

Palm Sunday  
April 14, 2019



SAINTS CYRIL AND  
METHODIUS PARISH

FARNOST' SVÄTÝCH  
CYRILA A METODA



A Personal Parish Established To Serve The Slovak Catholic Community In The Archdiocese Of Detroit



## PALM SUNDAY

As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. - Lk 19:36, 37b

**April 13, Saturday – Sobota**

- 9:00AM VP For the Intentions of the Members of the O. L. Mother of Mercy Secular Discalced Carmelites  
 ❖ For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
 ❖ For Celisa Rolling (B'Day)  
 ❖ For Sylvester Wilkins (3rd B'Day)  
 ❖ For the Menard & Daniel Families
- 4:00PM JN For Annette Rudzewicz (B'Day)  
 ❖ For Gerald "Duane" Pilarowski req. Ken & Mary Ann  
 ❖ For Harry Leon Johnson Jr. req. Jaczkowski Family  
 ❖ †Sean & Julie Dyer req. Jaczkowski Family  
 ❖ †Edwin & Lilac Armstrong req. Jaczkowski Family  
 ❖ †Charles & Theresa MacDonald req. Family

**April 14, Palm Sunday – Nedela**

Lk 19:28-40 (37); Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56 (38)

- 7:30AM JN For President Trump & the U.S.A  
 ❖ For Mark Varchetti  
 ❖ †Germaine Evely  
 ❖ †Matthew Burke req. Mother  
 ❖ †Josephine Davis  
 ❖ †Sharon Saxman
- 9:30AM ML For Dr. James & Margaret Miller & Family  
 ❖ For the Sutherland Family req. Hasenauer Family  
 ❖ For the Members of the "2 in 1 Marriage Group"  
 ❖ For the Denzin Family  
 ❖ †Josef Mendel  
 ❖ †Eleanor Jurewicz req. John & Elizabeth Curell
- 11:30AM VK (Slovak) For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 1:30PM LM In Thanksgiving req. Cindy Zitny  
 ❖ For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
 ❖ For the Priests of St. Cyril's  
 ❖ For Katelyn Schaefer req. Sharon Brown  
 ❖ For R. Michael Guarnieri  
 ❖ For Gary & Annette Rudzewicz
- 6:00PM PC \*Latin-Tridentine (Missa Cantata):  
 †Joe Basirico
- 8:30PM PC For Monir & Alia Korkis & Family  
 ❖ For Abraham, Fictoria & Fam.  
 ❖ For John Mangano  
 ❖ †Gentian Marku  
 ❖ †Paul & Geri Buss  
 ❖ †Zygmunt Linowski

**April 15, Monday – Pondelok**

- 6:00AM VK For Fr. Juraj Nuota (B'Day)
- 9:00AM LM For Fr. Juraj Nuota (B'Day)  
 ❖ For Angelina Dedvukaj  
 ❖ For Glen & Amy Varchetti & Family  
 ❖ For Abraham, Fictoria & Family  
 ❖ For Prisoners
- 12:00PM JN,d Fr. Juraj Nuota (B'Day)  
 ❖ For Stephanie Timinsky (B'Day)  
 ❖ For Janet & †Danny Sullivan  
 ❖ †Stefania Bak

**April 14, 2019 - Palm Sunday**

Jesus Christ, The High Priest

Fr. Libor Marek, Pastor • Imarek@saintcyrils.org  
 Fr. Juraj Nuota, Associate Pastor • jnuota@saintcyrils.org  
 Fr. Paul Czarnota, Priest in Residence • fr.czar@me.com  
 Deacon Phil McCown • wadephil@yahoo.com  
 Deacon Gerald Smigell • vgsigell@gmail.com  
 Parish Office • parishoffice@saintcyrils.org

**April 16, Tuesday – Utorok**

- 6:00AM JN For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
 ❖ For Emma Timmerman (B'Day)  
 ❖ For Richard & Esther Baginski (Wed. Ann.)  
 ❖ †Gladys Langlois req. Langlois Family
- 9:00AM LM †Slewa & Amera Meyou
- 12:00PM VK †Donald & Marie Obriecht

**April 17, Wednesday - Streda**

- 6:00AM PC †Fernando Hernandez Sr.
- 8:30AM \*Stations of the Cross\*
- 9:00AM VK (Latin) For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
 ❖ For the Sarmad, Samir & Rana  
 ❖ For the Makarewicz Family ❖ †Sue Scarchilli
- 12:00PM JN For Priests, Religious, Deacons, & Seminarians  
 ❖ For David Joseph Lilli ❖ †Jim Kessler (Ann.)  
 ❖ †Janet Miller req. Family

**April 18, Holy Thursday - Zelený Štvrtok**

\*\*\* NO CONFESSIONS TODAY \*\*\*

- 7:00PM For the Intentions of All Parishioners

**April 19, Good Friday - Velký Piatok**

\*\*\* NO CONFESSIONS TODAY \*\*\*

- NOON Stations of the Cross  
 12:30 PM Liturgy of Good Friday  
 2:30 PM Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy

**April 20, Holy Saturday - Biela Sobota**

\*\*\* NO CONFESSIONS TODAY \*\*\*

Blessing of Easter Baskets:

10:00AM, 11:00AM, 12:00PM

Easter Vigil Mass:

- 7:00PM Easter Vigil Mass: For the Intentions of All Parishioners

Blessing of Easter Baskets:

After Easter Vigil Holy Mass

**April 21, Easter Sunday - Velkonočná Nedela**

\*\*\* NO CONFESSIONS TODAY \*\*\*

ACTS 10:34A, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or Cor 5:6b-8

Jn 20:1-9 (42) or Mk 16:1-7 (41)

- 7:30AM VK For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 9:30AM LM For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 11:30AM JN (Slovak) For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 1:30PM ML For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 6:00PM PC \*Latin-Tridentine (Missa Cantata):  
 For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 8:30PM PC For the Intentions of All Parishioners

**Mass Celebrant Legend:**

Fr. Libor Marek – LM, Fr. Juraj Nuota – JN  
 Fr. Paul Czarnota – PC, Fr. Michael Lenz, OFM  
 Fr. Cyril Whitaker – CW, Fr. Viktor Kuciak – VK  
 Visiting Priest – VP, Deacon Preaching – d



**Easter Week:**  
**Monday, April 22:**  
**OFFICE CLOSED**

**Tuesday—Friday:**

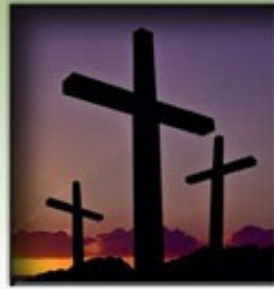
**10:00AM — 5:30PM**

**(closed from 12:00PM—12:45PM)**

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEB-SITE:**

**www.saintcyrils.church**

# Holy Week Schedule



## **BIG EASTER CONFESSION DAY:**

**Monday, April 15:**

**10:00AM—NOON & 6:00PM—9:00PM**

**NO Confessions will be heard on:**

**Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday, Easter Monday or Easter Tuesday**

## **HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Holy Thursday, April 18:**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00PM**

**Good Friday, April 19:**

**Stations of the Cross at Noon**

**Liturgy of Good Friday at 12:30PM**

**Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 2:30PM**

**Holy Saturday, April 20:**

**Adoration in the Chapel from 8:30AM—5:00PM**

**Blessing of Easter Baskets: 10AM, 11AM, NOON, After 7:00PM Easter Vigil**

**Easter Vigil Mass at 7:00PM**

**Easter Sunday, April 21:**

**Holy Masses: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM (in Slovak), 1:30PM, 6:00PM (Latin Tridentine) & 8:30PM**

## **THIS Monday, APRIL 15 – EASTER BIG CONFESSION DAY & BLOOD DRIVE**



**CONFESSIONS**  
**THIS Monday, April 15**  
**10:00AM—Noon &**  
**6:00PM—9:00PM**

**NO Confessions will be heard on:**

**Holy Thursday, Good Friday,  
Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday,  
Easter Monday or Easter Tuesday**

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
**THIS Monday, April 15**  
**Walk-Ins Welcome!**



**Walk-Ins Welcome!**  
**Father Mikus Hall**  
**1:00PM — 6:45PM**

## **MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE**

**Beginning the Saturday after Easter, April 27,  
the Saturday evening Holy Mass  
will begin at 5:30PM.**

**If you would like to be an Usher or Lector  
at the Saturday evening, 5:30PM, Holy Mass,  
please contact Frank Moran, (586) 254-6534 or  
the Parish Office, (586) 726-6911**

### **Life Teen High School Youth Group • Monday, April 15**

*"Fully Awake – A Life Night on Relational Ministry and Community*  
7:00PM - 8:45PM • Fr. Mikus Hall

Join us next week on Monday, April 22, for a Night on Sainthood.

Questions: Alexandria Lewis, Youth Minister

(586) 641-7672 or lifeteencyril912@gmail.com or (586) 641-7672

### **Y Disciple Small Groups for High School Teens**

Is your teen ready to go deeper? Consider starting a Y Disciple small group. For more information, contact:

Monica Majcher at smallgroupcyril@gmail.com

We are also looking for more small group mentors – Catholic adults age 21 and up who commit to walking with teens on their faith journey.

### **EDGE Middle School Ministry • Thursday, April 11**

EDGE is OFF this week in observance of Holy Thursday and the Easter Triduum.

Registration for the 2019-2020 year will be held in April and May. Current 5th graders are encouraged to register for next fall.

Questions: Alexandria Lewis, Youth Minister

(586) 641-7672 or edgecyril678@gmail.com

### **Church Cleaning Day • April 16**

Help is needed to make "our" church beautiful for Easter Sunday next weekend. If you are available to help clean the church on Tuesday, April 16, after the 12:00PM Holy Mass, please feel free to come to the church at 1:00PM on Tuesday. If you have any questions, contact the Parish Office, (586) 726-6911. Thank you!

### **VBS Summer 2019**

The dates for VBS are June 24-28. This year's theme is "Marvelous Mystery: The Mass Comes Alive." Registration will begin in April. Planning meetings will be on April 30, May 10, 17, 22, 29 and June 5, 12 & 19. All meetings will begin at 7:00PM and run until 9:00PM. To register:

<https://form.jotform.com/sscyrilVBS/vbs-registration>

Questions, volunteers and concerns please contact:

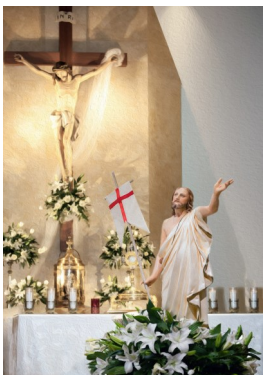
Moe Jones, (586) 219-6678 or moeprays@gmail.com

### **Easter Novena Mass Cards**

Our Easter Novena will begin on Easter Monday, April 22. Novena Mass Cards are for living or deceased relatives and friends and are available in English and in Slovak for \$10 each.

Available after Masses on weekends or in the Parish Office on weekdays from 10AM—5PM.

*The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the most precious gift anyone can receive!*



## **Unplanned Movie Reviews**

After working in the pro-life movement for over 16 years, there is much I have read about and learned about in regards to what abortion is – surgical and chemical, what it does to the child in the womb, what it does to the mother, what Planned Parenthood does behind closed doors and out in the open (like at schools, beginning in elementary starting with kindergarten). I know that in the end once the Truth breaks through the lies and deception and corruption, there is hope and forgiveness and healing for those who choose an abortion and/or are forced to abort and for those who work in the abortion industry. Even though I knew these things, to actually see this movie - a real true story that is not sugar coated in any way shape or form to make it more palatable to view – I have to admit it was hard to watch on the big screen at times (the abortions and the complication of abortion on one young lady are accurately portrayed), but everything was so real! It was so powerful! So well-acted, in fact I felt like I was right there with Abby (actress Ashley Bratcher)! I would definitely recommend that all people of Faith go see this movie and take others with you! I do encourage parents to take their teens to see this movie! Everyone needs to know what this evil really is and what it looks like and be convicted to their core that it has to stop. As Abby has stated, we need to "make abortion unthinkable." There are two Life-giving choices...parenting and adoption. That's the real help that women need in unplanned pregnancies. Lynn Gura, Parishioner, and Youth Director at RTL – LIFESPAN, Generation Truth Youth Outreach

*We thought it was well done. Gayle (who was with us) called her siblings (after) and wants to take them all to (to see it) and even pay for it! It was well worth it! I thought I might have to walk out but I didn't. I get easily upset when I watch disturbing movies. It helped me understand how you don't have to be a bad person to get into working at a clinic. Abby had good intentions until she actually saw the procedure. I would like all our kids to see it. Donna*

*I saw Unplanned last night. So difficult and so important! I thought it was well done. Many people at the theater too. I was pleasantly surprised for a Tuesday night! Mary*

*I thought the movie was incredibly well-balanced and honest and I would feel comfortable taking a friend to see it, no matter where they fall on the political spectrum for abortion. Gayle*

*We thought the movie was very well done giving a clearer understanding of how the PP clinics work behind the scenes, taking advantage of many innocent young women, lying to their face along with how they run their recruiting. This is the ultimate sign of greed and power at the expense of the voiceless innocent. Thank you for all your work in promoting this "Must see" film! God bless! Denis*

*I thought that it was so well done. I don't think that they could've chosen any better actors/actresses. This movie should certainly cause anyone who might be considering an abortion to reconsider and it also was wonderful at expressing God's mercy and love for those who have had an abortion and for those who work in the industry. I believe that every person should see this movie, including mature teenagers. I pray that this movie will change our culture! It isn't enough for abortion to be outlawed but people's minds must change regarding the value and sacredness of LIFE! It was a fantastic movie on all levels. Sandi*

For any woman who has had an abortion, any man who has supported (or forced) a partner or spouse to get an abortion, or any woman or man who has worked in an abortion facility, our Lord is there ready to forgive with His unending Love and Mercy for you! First, please talk to Fr. Libor or Fr. Juraj!

Second, there are healing retreats through the Archdiocese of Detroit. Go to [www.detroitrachelvineyard.org](http://www.detroitrachelvineyard.org) or call 248-494-6363. Also, you can go to [www.SilentNoMore.com](http://www.SilentNoMore.com) or call Janet Morana, Associate Director, Priests for Life at 888-735-3448 for additional help. And, if you are a former abortion worker, go to [www.abortionworker.com](http://www.abortionworker.com). This is Abby Johnson's ministry called And Then There Were None. To date, this ministry has helped almost 500 workers leave the abortion industry.

## 2019 Parish Lenten Projects • FINAL WEEK

Please consider joining your fellow parishioners in giving alms to one or more of the following projects this Lent:

**Dentures for the Homeless or Low-Income/ St. Leo's Free Dental Clinic:** Help someone smile again with a monetary gift, a check made out to *Malta Medical Dental Clinic* OR a check made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius* in a **BLUE** Lenten Offering envelope, and place your envelope in the Sunday collection basket by April 21.

**Slovak Catholic Media Productions/ LUX New York:** Place your check made out to *St. John Neopmucene/LUX New York* OR a check made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius* in a **BLUE** Lenten Offering envelope, and place your envelope in the Sunday collection basket by April 21.

**"Housing with Care"/Vincentinum Family Center in Kosice-Saca, Slovakia:** Your monetary donation will help with the final construction costs for this comprehensive family-saving center. Place your check, made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius*, in a **WHITE** Lenten Offering envelope and put it in a Sunday collection basket by April 21.

**Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Collection:** Thank you for the contributions received for Gianna House, a local home for pregnant teens. If you would still like to donate to this important cause, you can provide a check made payable to: St. Nicholas Council 7011 and drop it off in the Parish Office. All donations go to Gianna House.

**Clothing for the Homeless at St. Leo's:** Please place your donations in the box marked Clothing Collection located in the coatroom.

**Sacred Heart Food Pantry:** Please help feed the hungry by placing your donations in the box marked Food Collection located in the vestibule coatroom by this Tuesday, April 16.

Questions, please contact:

Erin Rybicki, Christian Service Coordinator, (586) 530-0547 or *Sandi Brady* in the Parish Office at (586) 726-6911



### Celebrate Life! Dinner May 7

The guest speaker at Right to Life-LIFESPAN's annual Celebrate Life! dinner will be Ashley Bratcher, the actress that portrays former

Planned Parenthood clinic director Abby Johnson in the movie *Unplanned*. (See review on Page 4.) Ashley took the role knowing there were risks to her future career. As she said, "I knew from the very beginning, they warned me, they said, "You're probably gonna get blacklisted. This could end your career." I said, "I don't care. It's worth it." Ashley has her own prolife story to tell. Join us on Tuesday, May 7, at the San Marino Club in Troy for dinner and to hear Ashley.

For more information, please call:  
the LIFESPAN Office, (248) 816-1546

### World Youth Day 2022, Lisbon, Portugal

If you are interested in going to WYD in 2022, please email Mary Hale at [maryhale1@juno.com](mailto:maryhale1@juno.com) with the following information: Name, Age, Contact Number and Email Address. If you are under 21, please include the names of your parents, their contact telephone numbers and their email addresses.

### Youth Dance • May 17

7:00PM - 11:00PM

\$7 per person, Pop and Pizza

Bring Board Games & Cards

**MODEST DRESS IS REQUIRED AND ENFORCED**

**NO Short Shorts, NO Tank Tops,**

**NO Tight Fitting or Revealing Attire**

**WE ARE IN NEED OF CHAPERONES**

Questions: Call Mary Hale, (586) 773-8261

### 29th Annual Slovak Festival Planning

Attention Parishioners: It is that time of year when planning begins for the parish's 29th Annual Slovak Festival. The festival takes place on the church grounds August 23, 24, and 25. Mark your calendars!

The Slovak Festival Program Booklet Committee is now accepting ads in PDF format for the festival four-color booklet. Ads may be full-page, half-page, or quarter-page. Prices vary depending if one wishes to purchase a 4 foot x 6 foot banner with the booklet ad.

The Committee invites those parishioners with businesses to support an ad in the program booklet. Let's have some fun also by having families or individuals purchase ads and/or banners! Time to get creative — maybe an ad or banner from ministries within the parish? The Committee will help you consider all ideas or possibilities. The Committee will also accept donations toward the costs to produce the program booklet. Just be sure to let the Committee know how you wish your name to be acknowledged in the booklet. DEADLINE FOR PDFs is July 30!

If you have questions or want to place an ad:

*Tom Starynchak*, Committee Chair,

(586) 489-8661, [tstarynchak@gmail.com](mailto:tstarynchak@gmail.com) or

*Frances Schena*, (586) 381-1128, [frances schena@att.net](mailto:frances schena@att.net)

### Do you Love Children?

I think the answer for most of us here at St. Cyrils is YES!

The Festival Committee is looking for someone (or a couple!) to manage the Children's Tent & Free Area for this year's Festival. This involves setting up and running the carnival games, kids crafts, face painting, open play area, and the prize counter. If this sounds like something that interests you, we can help you get started and provide some guidance to help you along. The Children's Tent is a very important part of our annual Slovak Festival!

If you are interested, or have questions about running this event, please contact

*John Fournier*, (248) 410-5866, or email [j4nier58@gmail.com](mailto:j4nier58@gmail.com)

## Office of Priestly Vocation in the Archdiocese of Detroit • Spring Discernment Retreat

**Discernment Retreat: Featuring Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron (Single Men, 18-55 Years Old): May 10-11, 2019:**

More Info & Registration Link: <http://www.detroitpriest.com/programs/discernment-retreat-with-archbishop-allen-h-vigneron/>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email:  
[vocations@aod.org](mailto:vocations@aod.org) or call the office: (313) 868-7040



## Catechism Corner • All Classes Take Place in the Church Building

### CATECHISM SCHEDULE

\*Wednesday, April 17: NO CLASS (Holy Week)

\*Wednesday, April 24 @ 6:15PM: Class for All. Benediction for 1st - 4th Grades

### CATECHISM REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

April 24th 6:15PM-7:30PM

\$50 per student • \$150 Family maximum • \$20 home school Sacrament Fee

There will be no fall registration

**Only registered parishioners can enroll!**

Home School students making a Sacrament of Communion in 2020 must also enroll at this time.

Home School students in the 8th grade making the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2020 must register

Home School students in the 7th grade making the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2021 (under 2-year program) must register

Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by September 1st, 2019

There is no charge for Special Needs and Kindergarten Classes.

Questions: *Paul or Carroll Schuller*, Directors of Religious Education, (586) 254-9212 or [p\\_schuller@yahoo.com](mailto:p_schuller@yahoo.com)



### **Parish Lenten Challenge Reminder!**

Have you finished your Lenten Challenge worksheet? If not, keep working on it. If you have not yet filled out a sheet, start a sheet now. It's not too late! Completed worksheets can be dropped off in the Parish Office and will be included in a raffle during a movie night on Friday, April 26, at 6:30PM. The featured movie is "Ralph Breaks the Internet".

There will be fun prizes including; gas and restaurant gift cards, an Amazon Fire 7 Tablet and more! You can enter the drawing multiple times ... each time you complete a worksheet. You do not need to be present to win, but we would love for you to come and join the fun!

### **RAFFLE & MOVIE NIGHT • FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 6:00PM**

Video game bad guy Ralph and fellow misfit Vanellope von Schweetz must risk it all by traveling to the World Wide Web in search of a replacement part to save Vanellope's video game, "Sugar Rush." In way over their heads, Ralph and Vanellope rely on the citizens of the internet -- the netizens -- to help navigate their way, including an entrepreneur named Yesss, who is the head algorithm and the heart and soul of trend-making site BuzzTube. (PG, 1 hr. 56 mins., 2018)

**Fr. Mikus Hall \* Surround Sound \* Concessions \* Free-Will Offering**



### **ADORATION 101 • Eucharistic Quotes**



Here is another series of Eucharistic quotes to help in your adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ; think about them, pray on them and make them part of your life:

*"When the Sisters are exhausted, up to their eyes in work; when all seems to go awry, they spend an hour in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. This practice has never failed to bear fruit: they experience peace and strength," - Blessed Mother Teresa*

*"If souls but understood the Treasure they possess in the Divine Eucharist, it would be necessary to encircle the tabernacles with the strongest ramparts for, in the delirium of a devouring and holy hunger, they would press forward themselves to feed on the Bread of Angels. The Churches would overflow with adorers consumed with love for the Divine prisoner no less by night than by day," - Blessed Dina Belanger*

*"There is no language adequate to describe the joy one experiences through this sacrament which draws sweetness from its very source and keeps alive in us the memory of the love, of which Christ gave proof during his passion." - St. Thomas Aquinas*

*"How sweet, the presence of Jesus to the longing, harassed soul! It is instant peace, and balm to every wound." - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

*"To converse with You, O King of glory, no third person is needed, You are always ready in the Sacrament of the Altar to give audience to all. All who desire You always find You there, and converse with You face to face," - St. Teresa of Avila*

*"Our way of thinking is attuned to the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in turn confirms our way of thinking," - St. Irenaeus of Lyon*

*"The Eucharist is everything, because from the Eucharist, everything is," - St. Peter Julian Eymard*

Take some time to reflect on these quotes. They speak the truth. Bring them with you in your heart and mind the next time you visit Jesus in Adoration! – Paul A. Ray



**REGULAR ADORATION HOURS: Sunday, 10:00PM - Saturday, 9:00AM**

**Holy Week Adoration Schedule:**

CLOSED: April 14, 15, 16, 17, 19 & 21

Holy Thursday, April 18: 8:30PM—12:00 Midnight & Holy Saturday, April 20: 8:30AM—4:00PM

If you can commit to one hour or have questions, please contact: *Julie Varchetti*: [adorehim247@gmail.com](mailto:adorehim247@gmail.com) or (586) 214-1825

**PLENARY INDULGENCE on  
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY • April 28  
Begin Novena • Good Friday, April 19**

**All Holy Masses on Sunday, April 28, are Divine Mercy Masses. However, the 1:30PM Holy Mass will conclude with Exposition, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction at 3:00PM.**



**HOW SHOULD WE PREPARE FOR THIS GREAT FEAST of MERCY?**

Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened". (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy - the Sunday after Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus promised that "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary 699). To observe this feast, we should commence a Novena to the Divine Mercy on Good Friday. The Novena includes special intentions for each day and is concluded with the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Thus, to fittingly observe the Feast of Mercy, we should...

- Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter
- Come to Jesus with a humble and contrite heart, repenting of all your sins. Go to confession (with a priest) 20 days before or after the feast, as approved by the Church.
- Receive Holy Communion on the Day of the Feast of Divine Mercy. (D 1072)
- Venerate the image of Divine Mercy on the Feast of Divine Mercy. (Diary 47, 48 & 49)
- Be merciful as God is merciful. Practice works of Mercy, physically by helping others or spiritually by your prayers of intercession.
- Be open to receive a Plenary Indulgence as Jesus promised: that of forgiveness of all sin and punishment; which is available to you on the Feast of Divine Mercy. (D 699). In simple terms this means that if we go to Confession and receive Holy Communion, we can obtain the total forgiveness of all sins and their due punishment. This means we would go straight to Heaven!
- To venerate a sacred image or statue simply means to perform some act or make some gesture of deep religious respect toward it because of the person whom it represents — in this case, our Most Merciful Savior.

**Devotion to Jesus, the Divine Mercy**

**"As I have loved you so also should you love one another."** (John 13:34)

The Image of the pierced side of Christ pouring out blood and water reminds us that the Cross, love in action, is the price of mercy.

The message is as simple as 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. **"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us"** (Matt 6:12)

**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 as He does to us. **"The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you"** (Matt 7:2)

**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. **"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy"** (Matt 5:7)

In His revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, Jesus made mention of His desires concerning the Feast of Mercy (Divine Mercy Sunday) on 14 different occasions. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in entry 699 of the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska:

***M***y 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 graces flow 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.