

Divine Mercy Sunday 2nd Sunday of Easter



“Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (Hebrews 11.1). This was the challenge Thomas faces: he did not believe the Apostles’ report that Jesus appeared to them on Easter evening. He demanded proof by putting his hands into Jesus’ wounds. However, Thomas was with them when Jesus next appeared among them, and Jesus invited Thomas to touch him to prove that he had physically risen from the dead. Thomas did not, instead simply professing his belief in “my Lord and my God.”

Still, Thomas needed to see Jesus before he believed, earning him the nickname “Doubting Thomas.” In contrast, Jesus commends those, like us, who believe without having seen the risen Jesus. The author then tells us that the purpose of the entire Gospel was so that we would believe Jesus is the Christ and “have life in his name.”

The other readings indicate two perspectives on what this should mean for us. In Acts, the believers form a community to share all aspects of their lives, while the letter of Peter celebrates our rebirth into new life of salvation.

We celebrate Jesus’ death and resurrection in every Eucharist. Each of us must decide whether we also live out its effects in our daily lives.

John L. McLaughlin; Toronto, ON

First Reading: Acts 2.42-47

Responsorial Psalm:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1.3-9

Gospel: John 20.19-31

Please continue to check our parish website and Facebook page for the latest information concerning our parish.

www.kolbe.ca

FR. PASTOR’S MESSAGE

On the first Sunday after Easter, the Catholic Church celebrates **Divine Mercy Sunday**, a feast day established by St. John Paul II. The cult of Divine Mercy is associated with the apparitions experienced by St. Faustina Kowalska, to whom Jesus appeared in 1935, recommending that she spread the message of God’s Mercy to the whole world. On August 17th, 2002, during a pilgrimage to Poland, John Paul II entrusted the whole world to God’s Mercy and blessed the Shrine in Kraków Łagiewniki.

There are millions of worshipers of God’s Mercy around the world. In April 1993, John Paul II beatified Sister Faustina Kowalska and announced her feast day; she was canonized on April 30th, 2000. “I am love and mercy alone,” said Jesus and asked Sister Faustina to spread this message to the whole world. The Lord Jesus pointed out to Sister Faustina five ways in which people can ask for salvation for themselves and the whole world: • praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet; • praying before the image of Merciful Jesus with the inscription *Jesus, I trust in You*; • praying at the hour of Christ’s death on the cross, called the Hour Of Mercy (3 p.m.); • celebrating the Feast of Mercy; • spreading the worship of God’s Mercy through prayer, word and action. **Today after the 11 o’clock Mass we will have the Divine Mercy Devotion. Please join us.**

Praying at Home Spiritual Communion

Currently, we are still not allowed to open our churches and celebrate Mass with the faithful. However, we encourage you to pray individually at home. The optimal solution would be to watch Mass live on TV or the Internet and receive Holy Communion spiritually. How is Spiritual Communion received? Spiritual communion consists of awakening in your heart an ardent desire to unite with Jesus; the grace received this way is the same as when we receive the Eucharist in the church.



Spiritual Adoption of a Conceived Child

The spiritual adoption of a conceived child could not take place as planned and in a traditional fashion; therefore, it will take place individually on **Sunday, April 26th after the morning Mass**. Please continue to pray for your spiritual child and officially take up solemn adoption next week.

What is Spiritual Adoption? It is a prayer for a conceived child. It lasts nine months and involves the daily recitation of one rosary mystery for the child and their parents. Spiritual adoption grew after the apparitions in Fatima in response Mary’s call for prayer of the rosary, penance, and atonement for the sins that hurt her Immaculate Heart the most.

Group Intentions Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
On Wednesdays we continue our Group Intention Mass and the Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Intentions can be submitted by phone during regular office hours. The faithful can participate in Mass through our parish website.

Lessons for First Communion Students
Children preparing for their First Holy Communion are invited to take part in virtual lessons. Go to kolbe.ca, YouTube Channel, Playlists, Religion Class for Kids.

All homework should be submitted to communionkolbe@gmail.com



MyParish App – our parish now has a mobile application. Install myParish App on your phone, select St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Mississauga, and stay up to date on all current events taking place at our parish. Important! In your phone settings remember to *Allow Notifications* in order to receive most up-to-date information, e.g. when public Mass will be celebrated again.

If you are an elderly person and can’t or shouldn’t leave the house, call the parish office and our parish youth will do your grocery shopping for you.

COVID-19 and Our Parish

The Government of Ontario has extended the state of emergency in our province by another 28 days. All current restrictions remain in place: churches, schools, shopping malls, and most stores are expected to be closed until mid-May. **Under these circumstances, and as was the case with Confirmation, First Holy Communion will certainly be postponed until after the end of the pandemic.** As of today, no one knows for certain when it will take place.

Reminders:

- The **church is closed** until further notice! The Government of Ontario makes it clear that churches as public meeting places must remain closed.
- **Priests continue to celebrate Mass** but without the physical presence and participation of the faithful. Cardinal Collins granted all faithful dispensation from attending church on Sunday and days of obligation. This means that we do not commit a grave sin if we don’t attend Sunday Mass.
- We encourage you to participate in Mass that is being broadcast live from our church. Starting this weekend, we return to our regular Mass schedule, with the exception of the weekend 7 p.m. Mass. Those intentions will be celebrated at a different time; appropriate individuals will be informed of the change by phone.
- There is currently **no confession**, except in the event of a serious illness. Confessions with the presence of many priests will take place once restrictions are lifted and all activities return to normal.
- The **parish office is closed** but you may call during regular office hours.
- **Sacraments** of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation, and Marriage, as well as Funeral Masses are postponed until the end of the epidemic.
- All **meetings** of religious formation groups and other group meetings in our parish are cancelled indefinitely.

Due to financial problems experienced by the Archdiocese of Toronto and our parish, Cardinal Collins decided to temporarily dismiss many employees in the Archdiocese of Toronto and in local parishes. Some of our parish employees have lost their jobs temporarily and our priests’ salaries were significantly reduced. That is why we ask all parishioners to continue supporting their parish by making Sunday Offering, despite the churches being closed. The parish must function despite the crisis and continue to pay expenses on regular basis. Sunday collection can be placed in a secure box found by the parish office door. Donations can also be made online at www.kolbe.ca by clicking on Donate Now and choosing St. Maximilian Kolbe Church from the list of parishes.

THANK YOU for your understanding and support. May God Bless you.



Living the Gospel through immediate mental health services

Mental health problems can escalate if not addressed quickly. That’s why the five Catholic Family Services agencies in the Archdiocese of Toronto offer walk-in counselling. This initiative can often meet clients’ needs without requiring longer term sessions. Clients report a clinically significant increase in confidence that they can tackle their problems. For some agencies, ShareLife is the sole funder of this important program. Thanks to your support, no one is ever turned away due to inability to pay.

May 3 is ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, April 20th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Helena Grochot (anniv.) – husband and children
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Szczepan Bryk – Teresa
- ✠ Jan & Anna Skobel – daughter

TUESDAY, April 21st

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Irena Brzozowski-Bednarczyk – husband and son
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Barbara Wawrusiak – nieces Josie and Mary and family
- For God’s blessing and Mary’s protection for Jessica on her 24th birthday – grandparents

WEDNESDAY, April 22nd

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Jozefa and Emilia – daughter and sister
- ✠ Janina & Boleslaw Walaszek – family
- 19⁰⁰ *Group Intentions*

THURSDAY, April 23rd

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Aleksander Buczek (anniv.) – daughters
- 19⁰⁰ ○ For God’s blessing for Maria, Tomasz, Antoni – sister with husband
- ✠ Members of Szajna, Kuzian and Grabowski families – Barbara with family

FRIDAY, April 24th

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For God’s blessing for Wanda & Leszek on their 44th wedding anniversary
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Zofia Rogala (5th anniv.) – children
- ✠ Jan & Wiktoria Wytrwal – daughter with family

SATURDAY, April 25th St. Mark, Evangelist

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Parents Antonina & Boleslaw Kocemba and sister-in-law Zenobia Kocemba
- For God’s continued blessing for the Mis family
- ✠ Boleslaw Kaczmarek, parents on both sides, siblings, and souls in purgatory – Zofia Kaczmarek
- ✠ Aleksander Czerepak (3rd anniv.) and Aniela Czuba – wife, daughter and children with families

SUNDAY, April 26th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Wladyslaw, Miroslaw, and deceased family members – Barszcz family
- 9³⁰ ✠ Jozef & Maria Bajon – son and family
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries
- 13⁰⁰ ○ Special intention for Ewa & Jakub on their 23rd wedding anniversary
- 14³⁰ ✠ Leszek Piatkowski (12th anniv.) – wife with children

