

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Father Bill Fisher, Pastor

Second Sunday of Easter, Sunday of Divine Mercy - April 11, 2021

## Divine Mercy Sunday

The Feast of the Divine Mercy falls on the Second Sunday of Easter – the Octave of Easter. It celebrates the Lord's mercy for sinners.

Although the feast has been part of the Church for centuries, God reminded us of this message nearly a century ago when he appeared to a Polish nun in 1931. Today she is known as St. Maria Faustina Kowalska.

During this time, God's graces to us are bountiful. Pope John Paul II tell us, mercy is "love's second name." This love helps us as we face poverty, brokenness and sin.

When Jesus appeared to Faustina, He was clothed in a white garment with His right hand raised in blessing. His left hand was touching His garment in the area of the Heart where two large rays emanated – one red and one pale.



He told St. Faustina, *"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."*

He then gave the Sister a novena for nine days of prayer and a Chaplet to use when praying the rosary.

God's message to us of Divine Mercy is important. However, we must also become living examples of His word.

One priest gives us the ABCs of Divine Mercy.

**Ask for Mercy.** In Scripture, Jesus says, "Ask and it will be given to you... for everyone who asks receives.

**Be merciful in deed, word and prayer.** Not only must we have compassion for others, but actively assist people when they are suffering.

**Completely Trust** that God will be with us, particularly when we are troubled.

Learn more about Divine Mercy as well as how to pray the Novena and the Chaplet.

Sources: [thedivinemercy.org](http://thedivinemercy.org), [divinemercy.life](http://divinemercy.life), [homesoflife.net](http://homesoflife.net) and [dmamerica.catholicwebsite.com](http://dmamerica.catholicwebsite.com) and the book, *Divine Mercy Explained* by Father Michael Gaitley.



*"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Today's Gospel: John 20:19-31*

## Weekly Collections

April 4, 2021

Envelopes (April 4):	\$ 5,465
Maintenance:	\$ 1,932
Easter	\$ 745
Easter Vigil Mass	\$ 625
Good Friday	\$ 425
Tomb/Crypt	\$ 314
Candles:	\$ 108
Food Kitchen	\$ 30
Blessing of Food	\$ 25
Easter Flowers	\$ 10
Priest Retirement	\$ 10
Catholic Relief	\$ 10
The Poor	\$ 9
Catholic Community	\$ 5
Ascension	\$ 5
Rice Bowl	\$ 5

## Mass Intentions

Thursday, April 15 (8 a.m.)

Gary Baumli

George Kucenic

Sunday, April 18 (9 a.m.)

Parish of St. John the Baptist

**St. John the Baptist Church**

708 N. 4th Street,

Kansas City, KS 66101

(913) 371-0627 FAX: (913) 342-3324

OurCroatianParish@gmail.com  
stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com

**Facebook:**

St. John the Baptist Croatian Parish

Prayer Line: (913) 281-4448



### First Reading

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common.

With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all.

There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

### Responsorial Psalm

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the LORD say, "His mercy endures forever."

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

I was hard pressed and was falling, but the LORD helped me. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is

wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.**

### Second Reading

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him.

In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments.

For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world.

And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

### Alleluia

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord; Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace

be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them.

Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

Readings for April 11, 2021  
Second Sunday of Easter  
Sunday of Divine Mercy  
[bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org)

Picture: *Doubting Thomas and Musicians in Turrets*, Unknown artist, East window, Holy Trinity Church Messingham, U.K