contemplation:** Do you hunger for the true life which God offers through the gift of his Holy Spirit? The Jews understood that God gave a certain portion of his Spirit to his prophets. When Elijah was about to depart for heaven, his servant Elisha asked for a double portion of the Spirit (2 Kings 2:9). Jesus tells his disciples that they can believe the words he speaks because God the Father has poured his Spirit on him in full measure, without keeping anything back. The function of the Holy Spirit is to reveal God's truth to us. When we receive the Holy Spirit he enables us to recognize and understand God's truth. Jesus is the Word of God and he gives us his Holy Spirit so that we can recognize his truth and live according to it.

**Friday, April 12 ~ Second Week in the Season of Easter**

**Holy Gospel: John 6:1-15** John Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee. A large crowd followed him, because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. The Jewish feast of Passover was near. When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip, “Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?” He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, “Two hundred days’ wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little.” One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?” Jesus said, “Have the people recline.” Now there was

a great deal of grass in that place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat. When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world." Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

**Meditation:** Can anything on this earth truly satisfy the deepest longing and hunger we experience God? A great multitude had gathered to hear Jesus, no doubt because they were hungry for the word of life. Jesus' disciples wanted to send them away at the end of the day because they did not have the resources to feed them. They even complained how much money it would take to feed such a crowd – at least six month's wages! Jesus, the Bread of Life, took the little they had – five loaves and two fish – and giving thanks to his heavenly Father, distributed to all until they were satisfied of their hunger. The people of Israel had been waiting for the prophet whom Moses had promised: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brethren – him shall you heed (Deuteronomy 18:15). The signs which Jesus did, including the miraculous feeding of the five thousand signified that God has indeed sent him as anointed Prophet and King. Jesus' feeding of the five thousand is the only miracle recorded in all four gospels. What is the significance of this miracle? The miraculous feeding of such a great multitude pointed to God's provision of manna in the wilderness for the people of Israel under Moses' leadership. This food foreshadowed the true heavenly bread which Jesus would offer his followers. Jesus makes a claim only God can make: He is the true bread of heaven that can satisfy the deepest hunger we experience. The sign of the multiplication of the loaves when the Lord says the blessing, breaks and distributes through his disciples prefigures the superabundance of the unique bread of his Eucharist or Lord's Supper. When we receive from the Lord's table we unite ourselves to Jesus Christ, who makes us sharers in his sacred body and blood. Saint Ignatius of Antioch calls it the "one bread that provides the medicine of immortality, the antidote for death, and the food that makes us live for ever in Jesus Christ" (Ad Eph. 20,2). This supernatural food is healing for both body and soul and strength for our journey heavenward. When you approach the Table of the Lord, what do you expect to receive? Healing, pardon, comfort, and rest for your soul? The Lord has much more for us, more than we can ask or imagine. The principal fruit of receiving the Eucharist is an intimate union with Christ. As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens us in charity and enables us to break with disordered attachments to creatures and to be more firmly rooted in the love of Christ.

**Prayer:** O God, who for the salvation of the world brought about the paschal sacrifice, be favorable to the supplications of your people, so that Christ our High Priest, interceding on our behalf, may by his likeness to ourselves bring us reconciliation, and by his equality with you free us from our sins. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** The feeding of the five thousand shows the remarkable generosity of God and his great kindness towards us. When God gives, he gives abundantly. He gives more than we need for ourselves that we may have something to share with others, especially those who lack what they need. God takes the little we have and multiplies it for the good of others. Do you trust in God's provision for you? Do you share freely with others, especially those who lack even the most basic necessities, such as food and clothing? How about doing some spring cleaning, and take what you're not using in your home (items that are clean and in good condition, of course) and give them to any number of Catholic organizations reaching out to help those in need – especially our Saint Vincent de Paul Chapter.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;  
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;  
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2024





This is Christ's great promise of complete pardon of sin and punishment on the Feast of Mercy through the reception of the Sacraments (which is a participation of Christ's death to sin and rising to divine life).

### **All the Elements of the Message and Devotion to The Divine Mercy Focus on the Feast of Mercy**

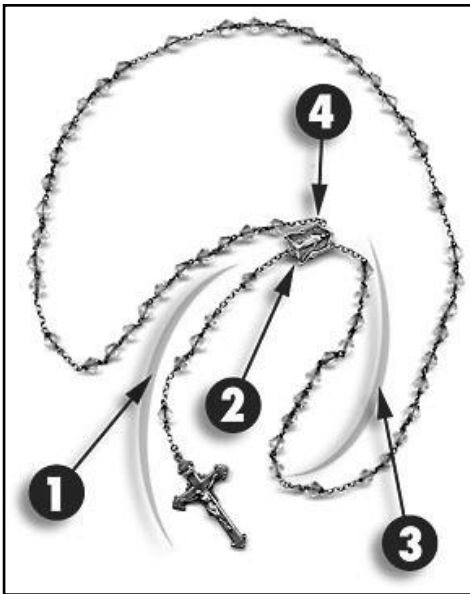
In preparing for the Feast of Mercy we are to make a novena of Chaplets to the Divine Mercy (beginning on Good Friday), and to be purified by the sacrament of Reconciliation. Priests are to proclaim the mercy of God. The Image of Jesus, the Merciful Savior, is to be blessed and venerated as a reminder to trust in Jesus and do works of mercy. And we are to renew, ratify and seal the covenant of mercy by receiving Holy Communion.

The day of the Feast is celebrated by using the normal liturgy for that day (Second Sunday of Easter), as per decree dated May 5, 2000 for Divine Mercy Sunday, which are all focused on mercy, and a homily on God's mercy. Our Lord is asking for a Feast of His mercy to bring attention to the outpouring of the ocean of graces, and to His promise of the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment, to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion.

### **The Desired Fulfillment: a Deeper Sharing**

Those who have been celebrating the octave of Easter in this way, as the Feast of Mercy, have experienced the desired effect of the Second Vatican Council for the liturgical year renewal - a deeper share in the mystery of Christ.

+ + +



## **How to Pray the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy**

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, then pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary and The Apostles Creed.
2. Then on the Our Father beads (large, single beads) say the following: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
3. On the 10 Hail Mary beads (smaller, 10 beads together) say the following: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.  
*(Repeat steps 2 and 3 for all five decades).*
4. Conclude with (three times): Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**The Our Father:** Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**The Hail Mary:** Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of death. Amen.

**The Apostle's Creed:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

### **Background**

In 1935, God gave Sister Faustina a striking vision of His Mercy, Sister tells us: "I saw an Angel, the executor of God's wrath... about to strike the earth...I began to beg God earnestly for the world with words which I heard interiorly. As I prayed in this way, I saw the Angel's helplessness, and he could not carry out the just punishment...."

The following day an inner voice taught her to say this prayer on ordinary rosary beads: "First say one 'Our Father', 'Hail Mary', and 'I believe'. Then on the large beads say the following words: 'Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.' On the smaller beads you are to say the following words: 'For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world.' In conclusion you are to say these words three times: 'Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.'

Jesus said later to Sister Faustina: "Say unceasingly this chaplet that I have taught you. Anyone who says it will receive great Mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as the last hope. Even the most hardened sinner, if he recites this Chaplet even once, will receive grace from My Infinite Mercy. I want the whole world to know My Infinite Mercy. I want to give unimaginable graces to those who trust in My Mercy...."

"...When they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person not as the just judge but as the Merciful Savior."

*This information is made available courtesy of The Apostles of Divine Mercy.*

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**To enjoy the Divine Mercy app, you need to have an iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, or Android-based device. If you've got one of these mobile devices, then you simply go to App Store or Google Play (available via our web page) and download the FREE app.**

**"The Message" has the following features:**

- An introduction to the message of Divine Mercy
- two biographies of St. Faustina (a long one and a short one)
- A ton of passages from the Diary of Faustina conveniently organized according to themes.

**AND MORE**

**"The Devotion" includes these features:**

- An interactive chaplet that you can actually pray without the aid of Rosary beads and an audio option to listen to the chaplet (my favorite feature — the one I was jumping around the halls about)
- An interactive Stations of the Cross that uses the words from St. Faustina's Way of the Cross
- The Divine Mercy Novena and a treasure trove of other prayers.

**AND MORE**

**"Divine Mercy Plus" has the following features:**

- An introduction to my community, the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception, who have been the main promoters of the message of Divine Mercy in the English speaking world;
- The Marian's full online religious catalog.

**AND MORE**

**For more information about The Divine Mercy, visit <http://thedivinemercy.org>  
+ Marians of the Immaculate Conception +**

## SERRA CLUB AWARDS

The Columbus Serra Club has awarded St. Michael students, Joseph Bogue and Robert Wickham, \$1,000.00 tuition assistance grants for a Catholic high school. Joseph and Robert merited their awards by submitting two of the ten best essays in the Serra Club's first annual priestly vocation essay competition. For the competition, an eighth grade boy writes an essay of five hundred words or less on whether or not he thinks God might be calling him to be a priest. Bishop Fernandes will present the award and a medal to Joseph and Robert on May 26 during the Serra Club's Altar Server Award ceremony at St. Joseph Cathedral. For information on helping the Serra Club promote vocations, email Carl Faehnle at [carl@faehnle.com](mailto:carl@faehnle.com). Congratulations, Joseph and Robert!

### The Apostolate of Holy Motherhood



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## Women's Faith & Fellowship Morning Bible Study for Moms

Please join the Women's Faith and Fellowship group as we casually read and discuss "The Apostolate of Holy Motherhood". This small book is short readings of visions given to "Mariamante", a mother with 3 children at home, by Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary in the late 1900's. Saint Teresa of Calcutta said, "From reading portions of the book, I can see...such an authentic spirituality of what being a mother means in today's world." Books will be provided, rsvp necessary due to limited number of books available. The group will meet in the homes of 2 members of the women's group core team within 7 minutes of St. Michael's Church on Thursday mornings 9:15-11am from April 11th-May 16th. Coffee and tea provided, small children very welcome.

## SCHOOLS



## VIRTUE

of the Week

## Loyalty

### DEFINITION OF LOYALTY:

Accepting the bonds implicit in relationships and defending the virtues upheld by Church, family and country.

### PRAYER FOR LOYALTY:

Dear Jesus, help me to be steadfast in my relationships and faithful to the duties those relationships entail, even when this may be difficult.



Visit: [stmichaelworthington.org](http://stmichaelworthington.org) - 614.885.3149



## ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL IS HIRING!

St. Michael School is hiring a Before Care Assistant for the 2023-2024 School Year to work the following shift: 6:45-7:45 a.m., Monday-Friday. Students arrive at 7:00 a.m., so the start time for the position could be discussed if applicant wishes to attend the 6:30 a.m. Mass. **Requirements:**

- Current satisfactory BCI & FBI background checks
- Have attended or be willing to attend a **VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training**
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

For more information or to apply, please contact Sr. Mary Regina at [principal@stmichaelworthington.org](mailto:principal@stmichaelworthington.org).

## STALLION BOYS BASKETBALL SUMMER LEAGUE

The Stallion Summer League is open to boys entering Grades 5-9 in the fall of 2024. All games are played at De Sales and St. Matthias on Tuesdays and Thursdays in June. Registration by May 1st is \$200.00. Registration after May 1st is \$250.00. Visit [www.stallionpride.com/stallion-summer-league](http://www.stallionpride.com/stallion-summer-league) for information and registration. Contact SFD Boys Basketball Head Coach Pat Murphy for any questions at [patmurphy@desales.co](mailto:patmurphy@desales.co).

## ST. MICHAEL PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

St. Michael Preschool is now accepting application for the 2024-2025 school year. Please visit [www.stmichaelworthington.org/admissions/preKindergarten/](http://www.stmichaelworthington.org/admissions/preKindergarten/) for the application form and for more information. Completed applications can be emailed to Preschool Director, Laura Wells at [lwells@stmichaelworthington.org](mailto:lwells@stmichaelworthington.org). Please note that we only accept digital copies of the application form. We anticipate having a waitlist so be sure to get your applications in as soon as possible.

## BWHS SUMMER CAMPS

Registration is open for Bishop Watterson's summer art, theatre and sports camps. Woodshop camp information is coming soon. Sports being offered are baseball, boys basketball, girls basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, girls soccer, softball, track & field, boys volleyball and girls volleyball. Go to [bishopwatterson.com](http://bishopwatterson.com) for dates, registration and other details.

## AROUND THE DIOCESE



► FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPHINUM ◄

# 4-MILER RUN/WALK

SUPPORTING THE SEMINARIANS

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SEPTEMBER 28, 2024  
PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM  
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Packet pickup: 7:30am | Start time: 9am  
Swag: All participants receive bread and a bottle of wine, or bread and a jar of Trappist Monastery jam.

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## CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY MOTHER'S DAY LAYETTES

Need the perfect Mother's Day gift idea? How about the gift of LOVE? Honor your mother or special loved one by sending a newborn home from the hospital swaddled in love. A card with your honoree's name will be included in a layette filled with essentials for baby, lovingly assembled by members of The Christ Child Society for a donation of \$50.00 to The Christ Child Society of Columbus Layette Fund. A beautiful Mother's Day card will be sent to your honoree announcing your gift. CCS Columbus provides almost 2,000 layettes per year to newborns who are in need of resources in the Central Ohio area. For more information or to donate online, go to [www.christchildsociety.org](http://www.christchildsociety.org). Donations must be received by April 19th. Contact Beth Kistler at 614-214-0124 or [bkistler@msn.com](mailto:bkistler@msn.com) with questions. Blessings and Happy Mother's Day from the Christ Child Society of Columbus.





A GOOD and GROWING NEED



# COLUMBUS CATHOLIC VOCATIONS

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