
2nd Sunday of Easter

Divine Mercy Sunday

APRIL 11, 2021



Reading I: Acts 4: 32-35

We read a description of the “golden age” of the early Church in Apostolic times. It is an ideal community life in which members generously surrendered their goods and property based on their needs.

Reading II: I John 5: 1-6

This “letter” is really an exhortation to its readers to so live that their faith overcomes “the world.” God’s Son came to us “in water and blood.”

The Gospel: John 20: 19-31

After the report of St. Thomas’ initial doubt and its resolution, we learn the purpose of the Gospel: Having faith in Jesus as Messiah and Son of God, who is the source of eternal life.



5 p.m.: George Olsen, Charlie Quinn, Joseph Morano and Fr. George La Liberte

10 a.m.: Mary Catherine Stein, Richard Tolliver, Cesar Bernardo and Rosalina & Domingo Rodriguez

LAST WEEK’S MASS ATTENDANCE

7 p.m. Holy Thursday, April 1: **35** in the church

3 p.m. Good Friday, April 2: **37** in the church

9 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 4: **61** in the church/choir;
40 in the hall. Total: **101**

11 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 1: 73 in the church/choir;
14 in the hall. Total: **87**

TREASURER’S REPORT

March 28-April 4: Totaled \$ 4,488.76

Envelopes: \$ 2,333.00 – Online: \$ 2,155.76

Holy Week & Easter to date: **3,908.69**

THANK YOU!

NO DOUBT ABOUT THE SIGNS

During this prolonged worldwide bout with a virus whose name none of us will ever forget, there has been some welcome comic relief. I have enjoyed that which has been provided by signs. These delights were posted on social media. I learned of a small restaurant in Texas, El Arroyo, whose fame for good margaritas has been topped by its ever-changing outdoor signs. It has attracted worldwide attention because of worldwide exposure. One of my favorites displayed this past winter was: “My trash goes out more than I do.”

This led me to think about other signs. In St. John’s Gospel, signs play a major role because that is how Our Lord’s miracles are labeled. Beginning with the event at Cana, the author presents six other “signs.” You and I reading about them are ineluctably drawn to the only possible conclusion: Jesus is God. The Resurrection of Jesus is the greatest sign, leaving no doubt of that.

For a skeptic like the Apostle Thomas, who is after all, a saint in

heaven, he has been given that unfortunate nickname of



the Doubter. Admittedly, he does react with doubt to the breathless account of his brother Apostles about the risen Lord’s appearance among them. He sets conditions for his personal faith. A week later, there is great drama in the room when Jesus reappears and meets all of Thomas’ requirements.

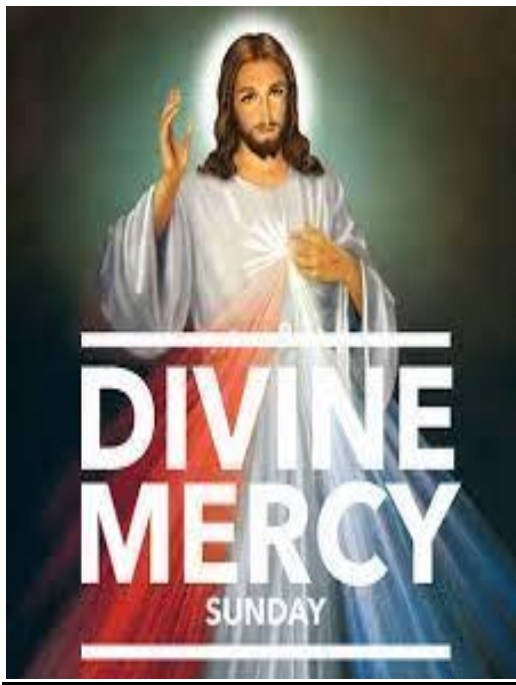
I have always imagined that scene this way. A stunned and tearful Thomas, embarrassed and feeling alone, instantly falls down on his knees before Jesus. In a burst of beautiful humility, makes that profound act of faith: “My Lord and my God.”

Especially helpful for us, who have doubts from time to time, is the response of Our Lord. He looks lovingly into Thomas’ eyes, as the poor man gets back up, and says those words that echo down the centuries with comfort and hope: “Blessed are those who have not seen Me but have believed.”

Dr. John Vannorsdall, former chaplain at Yale University, brought up a question about all this when He wrote in striking words: “If God raised Jesus from the dead, why didn’t God fix Him up? Why scars? Why the print of nails that you could feel with your fingers? Can it be that the Gospel is saying: ‘You will not see Jesus Christ unless you see the wounds?’ Somehow we must understand that the resurrected Christ is forever the wounded Christ. Living, but never fixed up.”

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, may our wounded God show you His mercy every day, and give you His peace.

- Rev. Leonard N. Peterson



THE DIVINE MERCY MESSAGE

The message of **The Divine Mercy** is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

A - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

B - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

This message and devotion to Jesus known as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

In the writings and homilies of St. Pope John Paul II, he has described Divine Mercy as the answer to the world's problems and the message of the third millennium. He beatified and canonized Sr. Maria Faustina Kowalska in Rome and not in Poland to underscore that Divine Mercy is for the whole world.

For more information, including forms of devotion, visit www.thedivinemercy.org

A CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

We are continuing to share resources for insight into the current issues of social justice from a Biblical/Church perspective. This week's reflection, apropos for the Easter season, is titled "The Sorrowful Mystery of Racism." It is one man's account of praying the rosary for an end to racism.

Go to www.stpaulsbullville.org. Click "more" under the Social Justice heading on the home page for one-click access to this and all the other articles.

IN THE LOOP



The next **Book Club** selection is "THIS IS THE FIRE: What I Say to My Friends About Racism," by Don Lemon. The author brings his experience as a reporter and a black man to today's urgent question: How can we end racism in America in our lifetime?

Chapter 1 will be discussed from 10-11:15 a.m. on **Tuesday, April 20**, on ZOOM, and the Book Club will meet on Tuesdays through May 18. The book may be purchased from Amazon or other book sellers as well as electronically. Please contact Deacon Carl by email (carlloc@yahoo.com) or the church office to join.



The Archdiocese of New York's **Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass** will take place at 2:30 p.m. **Sunday, June 6.**

At St. Paul's, we will also celebrate couples marking 25th and 50th anniversaries at our Masses the weekend of **May 29 and 30**. Let the office know if you've reached either milestone.



We're getting closer, but still about \$8,500 shy of our goal of \$43,000. As of April 7, \$34,694.74 has been received/pledged by 126 families. Prayerfully consider making a donation if you have not already done so. Thank you.



Beginning Experience of the Hudson Valley is a Catholic ministry recognized by the Archdiocese of New York's Office of Family Life. It is offering a one-day remote program on **Saturday, May 1**. "**Coping with Life Alone**" is open to men and women of all ages and faiths who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation. For information or to register, call Jim at 569-9452 or Denise at 325-3147.

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