

## PARISH NEWS

### Divine Mercy Sunday - today

Divine Mercy Sunday is a name for the second Sunday in the Easter season

For many centuries, the Second Sunday of Easter was nicknamed Low Sunday, in contrast to the High Sunday of Easter. Additionally, the newly baptized would wear their baptismal gowns during the eight days of the Easter Octave. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, the Second Sunday of Easter "was consequently known as *dominica in albis* (deponendis), the Sunday of the (laying aside of the) white garments."

However, in recent years this same Sunday has been given another celebration: Divine Mercy Sunday.

Renamed in the year 2000

In 2000, St. John Paul II canonized the Polish religious mystic Faustina Kowalska, and during his homily officially designated the Second Sunday of Easter "Divine Mercy Sunday."

John Paul II did this to endorse Faustina's private revelations as well as to put more emphasis on Divine Mercy in the 21st century. He explained during his homily, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified: 'My daughter, say that I am love and mercy personified,' Jesus will ask Sr. Faustina (Diary, p. 374). Christ pours out this mercy on humanity through the sending of the Spirit who, in the Trinity, is the Person-Love. And is not mercy love's 'second name' (cf. Dives in misericordia, n. 7), understood in its deepest and most tender aspect, in its ability to take upon itself the burden of any need and, especially, in its immense capacity for forgiveness? Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr. Faustina Kowalska to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time ... Jesus told Sr Faustina: 'Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy' (Diary, p. 132)."

The Polish pope then went on to proclaim, "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called 'Divine Mercy Sunday.'"

Jesus requested this "name change"

Jesus requested that this Second Sunday of Easter be named "Divine Mercy Sunday" in a vision to Saint Faustina that she wrote down in her Diary.

On one occasion, I heard these words: *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 flows are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. 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. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy.* (Diary 699)

Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to our neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to absolve yourself from it. (Diary 742)

Both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have affirmed this new tradition and the new feast has become an official part of the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar.

[https://aleteia.org/2021/04/11/what-is-divine-mercy-sunday/?utm\\_campaign=buffer&utm\\_content=buffer5e5f9&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook.com](https://aleteia.org/2021/04/11/what-is-divine-mercy-sunday/?utm_campaign=buffer&utm_content=buffer5e5f9&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com)

### REQUESTING FOR AN OLD/EXTRA 4G MOBILE PHONE

Our parish has been notified by Belong/Telstra that the parish phone with our parish official mobile number 0480458076 won't work anymore by 30 June 2024 as Telstra is retiring its 3G network. You might have an old 4G mobile phone that you are not using anymore. Please donate it for parish use. Thank you very much!

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**  
7 April 2024

What extraordinary graces are available on Divine Mercy Sunday?

Our Lord revealed to St. Faustina His desire to literally flood us with His graces on that day. He told her: On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. The soul that will go to Confession (beforehand) and receive Holy Communion (on that day) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (Diary 699).

**Our Lady of the Southern Cross Dunsborough Parish**

8.30am - Holy Mass  
2.00pm - Holy Hour / Confession  
3.00pm - Divine Mercy Chaplet (in chant)  
Pray over for healing  
Afternoon tea (please bring food to share)

All welcome!

# Our Lady of the SOUTHERN CROSS Parish

36 Naturaliste Terrace (PO Box 401), Dunsborough WA 6281  
website: [olotscparish.org.au](http://olotscparish.org.au)  
email: [olotscparish@gmail.com](mailto:olotscparish@gmail.com)  
08 9755 3944 0480 458 076

[www.facebook.com/dunsborough.parish.7](http://www.facebook.com/dunsborough.parish.7)  
Priest-in-charge: Fr. Roberto Archie R. Carampatan  
[roberto.carampatan@gmail.com](mailto:roberto.carampatan@gmail.com)

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7th APRIL 2024

### First Reading

Acts 4: 32-35

*The whole group was united, heart and soul.*

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect. None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

### Second Reading

1 John 5: 1-6

*Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.*

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is - keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world - our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness - since the Spirit is the truth.

### Gospel Reading

John 20: 19-31

*After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



Gospel Reflection

All the promises Jesus had made to his disciples - concerning his abiding presence, the gift of the Paraclete, forgiveness, peace and eternal life - find their fulfilment in today's gospel. This Johannine narrative is comprised of two resurrection appearances - one on Easter evening, the second a week later. Where the Lucan narrative presented the various moments of Jesus' saving work (resurrection, ascension, gift of Spirit) as separate entities, the fourth evangelist has coalesced these moments into one event. Therefore, in the Johannine account, Jesus is portrayed as risen, as bestowing the Spirit and mandating his apostles, all on the same day. John portrays the Risen Christ as empowering his disciples - "As the Father sent me, so am I sending you... Receive the Holy Spirit!" The Risen Christ's greeting of peace can also be connected with the command to go to heal and to forgive sins. Like the disciples, we are also empowered by the Risen Lord to bring peace, to heal and to forgive sins. Let us use this power to bring peace, to heal, and to forgive in our world that is in dire need of becoming whole again.

-Patricia Datchuck Sanchez/Fr. Archie



**NOTICE ON MASS PRIEST-PRESIDER:** Father Nathan Barrie, the Assistant Parish Priest of Busselton will be the priest-presider at the following Masses: 6 pm Vigil Mass, 13 April; 8:30 am Sunday Mass, 14 April; 6 pm Vigil Mass, 27 April. He will also be available for the scheduled Confession.

Please mark your calendar with the following regular liturgical and devotional celebrations:

- 1st Friday of each month** : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (3 May, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm)  
We will place a sign-up sheet in the Foyer on the 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> of April.  
Please sign up for the roster to spend One Hour of Your Time.
- 1st Tuesday of each month** : Healing Mass . All are welcome.
- Group Meditation** : Every Monday @ 2 pm
- Group Prayer Session** : Every Wednesday after the 9:30 am Mass
- Rosary** : Every Wednesday before the 9:30 am Mass
- 2nd Friday of each month** : Catholic Men Fellowship @ 9:30 am. All men are welcome.

A Special Promise of Mercy

Our Lord's promise to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment on the Feast of Mercy is recorded three times in the diary of St. Faustina, each time in a slightly different way:

- I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy. [Sunday after Easter Sunday]
- Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.
- The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins

Extraordinary Graces

Our Lord is also emphasising, through this promise, the infinite value of Confession and Communion as miracles of mercy. He wants us to realise that since the Eucharist is His own Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, it is "Fountain of Life" (Diary 300). The Eucharist is Jesus, Himself, the Living God, longing to pour Himself as Mercy into our hearts.

Why would Our Lord feel the need to emphasise this? Because so many people do not really understand it. They either see no need to receive Holy Communion, or they receive it simply out of habit. As St. Paul explains in his letter to the Corinthians, they eat the bread or drink the cup of the Lord unworthily, "without recognising the body of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).

**"My great delight is to unite Myself with souls... When I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, My hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul. But souls do not even pay attention to Me; they leave Me to Myself and busy themselves with other things. Oh, how sad I am that souls**



**FREE CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES INCLUDE:**  
 free pregnancy tests  
 emotional support: before, during and after pregnancy  
 material assistance: maternity clothing, baby clothing, baby items (nappies & toiletries, prams, cots etc.)  
 pre-natal and post-natal information  
 assistance with access to other resources/services

**PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE BUNBURY**  
 9792 4759  
 pregnant@westnet.com.au  
 151 Spencer Street, South Bunbury  
 Hours: 11am-5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays  
 or by appointment

OLOTSC Parish supports Pregnancy Assistance Bunbury. Please share the information above and donate any items for babies. God bless!

MASSES & DEVOTIONS (8 April - 14 April)

Monday	9:00 AM	Mass of the Day
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Mass of the Day
Wednesday	9:00 AM 9:30 AM	Rosary Mass of the Day
Thursday	9:00 AM	Mass of the Day
Friday	9:00 AM	Mass of the Day
Saturday	5:00 PM 6:00 PM	Confession Sunday Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30 AM	Mass

LITURGICAL ROSTER

	13th April	14th April
Greeter	Judy Malcolm	Alice Kursil
Commentator	Jenny Huembs	Fran La Motte
Reader	Amie Meyer	Joan Embry

**PARISH CONTACT NUMBERS**  
 OFFICE PHONE : 08 9755 3944  
 MOBILE / WHATSAPP : 0480 458 076

**WE OFFER PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR HEALING, THE REPOSE OF SOULS, AND OTHER INTENTIONS DURING ALL OF OUR MASSES.**

For healing:	Rest In Peace
Saba Rose Button	(+) Richard Patrick Leavy
Tracy Trew	(+) Mariafe Soto Galati
John Hogan	(+) Doris Ritter
Liz Grandison	(+) Emma Gair
Ayla Turpin	(+) Dennis Sully
Joy Keel	(+) Luke Hopkins
Morgan Peacock	(+) Buckley Spicer
George Wootton	(+) Zenaida Ramirez
Theresa Lawrence	(+) Thelma Moore
Eddie, Oscar & Milla Gair	(+) Gwenda Willcock
Ray, Rosemary & Karla Lovell	(+) Mark Krasenstein
Maureen Taylor	(+) Moira McMullen
Olga Soter	(+) Alan Button
Stuey Beacroft	(+) Desmond O'Connor
	(+) Anthony Egging
	(+) Thomas Henderson
	(+) Leda Battagliani

VOLUNTEER



Our Parish is keen to invite everyone to take part in our different Ministries. We are in need of:  
 \*Acolytes \*Altar Servers \*Safeguarding Officers \*Singers  
 \*Greeters \*Readers \*Commentators and \*Cleaners  
 Please sign up on the Roster provided in the foyer of the Church or ring the office on: 08 9755 3944 or 0480458076  
 Thank you for your help.

If you have any intentions to pray for at Mass, write them on the Intention Form at the foyer and give them to Fr Archie before Mass. Thank you!

CHURCH COLLECTIONS:  
 30-31 March 2024

First Collection:	\$2,535.25
Second Collection:	\$1,378.35
Planned Giving	\$ 35; \$10

If you wish to make a DONATION to our Parish, you may deposit it directly to our Parish Bank Account:  
 BSB: 086-006 ACC: 848054647