

Divine Mercy Sunday

Though it started out from a revelation that was made by Jesus to Saint Faustina, it is now an official feast in the Catholic Church. It was no accident that Saint Thomas wasn't present on that first Easter. That scenario was ordained by God to get us to understand the importance of trusting (believing) in Jesus in order to obtain grace. It was also ordained by God that the very first act that Jesus performed after His Resurrection was none other than the institution of the sacrament of Confession. These two events play a crucial role in salvation.

On Divine Mercy Sunday we celebrate the fulfilment of what Easter is all about and we receive a big outpouring of a whole ocean of graces. The obtaining of these graces is brought about by trusting in Jesus and by approaching His ministers and going to Confession. Pope Benedict wrote of the importance of having an image to assist in every liturgy and of the "void" that was caused by the removal of icons and sacred art from our sanctuaries and the importance of having the images.

Jesus also insisted that the Divine Mercy image be venerated and solemnly blessed on Mercy Sunday. The image represents that it is through "trust" that we receive grace, with the words "Jesus, I trust in You".

Divine Mercy Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless
and the treasury of compassion - inexhaustible,
look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us,
that in difficult moments we might not despair
nor become despondent, but with great confidence
submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.

Bulletin sponsored by Stourbridge Catenians - www.stourbridgencatenians.co.uk



Catholic Parishes of St Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes

St. Mary's Brierley Hill and
Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswinford
Parish Priest: Fr Shanju John
The Presbytery, Summerhill,
Kingswinford, DY6 9JG.
01384 274520



Email: stmarylol.blackcountry@rcaob.org.uk
Website: www.stmaryladyoflourdes.co.uk
Deacon John Brindley (Retired)

Convent - Daughters of Divine Love 01384 380155

Part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham: Reg. Charity No. 234216

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

16TH APRIL 2023

PSALM RESPONSE

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

**"To understand and accept God's merciful love: May this
be your commitment, first of all in your families and
then in every neighbourhood ." (Pope Benedict)**



Easter A2	Psalter week 2	Intention/Info
Sunday 15th/16th 2nd Sunday of Easter	9.45am Mass BH 10am Mass KF	John While People of the Parish
Monday 17th	10am Mass KF	Rod Arnold
Tuesday 18th	7pm KF	Novena
Wednesday 19th	10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH	Beryl Webb Adoration and Confessions
Thursday 20th	9am Mass School	
Friday 21st	10am Mass KF 10.30 KF	MSP Society Adoration and Confessions
Saturday 22nd	5pm Mass KF	People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd/2 3rd Sunday of Easter	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	People of the Parish Patricia Horner

Please pray for all those whose have died recently especially Brian Sable, those on our April deceased lists and for all those whose anniversaries occur this month. May they all rest in peace.

Please pray for all those who are sick including Ian Manley, Noel O'Reilly, Georgina Kutz, Mike Skelding, Martha Jones, Mavis Geach, Sheila Rowley, Audrey Berry, Roger Ward, Pauline Bant, Jeanette Amphlett, Dorothy West, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Roy Davies, Chris and Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Rob and Ilona Bryan, Betty Storey, Connie Birch and Stella Jones. May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

Collections BH Bank offertory payments for March £261.25
KF Holy Places £22.22 Candles £146.25 Bank offertory payments for March 378.00

SECOND COLLECTIONS - This week for Church Maintenance next week for our Sisters.

Pope's prayer intention for April For a culture of peace and non-violence We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

BRIERLEY HILL: Craft Group tbc Mon 2pm to 4pm in Parish Centre
KINGSWINFORD choir practice Wednesday 7pm
KINGSWINFORD: Friday 9.30 - 11.30am **Foodbank**.

FOODBANKS - If you are able to donate to them they will be happy to accept your donations as the need is growing.

**The Risen Lord said: "Doubt no longer but believe."
Thomas replied "My Lord and my God".
May this always be our prayer.**

Tea/coffee after Mass - Please join Fr Shanju and stay for tea and coffee after Mass on Saturday evening at KF or Sunday morning at BH for a chat and a catch up.

Gift Aid - do you pay tax? Do you know we can claim the tax you have already paid back from the tax office at no cost to you at all? The Parish receives 25p back for every £1 you put it the collection. You do not need to commit to a certain amount every week we just claim from what you have paid in the year whether it's £1, £100 or £1000. Please do think about it as it is a big help to both Parishes. For more information please see **Sheila Jelf at BH or Elaine Gill at KF**. Thank you..

Easter egg raffle at BH Thank you to all those who supported our raffle. The winners were, G Partridge, Kevin, Sue and Alan Horgan, Teresa Gray, Keith Clark, Margaret and Elaine, Mrs Smith, Joe and Mary. Thank you all for your support.

Walsingham Pilgrimage 13th May organised by Fr Philip Griffin. Please see poster at the back of Church for more details.

SVP has new Cost Of Living Fund for those who are experiencing difficulty . Applications of up to £500 can be made. Please see Aidan Tompkins for more details.

150 years of St Mary's donations to the fund to pay for our celebrations, especially our Celebration Mass and free buffet reception, are now being greatly accepted. Please place your donation in an envelope clearly marked. Thank you.

Parish trip to Holywell - Saturday 17th June 2023 Last day to sign up! Hopefully it will be less than £40 per person to include a hot three course lunch at Holywell.

Annual Mass for marriage 29th April at St Chad's, please see poster for details.

Job vacancy The Archdiocese is seeking up to five enthusiastic Choral Directors to work with the Programme Director to implement, deliver and develop the National Schools Singing Programme within the Archdiocese. The positions are suitable for new graduates, offering a permanent contract, based in Coventry/Warwickshire and in Staffordshire. To start this September. Please see : www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs