

Christ is Risen!

DIVINE MERCY Sunday

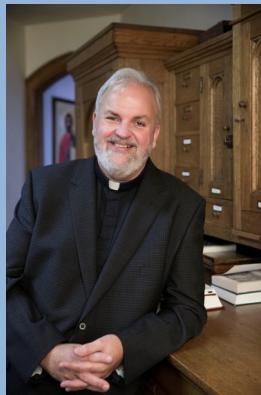
Jesus I trust in you!



A Reflection on Divine Mercy

This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of my tender mercies.

(St. Faustina, Diary #420)



Miserando atque eligendo: “God’s merciful choice,” these words, chosen by Pope Francis as his motto. On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we must ask the question: “What is Mercy?” We should begin by noting that there are two kinds of mercy:

Mercy is one of those concepts that seem pretty abstract. We hear in homilies that God is merciful and that we must show mercy to others.

The Latin word for mercy, which is misericordia, derived from the two words **Miserere**: “misery” and cor “heart.” When we ask for God’s mercy, we are essentially asking him to relieve us of a heart that is in misery. And our hearts can be in a state of misery for a lot of reasons; anxiety, stress, losing a loved one, struggling with life, etc.

God’s Mercy Seeks Us

God’s mercy is not dependent upon our ability to prove our worthiness. In other words, one does not have to prove that we are worthy to be with God.

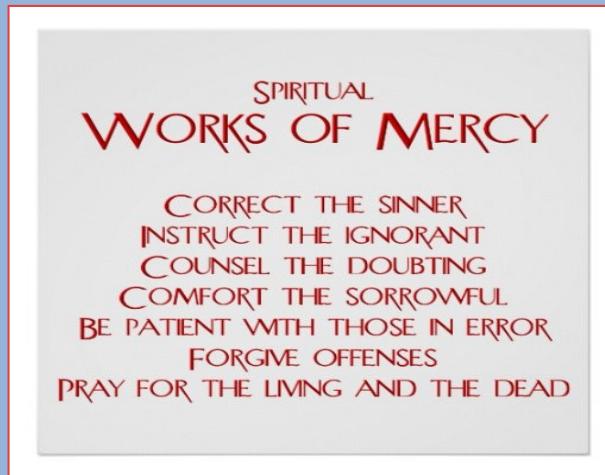
The Gospels remind us over and over of this fact. Jesus repeatedly spends time with the outcast of society: the sinner, the leper, the tax collectors. For example in Luke 7:36-50, a sinful woman comes to Jesus, bathing his feet with her tears and anoints them with ointment. Seeing this, a Pharisee doubts that Jesus really is Lord for, if he were, then he would not let the sinful woman touch him. Likewise, in Mark 2:13-17, Jesus eats with sinners and tax collectors, provoking the Pharisees to ask the disciples: “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

Christ has no need to stay aloof and preach from on high of the Father’s mercy. Instead, time and again in the Gospels, he goes to the sinner, to the places they frequent and to their homes. For example, in Luke 1:10, Jesus tells Zacchaeus that he must stay in his house. Because of Jesus’

willingness to literally dwell with Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector, Zacchaeus experiences a conversion of heart and ultimately, his salvation. Indeed, time and again, Jesus seeks out the people deemed “unworthy” by society, for he wishes to show his God’s power through their weakness.

We Can be an Instrument of Mercy

Not only does God want us to experience His Mercy, He wants us to be instruments of mercy and forgiveness. Now when I think about mercy as “relieving someone from a heart of misery,” The Lord has given us all so many ways in which we can be God’s instrument of mercy to others. One aspect of this is revealed in the Church’s teaching on the Spiritual works of Mercy.



Mercy is not abstract. It requires action and giving of self. In all of these situations in which we are to help our brothers and sisters who are suffering (physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally), we’re “relieving a heart of misery,” and participating in the mercy of God. God wants to heal not just our soul, but our minds and bodies as well. So many are looking for God’s mercy.

“Jesus Christ is divine mercy in person”

You and I are messengers of mercy and love – we can share that with anyone. We don’t need a theologian’s education to share the love of God, just a desire for souls and a sensitive and loving heart and a willingness to do what is right.

“How many people in our time are in search of God, in search of Jesus and of his Church, in search of divine mercy, and are waiting for a sign that will touch their minds and their hearts!”

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Pope Benedict encourages us to be that sign. “May this be your commitment, to be a sign of mercy, first of all in your families and then in every neighborhood milieu.” This Mercy Sunday is a good day to start.

God bless,
Fr. Dennis



Divine Mercy Sunday Service

Brian Flynn will be posting a Service
Sunday, April 19th from 3-4 pm.
To access, please visit our Parish Facebook page.

How to say the Chaplet of Divine Mercy



1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and The Apostles Creed.

2. Then on the Our Father Beads say the following:
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.

3. On the 10 Hail Mary Beads say the following:
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (Repeat step 2 and 3 for all five decades).

4. Conclude with:
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (three times)

5. And then:
O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You

Optional Concluding Prayer

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.

 BASILICA.RO

St John Chrysostom's FASTING RECIPE

-  *Let the hands fast*
BY BEING FREE OF AVARICE
-  *Let the feet fast*
BY CEASING TO RUN AFTER SIN
-  *Let the eyes fast*
BY DISCIPLINING THEM NOT TO GLARE AT THAT WHICH IS SINFUL
-  *Let the ear fast*
BY NOT LISTENING TO EVIL TALK AND GOSSIP
-  *Let the mouth fast*
FROM FOUL WORDS AND UNJUST CRITICISM

In a recent homily I mentioned that prayer, fasting and almsgiving are not just for the Lenten season. They are part of the discipline of everyday Christian life. Above is a reflection from St. John Chrysostom who lived in the 4th century. This is a good examination for us all.

Principal of Most Holy Trinity School
Anne Hufnagel—AnneH@mhtparish.com

By connecting our Catholic faith to life, we at Most Holy Trinity School seek to fulfill Christ's mandate to proclaim the Gospel, restore all things in Him, strive to lead our students to the Truth for the betterment of this world and prepare them for the age to come.

Upcoming Events: The school building is closed and there will be no physically face-to-face classes through the remaining days of this school year. Distance learning is now in full swing. Links to daily Morning Prayer at 8:30 a.m. are being sent via email and then the recordings will be posted on our website.

Distance Learning: Here we go! Please be sure to contact me if I can help you transition to this distance learning format. I want to help in any way I can.

Next School Year: I want to assure all current and potential students that we will be advancing students into the next grade level next year. Our plan for next year will most definitely include assessing students to create a plan for filling in any gaps of learning that have occurred due to less direct instruction this year. This includes students coming into 1st grade.

School Registration: We currently have open registration for the 2020/21 school year. Students do not need to be Catholic in order to attend MHT School. To register students in grades 1 – 8, go to the following link (<https://forms.gle/icuhVpXKksULSngn9>) or use the QR code below. If you are interested in learning more about the school, please don't hesitate to contact the principal, Anne Hufnagel at 989-593-2616 or principal@mhtparish.com. You can also visit the school website to learn more about us and to register: www.mhtparish.com and go to the school page.



Serenity Prayer: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference." - Reinhold Niebuhr



MHT Scrip Schedule

Due to the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" mandate, no Scrip orders will be processed until the lockdown order is lifted.

Thank You & God Bless!

Director of Religious Education
Paul Fahey—mhtdre@gmail.com—593-3174



Religious Education Registration 2020/2021

Registration is open for next year's Religious Education classes for grades 1-12.

Please visit www.mhtparish.com/religious-education and click "2020/2021 Registration Form."

There is an early registration discount of \$20 if you register before May 31, 2020.

Director of Music Ministry
Kayla Feldpausch - kayla.mhtmusic@gmail.com

Choir

Children's Choir - Canceled through the remainder of the school year.

Adult Choir - Canceled through April 26. Stay tuned for further updates.



THANK YOU!

The MHT Educational Trust Fund would like to thank everyone who donated to the Trust fund in memory of **Marie Weber & Mary Catherine Fedewa**. Your generous donations make it possible for future generations of children, young people and adults to benefit from a Catholic Education here at Most Holy Trinity School, the Religious Educations Program, Youth Ministry, and Adult Education for numerous years to come.

Convenient Ways to Contribute to the Most Holy Trinity Educational Trust Fund

You can make a substantial contribution to your favorite Catholic charity, at no additional cost to you. When looking for life insurance to protect your family, you may consider purchasing a policy that provides an additional 5% death benefit contribution to a Catholic charity, at no additional cost. Some life insurance policies offer this benefit.

Example: You purchase a life insurance policy with a \$100,000 death benefit (spouse is named beneficiary) which includes a Fraternal Legacy Rider (FLR) at no additional premium (MHT Educational Trust Fund is named as the FLR beneficiary). Upon your death, it will pay a \$100,000 death benefit to your spouse and an additional 5% benefit to the Catholic charities you designated. In this case MHT Educational Trust Fund would receive \$5,000.

It's a great way to make a donation to a Catholic charity at no additional cost to you. Check with your insurance agent to see if they offer this benefit. (Example is based on "Catholic Order of Forester" life insurance information.)

Prayer Requests/Intentions

Please contact the Parish Office (593-2162) or Susie Koenigsknecht (593-2490), if you have any prayer requests/intentions. Your prayer intentions can be for yourself or others (or both!) & they can range from being anonymous & general or specific in nature. Whatever the case, we would love to pray for you!

Also, if you feel you are being called to participate in our prayer ministry or have questions, please contact Susie!
Thank you & God Bless!

Sponsor of the Week

Our thanks to the many businesses that make it possible for the bulletin to be cost-free to our parish.

ANDY T's FARMS



Daily Rosary at 10am

All are welcome to join us every morning at 10am (at your homes) for a rosary and divine mercy chaplet. Our intention is for the end of the Coronavirus, for all those people on the front lines especially our doctors, nurses, medical professionals, policemen, firemen, etc. We are also praying for those in need of God's mercy and those who have no one to pray for them.

Father, we pray that Jesus be present to all people who need His healing, loving touch because of COVID-19. May those affected feel His power of healing through the care of doctors & nurses. Lord, we ask that you take away any fear, anxiety, or feelings of isolation from those under quarantine. We ask they are given a sense of purpose in pursuing health & protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect all of our families & friends & please bring peace to our MHT parish community. Amen.

Please pray for our friends and relatives who are sick or recovering, especially: Ardith Graham, Regina Martin, Sean Dush, Charlene Thelen, Davison Curtin, Luke Martin, Sara Sanchez, Melissa Schulte, Marie Hengesbach, Edward Wohlscheid, Linda Rogala, Sarah Weber, Julie Wieber Schafer, Bill Barns, Bob Marshall, Dennis Smith, Sandy Herta, Dick Rehmann, Janet Simmon, Scott Kus, Steve Thelen, Tracy Schmitt, Frank Hufnagel, Jenine Kloeckner, Jennifer Ledger, Josiah Ledger, Jordy Wohlscheid, Jennifer Grace Schrauben, Janet Simon, Dale Young, Richard Bushamp, Therese Kramer, Christopher Martin, Theresa Heeg, Jeff Wadell, Charles Wadell, Chuck Welch, Jeanne Alaga, Milo Platte, Timothy D. Thelen, Marilyn Dixon, Carolee Smith, Charles Miller, Father Den Morrow, Gary Schueller, Ray Hamilton, Ralph Feldpausch, Dane VanElls, Elaine Kramer, Brian Ritter, David & Judy Maniez, Tricia Beauchamp, Joe & Viola Minarik, Charlie Halfmann, and a private intention.

Please contact the office to add or remove a name from the list. Thank you.

Let us also keep in our prayers all those from the Parish Community who are in the Armed Services.

Returns for Vocations Reminder

Most Holy Trinity Parish is blessed to have so many of our young people pursuing religious vocations and we are always looking for ways to continue to show our support for them. If anyone wishes to donate returnable's at any time they can be dropped off at the Koenigsknecht Farm or we will arrange to pick them up. Please call Kurt Koenigsknecht (224-4058) or Agnes Koenigsknecht (593-2614) to arrange for pickup.



**Happy 60th Anniversary,
Clare & Eunice Pung!**

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK



Fr Dennis will celebrate weekend & weekday Masses privately & will still offer the intentions for these Masses.

Monday - April 20

9:00am + Annie Koenigsknecht, Including Alfred, Jim, Larry & Tia

Tuesday - April 21

9:00am + Howard, Eleanor & Marge Pung

Wednesday - April 22

9:00am + Richard Jandernoa & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Thursday - April 23

9:00am + Bob & Agnes Thurston, Including Bill & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Friday - April 24

9:00am + Joanne VanHeck & Living & Deceased Members of the Family

Saturday - April 25

4:30pm People of the Parish

Sunday - April 26

8:30am Joe & Toni Hafner, Including Joanne
10:30am + Vernon, Raymond & Roy Pung

Scripture Readings for the Week of April 19, 2020

Monday	Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday	Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday	Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday	Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday	Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Our Parish Stewardship God's Treasure at Most Holy Trinity

April 11th & 12th Collection \$17,404.16

Special Collections

Easter Offering.....	\$ 260.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 95.00
Newspapers.....	\$ 25.00
Cemetery Care.....	\$ 220.00
Holyland Collection.....	\$ 220.00

Monthly Finance Report for March

Sunday Collection- All Sources	\$65,433.06
Sunday Collection- Year to Date.....	\$517,780.78
Sunday Collections- FY 19 Budget.....	\$675,000.00
Percentage Collected Through March.....	76.7%

Pastor - Fr. Dennis Howard
fr.dennis@hotmail.com

Office Hours - 8am-noon, 1-3pm
Parish Office - 593-2162

Email: office@mhtparish.com

MHT School - 593-2616
Email: school@mhtparish.com