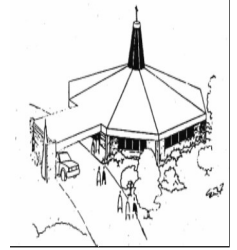


St Benedict's Catholic Church



In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

Parish Team:

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Fr Dan Benedetti MGL (Parish Priest)
Fr Baiju Thomas (Mission Centre)
Fr Rembert Fernando MGL (Asst Priest)
Monica Nulley-Valdes (Parish Secretary)
Karina Widjaja (Finance Officer)
Adrian Wellspring (Spiritual Direction & Personal Vocation)

Second Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy Sunday 18 and 19 April 2020

Divine Mercy Sunday

Pope St John Paul II, in his writings and homilies, has described Divine Mercy as the answer to the world's problems and the message of the third millennium. He beatified and canonized Sr. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the nun associated with the message, and he did it in Rome and not in Poland to underscore that Divine Mercy is for the whole world. When Pope John Paul canonized Sr. Faustina (making her St. Faustina), he also, on the same day, surprised the entire world by **establishing Divine Mercy Sunday (the feast day associated with the message) as a feast day for the entire Church. The feast day falls on the Second Sunday of the Easter season.**

The Church is responding to the problems we all face as a result of this pandemic with great seriousness and generosity. The Holy Father is throwing wide open the doors of the Church's storehouses of grace for the faithful, making it as easy as possible for all of us to be assured of the graces we need to speed the sick and the dying through Purgatory, and to be assured of the graces needed for salvation at the moment of our deaths. Because of the pandemic, anyone who, with "the will to fulfil the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer according to the Holy Father's intentions), as soon as possible," recites the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the intention "to implore from Almighty God the end of the epidemic, relief for those who are afflicted and eternal salvation for those whom the Lord has called to Himself," can receive a plenary indulgence each day.

This great news was announced in an official decree from the Apostolic Penitentiary on March 20, 2020.

Divine Mercy Chaplet Prayers:

'Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.'

'For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.'

To pray the full Chaplet, please visit:

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet>

At this stage, the **Parish Office remains open** at the normal times and we will post the Newsletter on the website. At times the Parish Office may not be attended, but be assured we are monitoring emails and calls.

Our Parish Secretary Monica will be taking time off from about July. We are advertising now for a new permanent part time Secretary, to work the usual office hours of Tuesday to Friday, 9am-12 noon. If anyone is interested, please contact Father Dan or the Parish Office for more information.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tues – Fri 9am - 12pm

MASS TIMES: (Live streamed from St Benedict's Church and Mission Centre, Canberra Facebook page)

Tuesday	5.30pm
Wednesday	5.30pm
Thursday	5.30pm
Saturday	8am
Sunday	10am

MASS TIMES: (Live streamed from MGL Priests and Brothers Facebook page)

Friday	5.30pm (Healing Mass)
Sunday	3pm (Divine Mercy Charismatic Mass)

Second Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy Sunday

18 and 19 April 2020

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

The name of Jesus Christ is the only one by which we can be saved

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 117(118):2-4,13-15,22-24

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love is everlasting.

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.’

I was thrust down, thrust down and falling,
but the Lord was my helper.

The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just.

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.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

You did not see Christ, yet you love Him

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 20:29

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

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

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came again and stood among them

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.

PARISH NEWS

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Catholic Military Ordinariate Anzac Day Mass

Cancelled: Given the Commonwealth Government's directives in response to COVID-19, The Catholic Diocese of the Australian Military Services has decided to cancel the National ANZAC Day Mass that was to be held at St Christopher's Cathedral on 25 April 2020. We too are mindful of the wellbeing of our veterans and the wider communities at this time, and fully support the Government's initiatives in response to the ongoing threat of COVID-19. We thank you for your ongoing support for the National ANZAC Day Mass. Whilst we recognise there will be no Mass at the Cathedral on ANZAC Day, we will remember with great devotion the supreme sacrifice paid by so many for the freedom of our country.

Amicus gatherings: In the interest of AMICUS, our members, their families and the wider community we are suspending all AMICUS activities until further notice when this Coronavirus emergency is no longer a threat to us all. We look forward to resuming again then.

Parish Pilgrimage: *In the Footsteps of Sts Benedict, Francis, Anthony & Padre Pio*— Consider Joining **Father Dan** on a magnificent pilgrimage with **St Benedict, St Francis and St Anthony. Departing September 2020.** For more information call or email the Parish Office or Fr Dan. We are currently waiting for further advice due to the Coronavirus.

As A Parish Let Us Pray For...

Our Sick: Frank Smith, Lyn Walker, Louis Pini, Anthony, Clem Dick, Dorothy Lamb, Lorraine Davis, Mathew, Noeleen Carrick, Flora Arias, Pat Atkins, Helen French, Carol Rees, Rhys Evans, Jindalee & Mt View residents.

Recently Deceased & Anniversaries: Pam Pini, Donal Dwyer, Antonia Martin, Lino Lanza, Ian Patterson, Marie-Josepha Mukankuranga, Rosa and Ilario Gallace, Tom Daly, Cyril Power, Margaret Burnell, Ruth Uwimana, Fred Martin, George Douglas, Patsy Wyer, Stanley Marris, Merle Taylor, Betty O'Brien, Zeta Evans, Brian Power, John Agius, Joyce Cremer, Gerry Agnew, Ray Coppin, Ellen Brennan, Sr Zita Barron, Pat Evans, Joan Evans, William Smith, Athol Knight, Beth Moran, Clare Drinkwater, Ian Smith & family, Heather Daly, John De Freitas, Louis Camilleri, Jim Kirkman, Barbara Jeffery, Edna Keir, Lawrence Power, Barrie Marshall, Sam & Nina Agius

Marian Statue: If you would like to have Our Lady in your home, please write your name and contact details in the "Marian Statue" record book which will live on a table in the confessional. It will then be your responsibility to co-ordinate the exchange of Our Lady with the previous custodian. We ask that visits be kept to around 2 weeks duration. If there is nobody next on the list, please keep her safely with you until somebody requests a visit! If you have any questions or any issues arise, please contact Ingrid Kensey on [0401 489 525](tel:0401489525) or ingridparker86@gmail.com.

*St Benedict's Catholic Parish acknowledge the **Ngunnawal People**, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country*