

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY—APRIL 18 & 19, 2020



Hear to Serve ...

"HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER"

During this Second Sunday of Easter we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. This was declared Divine Mercy Sunday by St John Paul II, in the year 2000 on the day he canonized a Polish nun by the name of

Faustina Kowalski. Sister Faustina had several revelations from Jesus, and one was that the Church reserves the second Sunday of Easter to honor God's infinite Mercy.

From Good Friday on, we see nothing but the mercy of God at work. Some of the last words that Jesus utters on the Cross are, "Father, forgive them they know not what they do." This is Jesus' prayer that will never be rivaled in mercy and love. Jesus, even though He is suffering in His own agony, prays for all of those that deserted Him, those that mocked and jeered Him, and those that crucified Him. Jesus forgives the sins of the repentant thief hanging next to Him. His humanity and divinity poured from the cross as blood and water, and His mercy poured out for all.

In today's Gospel reading from John, we see more evidence of the forgiveness of God. The Apostles had their doors locked in fear of the Jews. But don't you think they were also a little afraid of seeing the Risen Jesus? They literally abandoned Jesus and left Him hanging by Himself. I can imagine the shame and fear they felt. Yet, we see the forgiving Jesus, we see Jesus with a mercy that lasts forever. The first thing Jesus says is "Peace be with you." Then Jesus commissions them and breathes new life into them. Jesus does not chastise or punish them. No, He gives them even more responsibility. Jesus gives them the authority to bestow God's unending mercy upon us through the Forgiveness of Sins. Jesus institutes the Sacrament of Reconciliation upon us.

Even though Jesus wants to forgive us, we have to do our part. We don't have to be perfect, but we do have to believe to be forgiven. We have to ask. Even though Jesus died for our sins, Jesus' prayer on the Cross wasn't a blanket amnesty. Peter wept bitterly as he repented. The thief on Jesus' right asked Jesus to remember him. The Roman soldier proclaimed, "Surely this man was the Son of God." We have to humble ourselves and come forward. Jesus wants to forgive us but we have to get over ourselves and ask.

As I look at my own shortcomings, the sins I committed deliberately, the sins I did in ignorance, the times I have abandoned Christ, I have to decide if I need and want God's infinite mercy. Am I ready to humble myself like Peter, like the thief, like the Roman soldier, or do I rely on myself like Judas did?

Come, let us celebrate this Divine Mercy Sunday by praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Let us thank Jesus for His sacrifice so we can be forgiven, and let us make it a point to visit the confessional as soon as we can.

*Deo gratias,
Dcn. Gary*

Alternative Mass Opportunities

10:30am Sundays CBS affiliate, WFRV Local 5
5:30am Sundays ABC affiliate, WBAY Channel 2
8am Sundays channel CW14
9am Sundays Relevant Radio, 1050AM (radio Mass)

Daily Mass is livestreamed Monday—Friday from the campus of Relevant Radio in Green Bay. Access the Mass at the Relevant Radio app or at the link <http://relevantradio.com/faith/daily-mass-video/>. Live at noon; video can be viewed any time throughout the day.



Pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary at the time you typically attend Mass.

Even though we cannot be in church together, we are still the Church. Even though we will be praying in our own homes, we are always united as the Body of Christ. Let us join our hearts in prayer and lift our voices to God in gratitude for all He has done and continues to do for us.

For more information on how to pray the Glorious Mysteries:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUeUKsYAbMY>

Mass Contributions

With the indefinite suspension of public Masses, parishioners are encouraged to consider contributing to the parish by mailing weekly contributions or by electronic giving (direct deposit). The Church will continue her ministries during this period of financial strain. Please consider maintaining or increasing your level of contributions at this time.

If you wish to begin using direct deposit, contact the office for assistance. Thank you.

Beginning March 30, Modified Hours (SG & HT)

Office Hours: Mon—Fri 8am—noon
Church Hours: Mon—Fri 8am—noon
Sat—Sun 8am—5pm

Call or email any time.
Leave a message and we'll get back to you in a timely manner.

NEW THIS WEEK!

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Herman Sukowaty, St. Gregory Parishioner, who passed away on Monday, April 13. May God grant him eternal rest and be with his family at this difficult time. On behalf of the St. Gregory Parish community, we offer our prayers and condolences to his family.

Thank you to everyone who has been so very generous with food and monetary donations to the Food Pantry. We appreciate it very much. May the good Lord bless each and every one of you for your generosity. Faye Riesterer, Food Pantry Coordinator

Donations Holy Trinity Christian Women have made donations to St. Gregory Food Pantry & Kiel Food Pantry of \$500.00 each to assist in their needs.

Holy Trinity & St. Gregory Stewardship—April 11 & 12, 2020

No Stewardship update this week.
Thank you to everyone who either mailed or dropped off their weekly stewardship at the offices or those who contribute through the direct deposit program.

Your stewardship matters!

Parish News

Parish Elections: Have you heard a calling to serve your Parish? **Holy Trinity** has an open position for Secretary Trustee and looking for members to join Parish Council. We are asking for anyone interested in serving as our Secretary Trustee or Parish Council member to please contact the Parish Office.

St. Gregory has an opening for Finance Council Treasurer Trustee and Parish Council member-at-large. Please contact the office to express your interest.

Elections are planned for June.

Are you in need of canned goods or paper products? The Food Pantry may be able to help. Don't feel comfortable leaving the house? We can deliver. Call Fay Riesterer at 773-2422.

CANCELLED—Wed., June 3 Milwaukee Church Tours sponsored by Caring Hearts and Hands.

Spring/Summer Flowers needed for Worship space and other areas in church. Looking for Peonies, Lilacs, long stem Zinnias & Asters, Gladiolus. Call the parish offices to make arrangements.

Palm Branches from Palm Sunday—Palm branches will be blessed and distributed at a later date (as directed by the Diocese of Green Bay).

Little White Books for the Easter Season are available in the parish offices. They are \$1 each. Parish Offices are open 8am-noon, Monday—Friday.

Second Collections—World's Poor (scheduled March 21 & 22) and Holy Land Collection (scheduled April 10) will be rescheduled at a later date. If you have made a donation toward the World's Poor collection, it will be held by the office and submitted when the new collection is held.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

How to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet with a Rosary

Optional Opening Prayers:

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat 3 times) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostle's Creed

For each of the five decades *(On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, 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 the whole world.

(On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray)

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer *(Repeat 3 times)*

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

Mass Readings for Week of April 20-26

	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Mon/Apr 20	Acts 4:23-31	John 3:1-8
Tues/Apr 21	Acts 4:32-37	John 3:7b-15
Wed/Apr 22	Acts 5:17-26	John 3:16-21
Thurs/Apr 23	Acts 5:27-33	John 3:31-36
Fri/Apr 24	Acts 5:34-42	John 6:1-15
Sat/Apr 25	I Peter 5:5b-14	Mark 16:15-20
Sun/Apr 26	Acts 2:14, 22-33 I Peter 1:17-21	Luke 24:13-35

The Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast has been rescheduled for May 30, 2020. All tickets already sold for this event will be honored on May 30 at Applebee's. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused by this. Tickets may still be purchased at either parish office. As always the Knights of Columbus thanks you for your past and continued support.



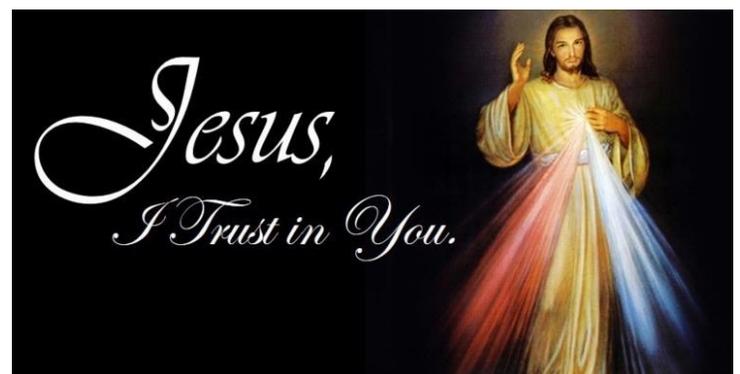
Thoughts for Today's Readings ...



In the gospel, the risen Lord greets his disciples and offers them the gift of his peace, and also the Holy Spirit in order to forgive sins. Only in Jesus, the source of peace and mercy, could these early Christian communities continue on the path of faith. In our own families and churches, we are sure to encounter the struggles that inevitably occur when trying to live in community with others. When this happens let us turn to Jesus and the Holy Spirit, praying that peace might reign and forgiveness flow freely.

1. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we hear of an ideal Christian community in which communal life is lived to the fullest. Where has division crept into your family or parish community? How might you help to bring the peace of Christ to this situation?
2. Three times the psalmist calls for different groups to proclaim "(God's) mercy endures forever." On this Divine Mercy Sunday, how are you called to be a beacon of mercy for others?
3. In the first letter from St. Peter, the apostle writes that at times the believer "may have to suffer through various trials" like gold "tested by fire." When has your faith been tested?
4. Thomas believes in the resurrection only after seeing the risen Christ. Jesus tells him, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." What are the events or experiences in your life that have brought you to belief?

Source: *Living Liturgy 2020*, Liturgical Press



From April 20—April 26
the Sanctuary Candles are burning
in memory/honor of:

Holy Trinity:

Sandy Riesterer

St. Gregory:

Essential Workers
Those Who are Sick

Pray for the Sick:

John E. Meyer, John Casper, Mary Mueller, Orville Bonde, Kay Binversie, Jasmine Bertschy, Tony Scharenbroch, Ken Kozminski, Wendy (Riesterer) Puddy, Monica Clark, Marie Koenig, John Ryan, Jim Riesterer, Tom Hardy, Gary Mueller, and Deacon Jim Steffen.

To add or remove a name from this listing, a family member should call your Parish Office-SG: 773-2511 or HT: 773-2380 Thank you.



Legacy Gifts to St. Gregory Parish

Current projects for donation consideration:

- Main entry doors on the Parish Center
- Decorations for church environment (by liturgical seasons)
- Church ceiling rib repairs & paint

**HOLY TRINITY
SCRIP
PROGRAM**

SCRIP sold in parish office:
Monday—Friday 8am-noon

HT Scrip Coordinators~Betty Hardy &
Sandy Neils~920-565-4588

Sales ending April 12 — 1,885 (includes online sales)
Profits ending April 12 — \$67.58 (includes online sales)

Continue calling ahead to ensure we have what you are looking for on hand. Your order will be ready when you arrive!
Thank you to all who continue to purchase SCRIP!

ST. GREGORY SCRIP

Scrip is sold in the parish office:
Monday—Friday 8am-noon

Scrip sales for week ending April 19: \$4,180.00
3% (average) profit to the parish: \$125.40

Scrip Coordinators:

Debbie Griem 773-2708 Marlene Zutz 775-4253

Call ahead ... your order will be waiting for you at pick up!

NEW TO THE LIST:

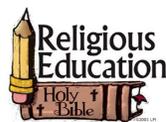
Buffalo Wild Wings \$10 cards (8%) Starbucks \$10 cards (7%)
Lowe's \$25 & \$100 cards (4%)

\$5,000 was recently transferred from the
Scrip program to the general fund.

Thank you to everyone who continues to purchase scrip!

HT Christian Women Calendar Winners are...

Apr 5 - \$30	Lonna Lange, Kiel	#1024
Apr 6 - \$20	Corey Albright, Kiel	#1804
Apr 7 - \$20	Mackenzie Salm, Kiel	#1085
Apr 8 - \$20	Sandra Arnhoelter, Valdars	#106
Apr 9 - \$20	Karen Graf, Newton	#412
Apr 10 - \$20	Glenn Neils, Kiel	#914
Apr 11 - \$20	Cynthia Roeck, Cleveland	#1062



Divine Mercy Sunday

For the sake of His sorrowful passion,
have mercy on us
and on the whole world.

- ** Mrs. Patty Wilhelm, Coordinator-
pwillhelm@stgregorycatholicsschool.org
- ** Mrs. Rita Steffen, Assistant Coordinator-
rsteffen@stgregorycatholicsschool.org



**Thank you for
your generous gift!**
Bishop's Appeal 2020

	<u>2020 Goal</u>	<u>2020 Donated</u>	<u>Percentage Met</u>
St. Gregory:	\$22,317.00	\$16,116.00	72%
Holy Trinity:	\$14,528.00	\$6,195.00	43%

To assure proper credit, please include the parish name and town when sending your gift. Thank you!



Legacy Gifts to Holy Trinity Parish

Current projects for donation consideration:
Liturgical Decorations in worship space (colored banners)
Upgrading stain glass windows-worship space

**"BE STRONG
AND COURAGEOUS,
FOR THE LORD
WILL BE WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO"**

Joshua 1:9



The following parish family members are
serving our nation in the **Armed Forces:**

Jesse Augustine, Kurt Binversie, Dustin Koenig,
Matthew Koenig, Samuel Koenig,
Brandon Mueller, Greg Mueller, Adam Satori,
and Anton Simon.

Please contact the parish office to
add a family member.



**Parish
Outreach**

SG Prayer Line: Lucille Heinzen at 773-2317

SG Nursing Home/Assisted Living: Melissa Frost
773-3270

SG Caring Hearts & Hands: Melissa Frost
773-3270

SG Food Pantry: Faye Riesterer at 773-2422

HT Prayer Line: Complete card by suggestion box in back of church
or call the parish office.

Would you like to receive Communion at home?

St. Gregory parishioners please contact: Mary Olig 775-4756,
Gene Riesterer 773-2585, or the parish office 773-2511.

Holy Trinity parishioners please contact: Dennis and Karen Graf
693-8700 or the parish office 920-773-2380.

Divine Mercy Sunday (Ice Cream) “Sundaes”

Divine Mercy Sunday is always the Sunday after Easter, and was instituted by Pope John Paul II in the Jubilee year (2000) at the Mass for the canonization of St. Faustina. This day is also special because Pope John Paul II was beatified on May 1, 2011— Divine Mercy Sunday!

Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked her to have a painting made of this vision with the “Jesus I Trust in You”. Here is the image:



So we fashioned Divine Mercy ice cream Sundaes as a fun treat to celebrate this day!



The ice cream was made to mirror the Divine Mercy image: “The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls.” -St. Faustina’s diary.

How to Make a Divine Mercy Sundae:

Scoop ice cream into a bowl and create the rays with 2 long squirts of whipped cream. Embellish them with red and blue toppings of your choice (sprinkle the whipped cream with red and blue kool-aid powder, use strawberries and blueberries, make red and blue sugar, or buy red, white, and blue sprinkles. Don’t forget the cherry on top!

Source: <https://www.catholicicing.com/celebrate-divine-mercy-sunday/>

Pope’s Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you shine continuously along our journey
as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the Cross were near to the pain of Jesus,
keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need,
and we trust that you will provide for those needs so that,
as at Cana of Galilee, joy and celebration may return
after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us.
He who took up our sorrows to bring us,
through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do
not despise our pleas—we who are put to the test—and deliver us
from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

