



April 27, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy

**Pastor 主任司鐸**  
Fr. Bruce-John Hamilton

**Assistant 助理司鐸**  
Fr. Raffaele Salvino

**Chinese Mass 中文彌撒司鐸**  
Fr. Paul Chu

**Office Manager 辦公室經理**  
Winnie Shiao  
Email: winnie@ccparish.ca

**Parish Office Hours 堂區辦事處時間**  
Mon—Fri 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Sunday Mass 主日彌撒**  
Saturday Vigil 週六:  
5:00 pm (English 英)  
Sunday 週日:  
9:00 am (English 英)  
11:00 am (English 英)  
3:00 pm (Cantonese 廣東話)

**Weekday Mass 平日彌撒**  
Monday to Saturday - 8:00 am  
Wednesday - 9:00 am (*School Mass when school is in session*)  
Holy Hour every Friday - 6:00 pm  
First Friday Evening Mass - 7:00 pm  
Holidays - 9:00 am

**Confession 修和聖事**  
Monday to Friday - 7:45 – 7:55 am  
Friday - 6:00 – 6:45 pm (during Holy Hour)  
Saturday - 8:30 am after Mass  
Saturday - 3:45 – 4:45 pm  
Sunday - 2:30 – 2:55 pm (Cantonese)

**Liturgy of the Hours/Devotions**  
Lauds - 7:30 am on weekdays

Holy Rosary - Monday to Saturday  
After morning Mass

**Emmaus Adoration Chapel**  
The Chapel is now open 24/7 and accessible by a code. Please contact the Parish Office for the code.

**Corpus Christi Elementary School**  
2360 Waverley Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5S 0J1  
Phone: 604-321-1117  
Email: office@cchristi.ca  
Website: www.cchristi.ca  
Principal: Ms. Rosa Natola

**Corpus Christi Childcare Centre**  
2362 Waverley Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5S 0J1  
Phone: 604-416-4117  
Manager: Mrs. Ivana Ciccone  
Email: iciccone@cchristi.ca



**4 Core Values of Corpus Christi Parish**  
**Engaged Disciples:** Corpus Christi parishioners strive to be fully committed to holiness, mission, community and service. (cf. *Mission of the Redeemer 90, JP11*)



**Rooted in Tradition:** Corpus Christi parishioners are firmly rooted in the living Tradition of the Church, faithful to the fullness of the teachings of Christ in every aspect of parish life. (cf. *2 Thessalonians 2:15*)



**Multiplying Leaders:** Corpus Christi parishioners follow Jesus' example of ministry by identifying, recruiting and investing in others to become leaders, and equipping them to do the same. (cf. *2 Timothy 2:2*)



**Evangelical Hospitality:** Corpus Christi parishioners aim to be generous and evangelical in service and hospitality, providing everyone with opportunities to belong to the parish family. (cf. *Acts 2:44-47*)

**PARISH MINISTRIES/GROUPS**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Adoration Chapel                          | Araceli Hinz   |
| Alpha                                     | Michelle Wong  |
| Altar Servers                             | Fr. Hamilton, Fr. Salvino, Margie Lacson   |
| After Mass Socials                        | Mary Vendencia, Mellysa Lim (9am/11am), Tina Chan (3pm)  |
| Baptism Preparation                       | Adelia Yiu   |
| Bible Study                               | Joyce Fung (Tues Morning)<br>Joseph Chiu (Chinese)   |
| Catholic Women's League                   | Camille Macapanpan   |
| Chinese Community                         | Frank Chan   |
| Choir                                     | Kevin Garcia (5pm)<br>Dominica Chan (9am)<br>Scholastica Au (11am)<br>Vincent Lau (3pm)                      |
| Church Care                               | Joyce Fung   |
| Altar Linens                              | Agnes Lo   |
| Church Flowers                            | Monica Lau   |
| Emergency Management                      | Serafina Chau  |
| Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion | Bill Lam   |
| Hospitality Ministry                      | Annie Dee, Mary Vendencia, Mellysa Lim (Greeters)  |
| Intercessory Prayer Ministry              | Lina Glass, Winnie Koch  |
| Knights of Columbus                       | David Robinson   |
| Legion of Mary                            | Margie Goebel  |
| Marriage Mentorship                       | David & Connie Robinson  |
| Men's Group                               | Seamus O'Brien   |
| PREP                                      | Veronica Yam   |
| RCIA                                      | Neila Tong<br>Joseph Chiu (Chinese)<br>Thomas Robinson   |
| Faith Studies                             | Irene Goh (Weekend Mass)<br>Joyce Fung (Weekday Mass)  |
| Readers                                   | Karen Tully  |
| Safe Environment                          | Theresa Stewart,<br>Remedios Yeung   |
| Seniors' Ministry                         | Fr. Hamilton, Fr. Salvino, Schola Au,<br>Prisca Cheung, Annie Dee, Peter Lee,<br>Winnie Shiao, Deborah Welsh |
| Senior Leadership Team                    | Rick Lam   |
| Ushers                                    | Miguel Lacson, Isabelle Liu  |
| Youth Ministry                            |  |

**BAPTISM**

The Baptism Preparation Classes for parents are held via Zoom every 1<sup>st</sup> (Part 1) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (Part 2) Saturdays of the month, 10:30 am to 12 noon, except during the months of July and August. Parents must attend both sessions. Call the Parish Office to pre-register for the class. **Baptism celebrations are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of each month @ 11:00 am.**

**HOLY MATRIMONY**

We welcome your wedding celebration at Corpus Christi Church. To arrange the date and begin your preparations, please contact the Parish Office or either one of our priests at least 9 months prior to the proposed wedding date.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

If your loved one, relative or friend would like to arrange for a priest for the administration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or to visit the sick in a hospital, please phone the Parish Office. Or you may contact the hospital chaplain:

**VGH:**  
604-875-4111  
Fr. Gilbert Nunez & Fr. Luis Martin Brian Delgado (Mon., Tue., Fri., Sat. and Sun.)  
Fr. Aresene Dutunge (Wed. and Thurs.)

**MOUNT ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL:**  
Fr. Joseph Ha Vinh Tran, OP (Chaplain)  
604-876-7826

**BURNABY HOSPITAL:**  
St. Theresa's Parish  
604-434-4211 (Chaplain)  
604-298-6800 (Parish)

**ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL:**  
Fr. Victor Fernandes, OCD  
604-682-2344/604-445-9323  
(cell)/604-252-4224 (pager)

**April 27, 2025**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**



**Saturday, Apr 26**

*Vigil Mass*

5:00 PM Charlie Goh, RIP

**Sunday, Apr 27**

9:00 AM Vicente Duron Roma, RIP

11:00 AM All Parishioners, Living and Deceased

3:00 PM Zhu Yin He Larkin, RIP

**Monday, Apr 28**

8:00 AM Isabel Sy, RIP

**Tuesday, Apr 29**

*St. Catherine of Siena*

8:00 AM Maila Resus Cottés, RIP

**Wednesday, Apr 30**

*St. Marie de L'Incarnation*

8:00 AM Maria Luz Jalimao, Thanksgiving

9:00 AM School Mass

**Thursday, May 01**

8:00 AM Rafael Villanueva, RIP

**Friday, May 02**

*St. Athanasius*

8:00 AM Lavat Mina Cornwall, RIP

6:00 PM Holy Hour

7:00 PM Pope Francis, RIP

**Saturday, May 03**

*St. Philip & St. James*

8:00 AM Genaro & Berta Lam

11:00 AM Baptism of the Little Children from Easter

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

**April 27, 2025**  
**Sunday of Divine Mercy**

*"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'" (JOHN 20:21)*

Peace – the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be compassionate and merciful; and not with just those who are our friends, but also with our "enemies." Think of someone in your life who you need to reconcile with. Call them right now or better yet, go visit them.

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**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RELIGIOUS ARTICLES BOOTH**

The Religious Articles Booth will be opened on May 4th & 18th from 8:45 am—11:15 am (closed during mass).

**NOVENA FOR POPE FRANCIS**

You are encouraged to pray this Novena for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis.

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/novena-pope-francis-ENG.pdf>

This novena has been prepared to help pray for the Pope during this time. The daily novena—lasting for the novendiales period from April 26 to May 4, 2025.



1936 – 2025

*Memorial Mass  
in honor of*

**POPE FRANCIS**

First Friday, May 2, 2025 | 7:00 PM  
Corpus Christi Parish

## Last Weekend's Collection

Sunday Offertory Collection	\$10,782.20
BC Catholic	\$30.00
Building Fund	\$220.00
Easter	\$8,470.30
Holy Land (Good Friday)	\$9,228.20
Initial Offering	\$10.00
Lenten Charity	\$455.00
St. Joseph's Society	\$25.00
Work of Vocations	\$20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,240.70</b>

*Thank you for your generosity*

## SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a collection on May 11 to support seminarians studying to become priests for the Archdiocese of Vancouver.



# MEN'S GROUP

**Who:** All men are warmly welcome regardless of age

**When:** Fridays 6:00AM-7:30AM, year-round

**What:** Engage in 45 mins of prayer followed by fellowship and coffee in the library

**Where:** Corpus Christi Parish.  
Doors open right before 6AM

## Remembering the Sick In Prayers

Joseph Chiu                      Kamla Samy  
Maria C. Martinez              Fred Vendencia

Prayers for the sick can be requested. To add the name of your loved one, please drop by or call the Parish Office.

The names listed in the bulletin will remain here for 2 months unless the office is notified.

## Prayer for the Federal Election in Canada

by Fr. Chad Ripperger for the Canadian Federal Election

"Mary Immaculate, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the Eternal Wisdom lies hidden to be adored and served by angels and men, Queen of Heaven and of Earth, beneath whose sway are subject all things that are lower than God, earthly spouse of St. Joseph, patron of Canada. Sorrowful and mindful of our own sinfulness and the sins of our nation, we come to Thee, our refuge and hope.

Knowing that our country cannot be saved by our own works and mindful of how much our nation has departed from the ways of Thy Son, we humbly beg that Thou wouldst turn Thine eyes upon our country of Canada to bring about its conversion.

We consecrate to Thee and St. Joseph the integrity of the upcoming election and its outcome, so that what is spiritually and morally best for the citizens of our country may be accomplished, and that all of those who are elected would govern according to the spiritual and moral principles which will bring our nation into conformity with the teachings of Thy Son.

Hear the pleading of the Foster Father of Our Lord and give grace to the citizens of this land so that they will choose leaders according to the Sacred Heart of Thy Son, that His glory may be made manifest, lest we be given the leaders we deserve. Trusting in the providential care of God the Father and Thy maternal care, we have perfect confidence that Thou wilt take care of us and will not leave us forsaken."

Notre-Dame Du Cap, Madone Du Canada  
Priez pour nous Amen





# pastor's Corner



## Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

The Easter season is always a time of great joy and renewal in the Church, and this year that joy was made even more tangible by the increased crowds at all our Masses and particularly the Good Friday Service. It is clear that the Lord is speaking to us through these numbers. This movement of grace is not something we can take credit for, it is God's doing. The Holy Spirit is speaking to the Church AND this parish! **But while we may not control it, we are certainly called to respond to it.** That is why our 10-Year Vision is more important than ever. Now is the time to intensify our efforts toward *evangelical hospitality*, ensuring that everyone who steps into our parish encounters the welcome, warmth, and witness of Christ through us.

I want to extend a heartfelt *thank you* to all who contributed so generously to our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. Your efforts made the Triduum and Easter celebrations not only beautiful, but profoundly reverent.

- **Fr. Salvino**, who is a continuous support to me throughout the year and especially during this sacred time - thank you for your faithful and generous ministry.
- **Neila**, for coordinating our RCIA ministry with care and love, and to the **RCIA team -Nathan, Arleen, Veronica, and Joseph** - your accompaniment of our catechumens and candidates is a true work of evangelization.
- **Choir Directors/Schola, Kevin, Dominica, and Vincent** - thank you for your leadership, preparation, and dedication in guiding our choirs through this sacred season.
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**, who assisted in distributing the Eucharist with reverence and care.
- Those who **clean the altar linens and care for the flowers** in the sanctuary - thank you for creating a space that reflects beauty and devotion.
- **Readers**, who proclaimed the Word of God with clarity and faith at each liturgy.
- The many individuals who **clean our church** week after week - your quiet service is a gift to all.
- **Ushers**, who welcome, assist, and serve the community during our liturgies.
- **Collection Counters**, whose faithful behind-the-scenes service ensures the responsible stewardship of our parish resources.

- **My parish staff:** Winnie, Thomas, Anita, Martha, Theresa and Anette whose tireless efforts throughout the year keep the life of the parish vibrant and well-supported.
- **The Knights of Columbus**, who prayerfully shrouded the crucifixes and statues for Passiontide - thank you for helping us enter into the solemnity of this season.
- The **Senior's Ministry** for putting on the Good Friday Luncheon.
- And finally, our **Altar Servers**, especially those who assisted during the Triduum - your presence and reverence were a true blessing to our celebrations.

Here are the fruits of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection and our 10 Year Vision:



Lastly, we are all united in mourning the **death of Pope Francis**. We are now called to pray fervently for the repose of his soul, in gratitude for his years of faithful service, and to invoke the Holy Spirit to guide the Church in the election of his successor.

May this Easter season renew our hearts, fill us with joy, and inspire us to be bold in faith and generous in hospitality.

In the Risen Lord,  
**Fr. Bruce-John Hamilton**



## pastor's Corner

### 復活期第二主日 神聖慈悲主日 本堂神父的話



復活節季節總是教會中充滿喜悅與更新的時刻，今年這份喜悅透過我們所有彌撒，尤其是耶穌受難禮儀中出席人數的增加，更加真切地顯現出來。顯然，主正透過這些人數對我們說話。這份恩典的運動不是我們能夠自誇的，而是天主的作為。聖神在向教會並向本堂教區說話！**但雖然我們無法控制這一切，我們卻確實被召喚要回應它。**因此，我們的十年願景比以往任何時候都更為重要。現在正是加強我們對福音好客努力的時候，確保每一位走進我們堂區的人都能夠體驗到基督透過我們展現的熱情、溫暖與見證。

我衷心感謝所有對我們聖週與復活節禮儀做出慷慨貢獻的人。你們的努力使得聖三日及復活節的慶典不僅美麗，而且充滿敬虔。

- 感謝常年以來在這神聖時刻對我不斷支持的 **Salvino 神父**——謝謝您的忠誠與慷慨的事奉。
- 感謝 **Neila** 為我們的慕道團事工所作的愛心與照顧，並感謝**慕道班**全體成員——**Nathan, Arleen, Veronica** 和 **Joseph**，你們對慕道者的陪伴是真正的福傳工作。
- 感謝合唱團指揮/聖歌隊——**Schola, Kevin, Dominica, 和 Vincent**，謝謝你們的領導、準備與奉獻，引領我們的合唱團走過這神聖季節。
- 感謝**超凡的送聖體團員**，您們以敬虔與小心分發聖體。
- 感謝負責**清潔祭壇布及照顧聖所花卉的團隊**——謝謝你們創造了一個能反映美麗與虔誠的空間。
- 感謝**讀經者**，您們在每次禮儀中清晰與信仰地宣讀天主的聖言。
- 感謝那些**每週清潔我們教堂的人**——你們的默默奉獻是我們所有人的禮物。
- 感謝**迎賓員**，您們在我們的禮儀中歡迎、協助並服務社群。
- 感謝**奉獻計數員**，您們忠心的幕後服務確保了我們堂區資源的負責任管理。
- 感謝我的**教區工作人員**：Winnie, Thomas, Anita, Martha, Theresa and Anette，他們一整年的辛勤工作使堂區生活充滿活力並得到良好支持。
- 感謝**哥倫布騎士團**，您們在受難期為十字架和聖像覆上紗布，幫助我們進入這個季節的莊嚴。

- 感謝**長者事工團隊**舉辦的耶穌受難日午餐。
- 最後，感謝我們的**祭壇服務員**，特別是那些在逾越三日慶典協助的祭壇服務員——你們的在場與敬虔成為我們慶典的真正祝福。

這些是主的受難、死亡與復活的果實，以及我們十年願景的果實：



最後，我們所有人一起哀悼**教宗方濟各**的逝世。我們現在被召喚起來，懇切祈禱，為他的靈魂安息，感謝他多年來的忠誠事奉，並求聖神引導教會選舉出他的繼任者。

願這個復活節季節更新我們的心，讓喜樂充滿我們，並激勵我們在信仰上大膽，並在款待上慷慨。

在復活主內的  
**Bruce-John Hamilton 神父**

## What Is Divine Mercy?

By Marians of the Immaculate Conception



Divine Mercy has been called "the greatest grassroots movement in the history of the Catholic Church" and has changed millions of lives. But what is it?

The following is drawn from Fr. Michael Gaitley's book [Divine Mercy Explained](#):  
Divine Mercy, in General

Divine Mercy gets to the heart of Sacred Scripture. In fact, as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, "The Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God's mercy to sinners" (1849). Right there: That summarizes it. Divine Mercy is the Gospel. It's the good news. And so, it gets to the very center of our faith. Moreover, in the words of Pope Benedict XVI, "Divine Mercy is not a secondary devotion, but an integral dimension of Christian faith and prayer." Benedict even goes so far as to say, "[M]ercy is the central nucleus of the Gospel message."

Okay, so what is Divine Mercy? What is this thing that gets to the heart of Sacred Scripture and to the very center of our faith? To begin, mercy is "love's second name," as John Paul II said. It's a particular kind of love, a particular mode of love when it encounters suffering, poverty, brokenness, and sin. Divine Mercy is when God's love meets us and helps us in the midst of our suffering and

sin. In fact, because this side of eternity we're all sinners and because suffering is our lot in life, God's love for us here always takes the form of mercy. It's always the Lord stepping out in compassion to help us poor, weak, and broken sinners. From our perspective, then, every good we receive is an expression Divine Mercy.

The Message of Divine Mercy



**A page from St. Faustina Diary.**

The *message* of Divine Mercy is something that's most associated with a Polish nun who died in 1938, about a year before the start of World War II. She's known today as St. Maria Faustina Kowalska. Saint Faustina was a mystic. In other words, she received extraordinary experiences of the Lord Jesus in prayer. In fact, Jesus appeared to her and even spoke with her.

Of course, Jesus didn't reveal some new Gospel when he appeared to St. Faustina. He already revealed everything He needed to say 2,000 years ago to the Apostles and through Sacred Scripture. So, why did He do it? Why did He appear to Faustina?

Actually, why does He appear to any mystic for that matter?

God sometimes appears to mystics because He has a prophetic message for a particular time in history, and He uses particular men and women to share His message. Sometimes it's to remind us of something that's been forgotten. Sometimes it's a warning. At other times, it's a message of comfort. Or it may simply be a call to conversion. Whatever it is, it doesn't change the Bible. Rather, it brings us back to it at a certain time in history.



Okay, so what's the particular and important message that God wants to give to us in our modern time through St. Faustina? Simple. He wants to remind us of the heart of Sacred Scripture, namely, *His mercy for us sinners*. In fact, He's saying to us sinners, "Now is the time of mercy. Now is a time of extraordinary mercy! Now is a time when I want give especially great graces to the human race. I want to pour out My mercy in a big way."

Why would God say this? Why would He want to give such great graces in our time? Blessed John Paul II explained it best. First, he pointed out something we all know: namely, that there are all kinds of blessings in our contemporary society. For instance, modern technology has done so much to make life easier for us. Just think of e-mail, cell phones, smartphones, and air-conditioning. All these things are blessings. Yet, in the midst of these blessings and in some ways because of the very same advances in technology that brought them, John Paul would say that evil has a reach and power in our day like never before. Indeed, our time, sadly, is marked by unprecedented evil. Despite this, John Paul would also say, "Be not afraid." Why should we not be afraid? Because of what St. Paul writes in Romans, "Where sin increased,

grace abounded all the more" (5:20). In other words, God is not outdone by evil. So, in a time of great evil, God wants to give even greater graces, and in our time, the graces are *huge*, precisely because there's so much sin.

How can we tap into the extraordinary graces of our time? If there are tons of graces available to us, how are we to gather them in?

#### Tapping Into the Graces

Alright, so how do we do it? How do we get the great graces of Divine Mercy in our time? One important way to get them is to live out a devotion to Divine Mercy, and learning how to live it out is easy. All you need to know is one, little word – actually, it's a little bird: finch. F-I-N-C-H. Finch. If you remember this word, you've got it. So let's get started with F-I- N-C-H, beginning with "F."



**F = Feast.** What feast? The Feast of Divine Mercy, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday falls on the Second Sunday of Easter.

What's so great about Divine Mercy Sunday? Well, look at it this way: What's the most important feast day of the year? Easter, right? And how many days is Easter?

We celebrate it for eight full days, which is why we call it the Octave of Easter. But the last day is the greatest of all. The eighth day. It's the climax of the whole feast. Well, Divine Mercy Sunday is the eighth day of Easter, the climax of the entire Easter celebration. In a sense, it's the most important day of the most important feast!

Now, Divine Mercy Sunday existed way before St. Faustina. In fact, it has its roots in the Easter celebrations of the early Church. When Jesus told Faustina that He wanted the feast celebrated, she asked some priests and the-

ologians about it, and they told her, "There already is such a feast." So, Faustina went back to Jesus and told Him, "They tell me that there already is such a feast, and so why should I talk about it?" Jesus responded, "And who knows anything about this feast? No one!" (*Diary of St. Faustina, 341*). In other words, the great feast of mercy had been forgotten and was almost completely unknown.

So, you can imagine Jesus saying to Faustina, "Look, I want people to know and celebrate this feast. And to sweeten the deal, I promise to give great graces on Divine Mercy Sunday." Specifically, he told her:

*On that day [Divine Mercy Sunday], the very depths of My tender mercy are opened.*

*I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. ...*

*On that day, all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. (Diary of St. Faustina, 699)*

Thousands upon thousands of people attest to the superpower of prayer offered on Divine Mercy Sunday. But we still haven't gotten to our favorite part of Divine Mercy Sunday, what we call "the clean slate grace."

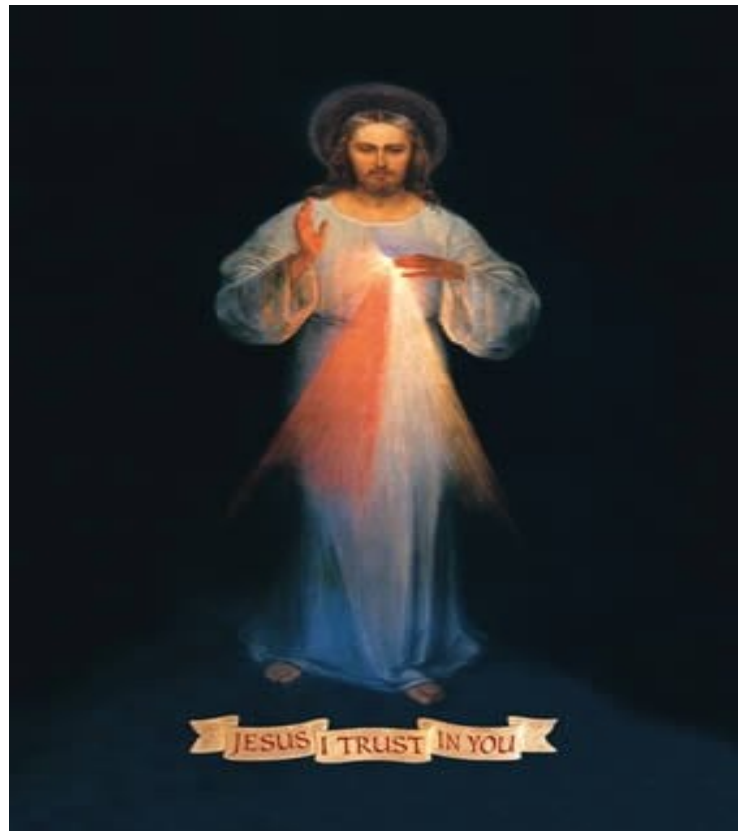
Regarding Divine Mercy Sunday, Jesus told St. Faustina, "*The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment*" (699). Now, that's a big deal. It means that if we were to die right after receiving this grace, then we wouldn't have to go to purgatory! In other words, our slate is wiped clean. In fact, the theologian who was assigned by the future Pope John Paul II to investigate the question "What is the grace of Mercy Sunday?" likened the grace to a second baptism. Of course, it's not the same as Baptism, but it is an extraordinary grace of being cleansed of sin and the punishment due to sin.

Unfortunately, a lot of people confuse the great grace of Divine Mercy Sunday with a plenary indulgence. It's not the same thing. To get a plenary indulgence, you need to do the indulgenced act, pray for the intentions of the Holy Father, go to confession (within 20 days), receive Holy Communion, and be detached from all sin.

That last one is the kicker. Are we detached from all sin?

Saint Philip Neri was speaking to a large crowd of people who had gathered for some Church event to receive a plenary indulgence, and the Holy Spirit told St. Philip that only two people in the whole crowd were going to receive the plenary indulgence: Philip himself and a seven-year-old boy – presumably because everyone else was attached to sin.

Now, the good news about the grace of Divine Mercy Sunday is that to receive it, you simply need to go to confession before or on the feast – the experts say that sometime during Lent suffices – be in the state of grace (no mortal sin), and receive Holy Communion with the intention of obtaining the promised grace. Of course, we should also do acts of mercy such as forgiving people, praying for others, and having the intention to be more merciful to our neighbor.



Okay, so that explains the feast. Now let's look at the next letter, "I," as in F-I ...

**I = Image.** What image? The Image of Divine Mercy. Jesus told St. Faustina to have an image painted just as He looked when He appeared to her. She obeyed and had it painted by a Polish artist, Eugene Kazimirowski. It took him more than 12 tries before Faustina accepted it as



satisfactory.

As you can see from the image right here to the right, Jesus' right hand is raised in blessing. Also, He's taking a step toward us, and two rays of light issue from His Heart: a red ray and a pale ray, representing the blood and water that gushed forth from His pierced side on the Cross. At the bottom of the image, Jesus wanted a prayer to be written, "Jesus, I trust in You." He also promised to give great graces through it. For instance, one time, He said:

*I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces ...*

*that vessel is this image with the signature, Jesus, I trust in You." By means of this image, I shall be granting many graces to souls. (327, 742)*

We've received countless testimonies from people who have experienced special graces through the Divine Mercy image. One grace that comes through the image is this: It heals the way people often mistakenly view God. Here's what we mean. People too often have a false image of God. They're afraid of Him and see Him as some mean ogre just out to ruin their fun. Well, the Image of Divine Mercy helps to change that. In it, we discover our Merciful Savior who surely calls us to conversion but who also blesses us, loves us, and is deserving of all of our trust.

Next, we come to the letter "N," as in F-I-N...

**N = Novena.** What novena? The Novena to Divine Mercy. A novena is basically nine days of prayer in a row. Jesus taught St. Faustina a novena that He wanted her to pray and that we can all pray. Each day He asked that a different group of people be entrusted to Him (for example, "all sinners" on day one and "all priests and religious" on day two). [You can find the text for the entire Novena here.](#)

Before moving to the next point, we'd just like to answer a question that people often ask about the novena: "When should I begin?" Well, it can be prayed at any time, but a special time to pray it is in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday. The starting date for the novena, combined with praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (see

below), is Good Friday, and it ends on the Saturday after Easter Sunday, the day before Divine Mercy Sunday. (Novenas typically end the day before the feast.) While you don't have to pray this novena to obtain the grace of Divine Mercy Sunday, it is a good way to prepare, and Jesus promised, "By this novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls."



Now we come to letter "C" as in F-I-N-C...

**C = Chaplet.** What chaplet? The Chaplet of Divine Mercy. This is a prayer that's prayed on ordinary rosary beads, and it's pretty popular today – perhaps because it can be prayed in a short amount of time (about seven minutes).

I think another reason why the chaplet is so popular is because it's such an incredibly powerful prayer. Why is it so powerful? Because it draws its strength from the holiest and mightiest prayer there is: the Mass. In other words, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy is a kind of extension of the prayer of the Mass. In fact, it's a kind of extension of what we'll call the "supercharged moment of the Mass." Here's what we mean: It's an extension of that moment when the priest at the altar takes the Body and Blood of Christ into his hands and offers it up to the Father with these words:

*Through Him, and with Him, and in Him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours forever and ever. Amen.*

That's supercharged because, at the Mass, Jesus is giving Himself Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity into our hands: literally, in the hands of the priest and spiritually, in the hands of all the lay faithful who are uniting their own sacrifices to the offering of the priest at the altar. To-

gether, each in his own way, we offer Jesus' infinite sacrifice of love to the Father. That's the power of the Mass. It's Jesus' own sacrifice of love in our hands, held up to the Father, and the Father can't resist such a perfect sacrifice of love. It really is the perfect prayer.

Now, the chaplet is an extension of that moment of the Mass, because on the "Our Father" beads of the rosary, we pray, "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 [what? ... my family? ... my city? ... no, not just that ...] for the whole world." So, it's a bold prayer: It's for the whole world! And it can be bold, because it relies on infinite merits: Christ's infinite sacrifice of love on the Cross. Alright, so this explains the "Our Father" beads.

On each "Hail Mary" bead, we pray, "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world." In other words, as we're holding up to the Father His Son's infinite sacrifice of love, we keep repeating: "Mercy, mercy, mercy." More specifically, we keep praying, "Have mercy on us and on the whole world." And this is powerful. And you know who it's most powerful for? The dying. Our Heavenly Father said to St. Faustina:

*When this chaplet is said by the bedside of a dying person ... unfathomable mercy envelops the soul, and the very depths of My tender mercy are moved for the sake of the sorrowful Passion of My Son. (811)*

Also, Jesus made several comforting promises to those who pray the chaplet:

*Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. ... Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. (687)*

*The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death. (754)*

*Oh, what great graces I will grant to souls who say this chaplet; the very depths of My tender mercy are stirred for the sake of those who say the chaplet. (848)*

*My daughter, encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given to you. It pleases Me to grant everything they ask of Me by saying the chaplet. When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one. (1541)*

Okay, that was C for chaplet. [Learn how to pray the chaplet.](#)



Now, on to the last letter: "H," as in F-I-N-C-H.

**H = Hour.** What hour? The Hour of Great Mercy. Because Jesus died on the Cross for us at 3 p.m., every day between 3-4 in the afternoon is known as the Hour of Great Mercy. During this hour, Jesus asked St. Faustina to pray the Stations of the Cross, provided her duties permitted it. But He went on to say:

*If you are not able to make the Stations of the Cross, then at least step into*

*the chapel for a moment and adore, in the Blessed Sacrament, My Heart, which is full of mercy; and should you be unable to step into the chapel, immerse yourself in prayer there where you happen to be ... and if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. (1572, 1320)*

What Jesus wants above all, through this devotion, is that we have mercy on Him! In other words, He wants us to recall His sacrifice of love. He wants us to think about what He did for us on the Cross. He simply wants our love. So, let's get "the three o'clock habit" and remember Jesus' sacrifice of love for us, even if only for a moment.

Oh, and one other thing about the Three O'clock Hour: Jesus promised that it's a huge time of grace: "This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world. ... I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion" (1320). Thus, we can look at this hour as a kind of mini-Mercy Sunday that we have every day. So, it's also a great time to pray for our loved ones, especially for the conversion of unrepentant sinners, and to recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

The ABC's

Of course, we haven't only been covering the devotion. We've also learned some of the basics of the Divine Mercy message. But there's a bit more we should know regarding how to live it. Father George Kosicki's teaching tool, the "ABC's of Mercy," will help us.

By the way, before we begin, we should mention that living the Divine Mercy message and devotion to the full presupposes that one actively participates in the Sacraments. For the Sacraments are the true sources and fountains of God's mercy.

**A = Ask for mercy.** In Sacred Scripture, Jesus tells us, "Ask and it will be given to you ... for everyone who asks receives" (Mt 7:7, 8). In the Diary of St. Faustina, Jesus reminds us of this idea:

*Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask. I cannot punish even the greatest sinner if he makes an appeal to My compassion (1146).*

*[B]eg for mercy for the whole world (570). No soul that has called upon My mercy has been disappointed (1541).*

**B = Be merciful in deed, word, and prayer.** As we learned earlier, mercy is love's second name. It's a particular kind of love, a particular mode of love when it encounters suffering, poverty, brokenness, and sin. But it's not just a movement of the heart. It's not just feeling compassion for someone. To be true, mercy must also be put into action. So, mercy is really two movements: heart and arms. The "heart" part is the movement of compassion — it's something we feel. The "arms" part is the movement to alleviate the suffering of another — it's something we do. And what should we do? Jesus tells us in the Diary:

*I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first — by deed, the second — by word, the third — by prayer.*

*In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me.*

*By this means a soul glorifies Me and pays reverence to My mercy (742).*

So, mercy in action is mercy in deed, word, and prayer. And whenever our hearts are moved to compassion, wherever we are, we can always put this compassion into action either by some deed that helps alleviate another person's suffering, by some word that comforts or assists them, or by prayer.

As St. Faustina wrote: "*If I cannot show mercy by deeds or words, I can always do so by prayer. My prayer reaches out even there where I cannot reach out physically*" (163). Of course, one of the great prayers of mercy, as we learned earlier, is the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

**C = Completely Trust.** Trust in the mercy of God gets to the heart of the message of Divine Mercy, which is why the Image of Divine Mercy has the prayer at the bottom, "Jesus, I trust in You." Now, trust does not mean that we have license to go about sinning as we please. Rather, it

implies that we repent of our sins. Anyway, here are some beautiful quotes from the Diary that have to do with trust:

*Encourage the souls with whom you come in contact to trust in My infinite mercy.*

*Oh, how I love those souls who have complete confidence in Me — I will do everything for them. (294)*

*Why are you fearful and why do you tremble when you are united to Me? I am displeased when a soul yields to vain terror.*

*Who will dare to touch you when you are with Me? Most dear to Me is the soul that strongly believes in My goodness and has complete trust in Me. I heap My confidence upon it and give it all it asks. (453)*

*I desire that the whole world know My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy. (687)*

*I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls. (1074)*

*Sooner would heaven and earth turn into nothingness than would My mercy not embrace a trusting soul. (1777)*

IN-PERSON

## TRUST & ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR

Monday, May 12

7 PM at Parish Centre Hall

Learn about the components of an estate plan and the basics of a trust. Gain insight into topics such as probate, tax, and legal considerations. By the end you will be equipped with practical steps on how to plan your estate.

Presenter: Joboy Varghese, Lawyer

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## 18 ELEMENTS IN THE OUR FATHER



 RELATIONSHIP	Our Father	 NECESSITY	our daily bread,
 RECOGNITION	Who art in heaven	 PENITENCE	and forgive us
 ADORATION	Hallowed be Thy Name;	 OBLIGATION	our trespasses,
 ANTICIPATION	Thy kingdom come,	 FORGIVENESS	as we forgive
 OBEDIENCE	Thy will be done,	 MERCY	those who trespass against us;
 UNIVERSALITY	on earth	 GUIDANCE	and lead us
 CONFORMITY	as it is in heaven.	 PROTECTION	not into temptation,
 SUPPLICATION	Give us	 SALVATION	but deliver us
 DEFINITENESS	this day	 RIGHTEOUSNESS	from evil.

"IF WE ASK ANYTHING IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS WILL HE HEARS US" (1 John 5:14)

