Divine Mercy Sunday April 27, 2025 Immaculate Conception 306-834-2269

Pastor
Parish Council Chairperson

Father Charles Nweze Gordon Stang

CWL President

Aimée Stang

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|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Date | Reader | Offertory |
| May 4, (Sun.) 9 am | Darren | L. Whittleton |
| May 11, (Sun.) 9 am | Blanche | G. Wiebe |
| May 18, (Sun.) 11:30 am | Confirmands | |
| May 25, (Sun.) 9 am | Vicki | J. Zimmer |
| June 1, (Sun.) 9 am | Ray | J & M Baier |

Needs of the Church in the Holy Land: \$300 REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

John the evangelist describes a community of disciples gripped by fear instead of faith. But Jesus fulfills the promise he made before his death: his appearing through the locked doors confirms that the Holy Spirit will enable Jesus to continue to be present to the fledgling early community of faith, to guide them and to encourage them. Thomas' doubt does not alienate him from the rest, but rather Jesus offers Thomas what he needs to believe.

- 1. What role does doubt play in your experience of faith?
- 2. How do you know that you are gripped more by fear than by faith?
- 3. How does the risen Jesus reveal himself to you in the ordinariness of life?

PRIESTS' PENSION AND RETIREMENT FUND APPEAL

April 26-27, marks the beginning of the annual Priests' Pension and Retirement Fund Appeal across our diocese. Throughout our lives, our priests have been there during the most sacred and significant moments — baptizing children, celebrating weddings, guiding through times of loss, and nourishing faith through the sacraments and their dedicated service. Even in retirement, many continue to offer pastoral care, celebrate Mass, and support our parishes in countless ways. This appeal is an opportunity to show appreciation for all they've done and continue to do — by helping ensure their retirement years are lived with dignity, comfort, and care. Watch for a letter in the mail or an e-mail message from the Diocese of Saskatoon Catholic Foundation with details or see the Foundation newsletter, posted online at: https://dscf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/2025-PPR-PACKAGE-.pdf or give online at: Every gift, no matter what the size, helps. Thank you for your generosity.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

"Jesus I Trust in You" – Divine Mercy Sunday is marked on the Second Sunday of Easter each year, as established by Saint John Paul II in the year 2000. The Divine Mercy devotion is centred on the mercy of God and our trust in Jesus Christ, growing out of the revelations and writings of a Polish nun, Saint Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938). A diocesan Divine Mercy prayer service will be held 3 p.m. Sunday, April 27 at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Rd, Saskatoon, with special prayers, hymns and reflections, including the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (please note that is not a Mass.) There will also be a Divine Mercy service at St. Augustine Parish in Humboldt, starting at 2:45 p.m. Sunday, April 27 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 809 10 St, Humboldt, SK. The Divine Mercy devotion is centred on the mercy of God and our trust in Jesus Christ, growing out of the revelations and writings of a Polish nun, Saint Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938).

FEDERAL ELECTION APRIL 28, 2025

The non-profit non-partisan organization Catholic Conscience has posted an updated party platform comparison showing party positions alongside Catholic Social Teaching. This includes Church teaching on: the Sanctity of Human Life; the Stewardship of Creation; Family, Community and the Common Good; an Economy at the Service of All People; Solidarity; and Good Government (Democracy, Justice and Peace). Find the Catholic Conscience resources at:

https://catholicconscience.org/canada/federal/2025federal/. The Catholic Conscience platform comparison and a letter from Bishop Mark Hagemoen about the federal election are also posted on the diocesan website at: https://rcdos.ca/election/

MESSAGES ABOUT THE DEATH OF POPE FRANCIS

There is a letter about the death of our beloved Pope Francis posted in to the church. One is from Bishop Mark Hagemoen. Please help yourself to a copy of this letter. There is also a prayer card available, please help yourself. More can be printed if needed.

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

With sorrowful hearts, we remember our Holy Father, Pope Francis. We thank You for the gift of his life and his faithful service—for the way he spoke of Your mercy, lived it with humility, and called the world to do the same.

He showed us how to care for those on the margins, and how to lead with compassion and courage. Now, Lord, welcome him into the light of Your presence, and grant him rest in Your eternal mercy.

As we grieve his passing, strengthen us to carry forward the example he set.

May we, too, be instruments of Your mercy—open to others, rooted in love, and faithful in our witness.

Guide Your Church in the days to come, and help us to walk always in the light of Christ, in whose name we pray.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace." AMEN

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Thomas, was indignant. He did not rejoice. So, he was imperfect, in need of mercy (as are we, O Lord). You love us in our struggles. Please, breathe your life into our flawed selves. Let us find your grace and mercy as we touch the wounds of your children everywhere. AMEN

HOW A NEW POPE IS ELECTED (FROM CATHOLICONLINE.NEWS.COM)

After the nine days of mourning which follow the death of the Bishop of Rome, the faithful are invited to pray for the election of a new pope.

When a pope passes away or resigns, the Catholic Church follows a sacred process to choose his successor. This process is called a **papal conclave**, and it has been used for centuries to ensure that the next pope is chosen through prayer and guidance from the Holy Spirit.

When Does the Process Begin?

After a pope passes away, there is a **nine-day mourning period** called **novendiales**, during which the Church prays for his soul. However, preparations for the conclave begin almost immediately. If the pope resigned instead of passing away (as Pope Benedict XVI did in 2013), the process starts soon after his resignation takes effect.

The conclave must begin **between 15 and 20 days** after the pope's passing or resignation. This allows time for all the cardinals to travel to Vatican City.

Who Chooses the Next Pope?

The new pope is chosen by the **College of Cardinals**—a group of senior bishops from around the world. Only cardinals under the age of 80 are eligible to vote, and they gather in **St. Peter's Basilica** before proceeding to the **Pauline Chapel**, where they sing *Veni Creator Spiritus* (Come, Creator Spirit), asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Finally, they enter the **Sistine Chapel**, where the voting takes place under Michelangelo's famous ceiling.

There are usually **around 115 voting cardinals** from different parts of the world, including Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia. (To be continued next week.)