



Dear friends in Christ, this weekend we celebrate the *Second Sunday of Easter* or what is commonly known as *Divine Mercy Sunday*. At first glance, the theme of mercy seems incompatible with the great Easter Mystery of Redemption – that is, the suffering, death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Christ. A closer reflection however reveals a wonderful connection between the two. Liturgically the central theme of Divine Mercy and Forgiveness has always been emphasized during the Easter Octave. St. Augustine preached that the Easter Octave were “days of mercy and pardon” and that the Octave Day itself was “the compendium of the days of mercy.” Our Responsorial Psalm from today’s liturgy highlights this wonderfully: “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, his steadfast love (=mercy) is everlasting.” Concerning the Feast of Divine Mercy Jesus said to St. Faustina Kowalska: “My daughter, tell the whole world about My Inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and 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 all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet... The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter... (*Diary 699*).” The two themes really do go together. Our parish community will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with a special program consisting of prayers, a solemn procession and veneration of the Image of the Divine Mercy, music and Exposition of the Holy Eucharist. Confessions will also be available starting at 1:30pm. I invite you to come and participate in this sacred event.

Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*.

Cari amici in Cristo, questo fine settimana celebriamo la *seconda Domenica di Pasqua*, anche chiamata *Domenica della Divina Misericordia*. A prima vista, il tema della misericordia sembra incompatibile con il grande Mistero Pasquale della Redenzione – cioè, la sofferenza, morte, sepoltura, risurrezione e ascensione di Cristo. Tuttavia, un esame più attento rivela l’esistenza di un legame meraviglioso. Liturgicamente il tema centrale della Divina misericordia e del perdono è stato sempre sottolineato durante l’Ottava di Pasqua. Sant’Agostino predicava che l’Ottava di Pasqua racchiudeva in sé «giorni di misericordia e di perdono» e che l’Ottavo giorno era di per sé «il compendio dei giorni di misericordia». Il salmo responsoriale della liturgia di oggi mette questo in evidenza meravigliosamente: «Rendete grazie al Signore perché è buono, il suo amore (= la sua misericordia) è per sempre». Per quanto riguarda la festa della Divina Misericordia Gesù ha detto a Santa Faustina Kowalska: «Figlia mia, parla della Mia misericordia inconcepibile al mondo intero. Desidero che la Festa della Misericordia sia rifugio e riparo per tutte le anime, e specialmente per i poveri peccatori. In quel giorno le viscere della Mia grande Misericordia saranno aperte. Riverserò un mare di grazie sulle anime che si avvicineranno alla sorgente della Mia Misericordia. **L’anima che andrà a confessarsi e riceverà la Santa Comunione otterrà la completa remissione dei peccati e delle pene.** In quel giorno tutte le porte divine attraverso le quali si riversa la grazia saranno aperte. Nessun anima abbia paura di accostarsi a Me, anche se i suoi peccati fossero come scarlatto... La Festa della Misericordia è emerge dalla mia più profonda tenerezza. È Mio desiderio che sia celebrata solennemente prima Domenica dopo Pasqua...» (*Diario 699*). I due temi vanno dunque di pari passo. La nostra comunità parrocchiale celebrerà la Domenica della Divina Misericordia con un programma speciale costituito da preghiere, processione e venerazione solenne dell’immagine della Divina Misericordia, musica ed Esposizione del Santissimo. Vi saranno anche confessioni disponibili a partire dalle 13:30. Venite ed unitevi a me nel fare esperienza della presenza Misericordiosa ed amorevole di Gesù in questa solennità santissima.

Pace e bene, *Padre Tommaso*

Mass Intentions for the Week

- Monday: April 24th**
 8:00am - †Eugene, Antonette, Albert & Lucille Ricard
 7:00pm - †Babu Michael
- Tuesday: April 25th**
 8:00am - †Petiton - Aynette Fernandes
 7:00pm - †Franco Bartolomucci (2nd year death anniversary)
- Wednesday: April 26th**
 8:00am - †Ferdinand Mejilla
 7:00pm - †Nicola & Eufemia Mantenuato
- Thursday: April 27th**
 8:00am - †Ruzica (Rose) Djolanga
 7:00pm - †Defunte Familia Brizzi
- Friday: April 28th**
 8:00am - Reparation for Sins and Moral Renewal of Canada
 7:00pm - †Lucy & Philip Joseph
- Saturday: April 29th**
 8:30am - †Felicia Martin
 5:00pm - †Joseph Manuepillai
 †Letty Mahagamage
- Sunday: April 30th**
 9:00am - For the Community of OLA
 10:30am - †Giuseppe Capicotta
 12:00pm - †Edmundo Almeida

Upcoming Events

- Thursday: April 27th**
 9:00am - Holy Cross School Mass/ Liturgy
 7:30pm - Confirmation Class
 7:45pm - RCIA Class
- Friday: April 28th**
 8:15am - St. Raphael School Liturgy
 7:00pm - Edge (Parish Hall)
- Saturday: April 29th**
 2:00pm - Wedding Lelio Cappola & Anna Albanito
- Saturday/Sunday: April 29th–30th**
 Life Teen Sign-up
 Legion of Mary Membership Drive
- Sunday: April 30th**
 2:00pm - First Communion
- Saturday/Sunday: May 6 and 7**
 Our launch date for Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) program

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

- Easter Collection \$ 13,965.00
 Good Friday Collection \$ 6,422.00
 Building Funds \$1,465.00

Thank You For your generosity

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



During the course of Jesus' revelations to Saint Faustina on the Divine Mercy He asked on numerous occasions that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy and that this feast be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. The liturgical texts of that day, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, concern the institution of the Sacrament of Penance, the Tribunal of the Divine Mercy, and are thus already suited to the request of Our Lord. This Feast, which had already been granted to the nation of Poland and been celebrated within Vatican City, was granted to the Universal Church by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of Sr. Faustina on 30 April 2000. In a decree dated 23 May 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that "throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come." These papal acts represent the highest endorsement that the Church can give to a private revelation, an act of papal infallibility proclaiming the certain sanctity of the mystic, and the granting of a universal feast, as requested by Our Lord to St. Faustina.



Dopo la morte di Cristo, gli apostoli rimasero soli. Ebbero paura al punto di rinchiudersi per il timore delle persone malevoli. Avevano vissuto tre lunghi anni con il Maestro, ma non l'avevano capito, al punto che Cristo dovette rimproverarli seriamente (Lc 24,25). Non l'avevano capito perché il loro modo di pensare restava troppo terra terra. Vedendo Cristo impotente e senza coscienza sulla sua croce, essi avevano gettato tutt'intorno sguardi impauriti, dimenticando ciò che era stato detto loro: "Vi vedrò di nuovo, e il vostro cuore si rallegrerà e nessuno vi potrà togliere la vostra gioia" (Gv 16,22). Ed ancora: "Voi avrete tribolazione nel mondo, ma abbiate fiducia; io ho vinto il mondo!" (Gv 16,33). I discepoli si rallegrarono al vedere Cristo, furono rassicurati dalle sue parole: "Pace a voi! Ricevete lo Spirito Santo!". Ma essi dovettero attendere la Pentecoste perché lo Spirito Santo venisse a purificare i loro spiriti e i loro cuori, a dare loro il coraggio di proclamare la gloria di Dio, di portare la buona novella agli stranieri e di infondere coraggio ai loro seguaci. Dio si è riavvicinato agli uomini ed essi si sono rimessi nelle sue mani, per mezzo di Cristo e dello Spirito Santo. Concedendo agli apostoli il potere di rimettere i peccati, Cristo ha detto loro: "Ricevete lo Spirito Santo; a chi rimetterete i peccati saranno rimessi e a chi non li rimetterete resteranno non rimessi" (Gv 20,22-23). Come Cristo ha fatto con gli apostoli, così il vescovo, imponendo le mani ai sacerdoti che vengono ordinati, trasmette oggi il potere dello Spirito Santo, che permette loro di dispensare i sacramenti e, attraverso di essi, di assolvere i peccati. Ogni sacramento, non solo evoca il ricordo di Cristo, ma è Cristo in persona, che agisce immediatamente per salvare l'uomo. Nel dispensare i sacramenti, la Chiesa si mette in un certo senso ai piedi della croce per portare la salvezza ai credenti. Come potrebbe quindi dimenticare la fonte dalla quale scaturiscono le grazie di salvezza che sgorgano dalle sue mani?

Rosary Apostolate



The Rosary Apostolate in the Schools is seeking volunteers who have great devotion to the Mother of God and who are willing to visit our Elementary schools to pray the Rosary with the children once a month for a total of 8 days in the year. Training and screening will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Susie Miranda 905 671 2228. **Thank you.**

Legion of Mary



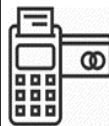
The Legion of Mary will have an informal launching (Columbian Drive) membership Drive after all the masses of April 29th and 30th.



Catholic Education Week: April 30th - May 5th

"Walking Forward Together"

We invite parishioners to join in celebrating Catholic Week 2017, which runs from April 30 – May 5. For more than 165 years, Ontario's publicly funded Catholic schools have been integrating our faith into all aspects to school life, nurturing the gifts and talents of every student. We celebrate the distinctive contribution that Catholic school provide, giving thanks and offering our prayers for all those who faithfully journey with our young people each day. For more information about Catholic Education Week visit www.goodnewsforall.ca



Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) program

We will offer beginning May 6 & 7 the option to give your offertory through Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) program. PAG allows you to make your regular Sunday offering using the "direct debit" system. It is a giving option to provide convenience and ease of use for our parishioners. When you register for PAG, your Sunday offering is only withdrawn from your account once a month and deposited into the parish account. PAG is also used in other parishes, and we want to offer PAG to those who would like to use it. If you are ready to join the program, please bring a void cheque with you. For more information, please call our church office.

A Special Easter Thank You:

Dear friends in Christ, over the past few days I have received many positive feedback regarding our parish's Easter Triduum celebrations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Fr. Ravi (for his countless hours of availability in the confessional) and the many members of the liturgical ministries who helped in making it such a special, holy and reverent event: Altar Servers, Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Music Ministry, Ushers and those who beautifully decorated the Church. *Fr. Thomas*

YOUTH CORNER



EDGE



LIFE TEEN

EDGE

All students in **grade 6, 7, and 8** are welcome to our next EDGE Night on **Friday, April 28th** from 7pm - 9pm.

LIFE TEEN

All TEENS in grades 9 - 12 are invited!
On **Saturday, May 6th, 2017.**

'Life Teen' begins with
5:00pm Mass

At Mass teens experience the depth of God's love through the Word, the community and the Eucharist.

6:00pm: Dinner (in the parish hall)

6:30pm - 8:00pm: Life Night

Life Nights are gatherings that include food, fun, fellowship and faith!

It's completely **FREE**, so invite all of your friends!

For information, please contact 905-677-4615 or email: OLAYouthministry@hotmail.com