

St. Faustina and the Image of the Divine Mercy:

St. Faustina of Poland is the well known apostle of Divine Mercy. On the 30th April, 2000, the second Sunday of Easter, at 10.00am, His Holiness Pope John Paul II celebrated the Eucharist in Saint Peter's Square and proceeded to the canonisation of Blessed Sister Faustina. The new saint invites us by the witness of her life to keep our faith and hope fixed on God, the Father, rich in mercy, who has saved us by the precious blood of His Son.

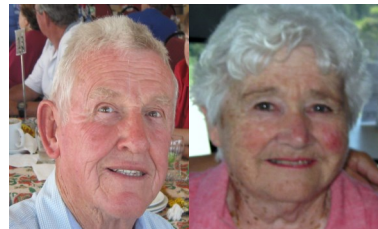
The Lord Jesus assigned St. Faustina three basic tasks during her short life: 1. to pray for souls, entrusting them to God's incomprehensible Mercy. 2. To tell the world about God's generous mercy; 3. To start a new movement in the Church focusing on God's Mercy. At the canonisation of Sr. Faustina, Pope John Paul II said: "The cross, even after the Resurrection of the Son of God, speaks and never ceases to speak of God the Father, who is absolutely faithful to his eternal love for man. ...Believing in this love means believing in mercy." "The Lord of Divine Mercy" a drawing of Jesus based on the vision given to Sr. Faustina, shows Jesus raising his right hand in a gesture of blessing, his left hand on his chest from which gush forth two rays, one red and one white. The picture contains the message "Jesus, I trust in You!" (Jezu ufam Tobie). The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red for the blood of Jesus, which is the life of souls and white for the water which justifies souls. The whole image is symbolic of the mercy, forgiveness and love of God.

FAREWELL TO TUROSS COUPLE

Helen & Kevin Dukes

Who after some 20+ years as parishioners, members of the Caring Group and local Tuross community are leaving to live up north closer to family.

We thank them for their faith witness, joy and caring of others and wish



Divine Mercy Sunday
3pm Moruya
Prayers, adoration and benediction
(One hour) All Welcome

- Thank you for donations to Caritas "Project Compassion"
- Thank you to all who helped in any way with Holy Week & Easter liturgies.
- Staff welcome and farewell date postponed.

Parishioners
at Easter
Sunday
celebrations
at
The Pines,
Tuross Head



SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO BOX 23) Moruya NSW 2537

Phone: 4474 2024 Email: Moruya@cg.org.au

Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 9am—2pm

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6.00 pm Sun: 10.00 am

Tue: 5.30 pm. Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15 am

Sat: Reconciliation: 10—10.30 am

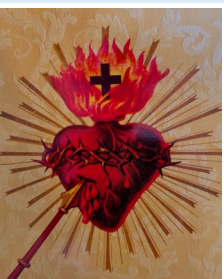
Tuross Mass: Sun. 8am; Bodalla: Mass: 2nd Thursday of the month 9.15am. Fifth Sunday of the month 3 pm.

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee 4471 5600

Caring Group: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

Devotions: Daily Rosary before mass. Adoration & Benediction. Fridays 9.45—10.45 am



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

-YEAR B-

APRIL 10 & 11 2021

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

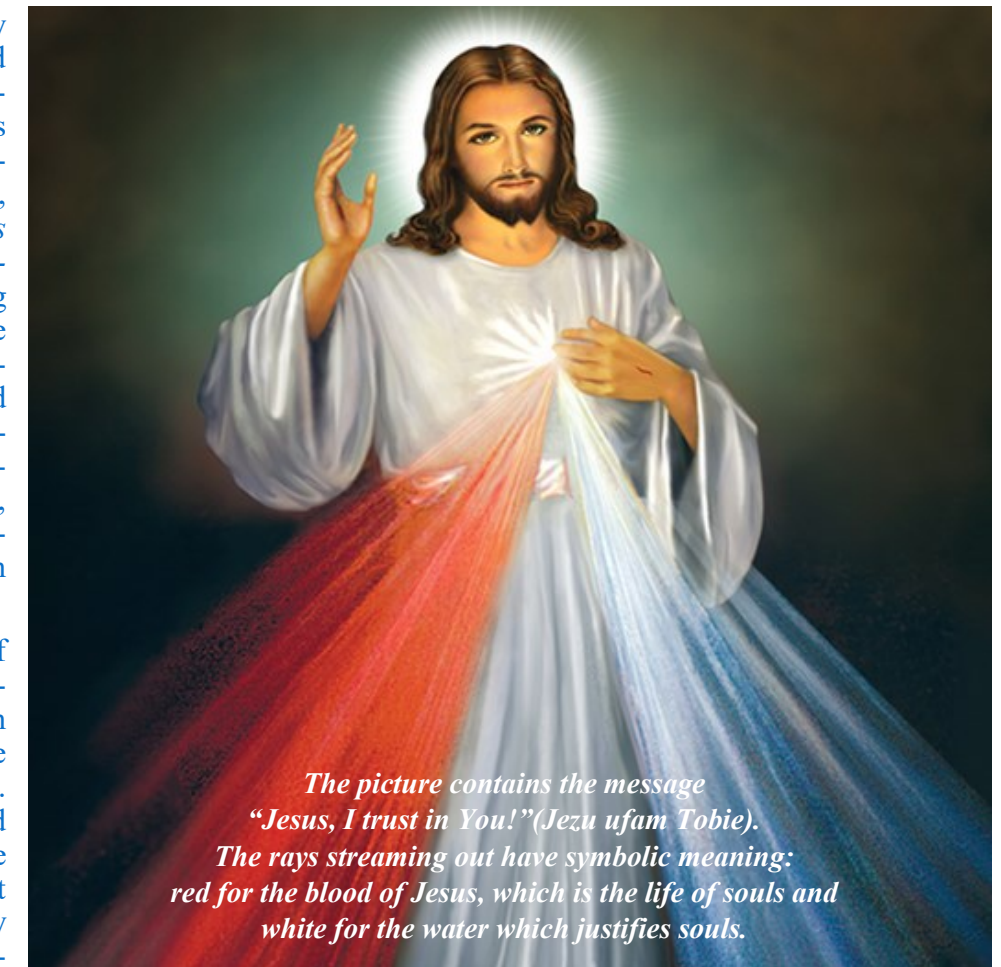
"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!" (Ps 118)

The readings for this Sunday are about mercy, trusting faith and the forgiveness of sins. The opening prayer addresses the father as "God of Mercy." In the responsorial psalm we repeat several times, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for His mercy endures forever!" (Ps 118) Besides mentioning the word, our readings illustrate mercy in action. How did God reveal His mercy? He did so, first and foremost by sending His only-begotten Son, to become our Saviour and Lord by his suffering, death and resurrection. Divine mercy is given to us in each celebration of the sacraments.

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles gives a summary portrait of the life of the early Christian community before the Jews and the Romans started their persecutions. It was a community which practiced sharing love, compassion and the mercy of God as taught by Jesus. It was also a witnessing community deriving its strength from community prayer, "the breaking of the bread" and the teachings of the apostles which were read at the worship service.

The second reading is from the epistle of Peter. He reminded the early Christians that Jesus Christ had shown them great mercy by giving them a new birth to a living hope of an imperishable heavenly inheritance through his resurrection. He warned them of the trials waiting for them and challenged them to keep their faith. These reminders also apply to us in our world.

In today's gospel we recall Jesus' appearance to the disciples on that first Easter evening which vividly reminds us of the Sacrament of Reconciliation—the sacrament of divine mercy—in the power to forgive sins which Our Lord gave to his apostles. "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained". The Gospel also emphasises the importance of faith in the all pervading presence of the risen Lord, the source of divine mercy, in the Christian community.. We believe without having seen. We are invited to accept liberation from doubts and hesitation by surrendering our lives to the risen Lord of mercy.



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"Jesus, I trust in You!" (Jezu ufam Tobie).
The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning:
red for the blood of Jesus, which is the life of souls and
white for the water which justifies souls.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24.

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

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
‘His love has no end.’
Let the sons of Aaron say:
‘His love has no end.’
Let those who fear the Lord say:
‘His love has no end.’ **(R.)**
2. The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 Jn 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ
has been begotten by God;
and whoever loves the Father that begot him
loves the child whom he begets.
We can be sure that we love God’s children
if we love God himself and do what he
has commanded us;
this is what loving God is –
keeping his commandments;
and his commandments are not difficult,
because anyone who has been begotten by God
has already overcome the world;
this is the victory over the world—our faith.
Who can overcome the world?
Only the man who believes that

Jesus is the Son of God;
Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,
not with water only,
but with water and blood;
with the Spirit as another witness –
since the Spirit is the truth.
The Word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me,
but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.’

‘As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.’

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

‘Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.’

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him:

‘You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

Entrance Antiphon: Like newborn children you should thirst for milk, on which your spirit can grow to strength, alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Jesus spoke to Thomas: Put your hand here, and see the place of the nails.

Doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.

Prayer for Australia: Lord you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through our Lord Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion:

Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

WORD AND LIFE this week....

1. We need to celebrate and practice mercy: One way the Church celebrates God’s mercy throughout the year is through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Finding time for Adoration of the blessed Sacrament is another good way to receive Divine Mercy. The gospel command, “*Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful*” demands that we show mercy to our fellow human beings always and everywhere. We radiate God’s mercy to others by our actions, our words, and our prayers. It is mainly through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that we practice mercy in our daily lives and become eligible for God’s merciful judgment.

2. Because of our faith, culminating in self-surrender to God, we need to love and serve our fellow human beings. Living faith enables us to see the risen Lord in everyone and gives us the willingness to render to each one our loving service. (“*Faith without good works is dead*” James 2:17). It was this faith in the Lord and obedience to his missionary command that prompted St. Thomas to travel to India to preach the gospel among the Hindus, to establish seven Christian communities (known later as “St. Thomas Christians”) and, eventually, to face and suffer martyrdom. The Fathers of the Church prescribe the following traditional means to grow in the living and dynamic faith of St. Thomas the Apostle. (a) We need to come to know Jesus personally and intimately in daily, meditative reading of the Bible. (b) We to strengthen our faith by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal and community prayer. (c) We need to share in the divine life of Jesus by frequenting the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. Mother Teresa presents it this way: “If we pray, we will believe; if we believe, we will love; if we love, we will serve. Only then we put our love of God into action.”.

3 We need to live a transparent Christian life— “I will not believe unless I see.” This “*seeing*” is what others demand of us. They ask that we reflect the Risen Lord Jesus in our lives by selfless love, unconditional forgiveness and humble service. The integrity of our lives bears a fundamental witness to others, who want to see the Risen Lord alive and active, working in our lives. Christ’s mercy shines forth from us whenever we reach out to the poor, the needy and the marginalised, as Mother Teresa did. His mercy shines forth as we remain open to those who struggle in faith, as did the Apostle Thomas in today’s Gospel. We should be able to appreciate the presence of Jesus, crucified and raised, in our own suffering and in our suffering brothers and sisters, thus recognising the glorified wounds of the Risen Lord in the suffering of others.

4. Like St. Thomas we need to use our scepticism to help us grow in faith. It is our genuine doubts about the doctrines of our religion that encourage us to study these doctrines more closely and thus to grow in our faith. This process will naturally lead us to a personal encounter with Jesus through prayer, studying the Word of God, and frequenting the sacraments. However, we must never forget the fact that our faith is not our own doing, but is a gift from God. Hence, we need to augment our faith every day by prayer so that we may join St. Thomas in his proclamation: “*My Lord and my God.*”

5. We need to have the courage of our convictions and share our faith as St. Thomas did. We are not to keep the gift of faith locked in our hearts, but to share it with our children, families and neighbours, always remembering the words of Pope John XXII: “*Every believer in this world must become a spark of Christ’s light.*”

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE BOUND.

We continue to pray and extend our support to those who are in near lock down at banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme, Dale Moore, Gerry Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Jean Marion, Monique Driver, Andy McCosker, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysen, Tarlington, Elizabeth Martin-Yates, John Nader, John Moore, Anthony Morris and Julie & John Kay.

PLEASE ADVISE THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED OR REMOVED FROM THIS LIST.

