

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 23, 2017



Dear parishioners,

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. It is a devotion credited to Sister Faustina Kowalska who had visions of Jesus telling her of his unfathomable mercy. Pope Saint John Paul II established the devotion for the universal Church.

This day, however is about much more than this devotion. We have just finished a year of reflection on and witness of God's mercy. Pope Francis tells us that the name of God IS mercy. The Pastoral Council this year read together the book The Name of God Is Mercy. At times we found Pope Francis' description of mercy hard to fathom. Our culture is much more interested in justice. Yet God is both—all-merciful and all-just. He is willing to forgive all while still holding us accountable.

As I was thinking of this, it occurred to me that the basis of understanding and experiencing mercy is responsibility. It is not uncommon these days to find something broken or missing without explanation. Many live the motto: "If nobody finds out, I'm not guilty." This certainly does not build character, and it certainly does not open us to mercy.

How much better to take the thing that is broken to the person to whom it belongs, tell what happened, say I am sorry, and offer to replace it (make amends). Now there is endless room for mercy and justice. I am accountable, I can be forgiven, I may or may not be required to make amends, but I have a clear conscience and great relief.

It's the same with God! Let's open ourselves to God's unfathomable mercy by being accountable.

Sister Carol

Weekend Masses

Sat Apr 22	4:00 p.m.	Jim Alt
Sun Apr 23	10:00 a.m.	Janet Maenle Tim Kahle
Sat. Apr 29	4:00 p.m.	Richard & Angela Knott
Sun Apr 30	10:00 a.m.	Sue Schlumbohm

Communion Services

Fri Apr 28 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$1,624.00	Loose	\$709.50
Children	\$81.00	Total	\$2,414.50

42 envelopes returned = 21%

Easter to date: \$4,548.50

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for April 29 & 30, 2017

Money Counters: Chad Wolford and Barb Galvan

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Peg Murphy

Cantor: Katie Hohenbrink

Ushers: Bob Minto and John Parinello

Lector: Shannon Wannemacher

E.M.: Jessica Wischmeyer, Bob Minto, and
Rosemary Meyer

Servers: Derek Swartzlander and Abygail Kettels

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Logan Welch

Greeter-West Door: Lisa Welch

Cantor: Becca Schlumbohm

Ushers: Mike and Rhonda Maag

Lectors: Sr. Carol and Pat Lugibihl

E.M.: Jerry Wehri, Kim Garmatter, Travis Kahle,
Dave Gerschutz, Basil Meyer

Servers: Anthony Kiser, Josh and Nathan Meyer

Readings for April 30, 2017

Third Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-33

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 23, 2017



Pastoral Council nominations

take place today! Please participate thoughtfully and prayerfully. If you feel called to serve, you may nominate yourself.

Coming events

- April 30 – 1:00 p.m. First Communion Mass
- May 3 – 7:00 p.m. May Crowning
- May 11 – 6:00 p.m. Remembrance Dinner for those who have lost a spouse (Please remember your RSVP.)
- May 21 – 10:00 a.m. Graduation Mass and reception



3rd Annual

Join us for an evening of Fun and Fellowship.

Adult Turn-up Euchre Tournament

Saturday, April 29th

6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Bluffton, Social Hall

\$5/person entry fee. Sandwiches provided. Please bring a snack to share. BYOB! Singles & Couples welcome. Round-Robin play – rotating partners. Prizes to be awarded to top 3. Please sign up on counter in main entrance.

To report any suspected or actual sexual abuse of a minor by [Diocesan personnel](#), immediate contact should be made with local civil authorities, and with the Toledo Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mr. Frank DiLallo. He can be reached at 419-243-2150 (private line) or 419-244-6711, ext. 4880 in the Toledo calling area, or 1-800-926-8277, ext. 4880 (Outside Toledo, Within Ohio).

An “Entering Canaan” Day of Prayer and Healing Retreat for women who are suffering as a result of an abortion will be held Saturday, April 29, 2017. The day is hosted by Project Rachel, a ministry of Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo. For more information and confidential reservations, please call 1-888-456HOPE or 419-260-5811. Or email projectrachel@toledodiocese.org. Come and experience God's mercy!

The Toledo Diocese Catholic Council of Women is sponsoring a Spiritual Day of Renewal at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey on Wednesday, May 10, from 9 am to 3 pm for all women. Elizabeth Ficocelli, author, speaker, and radio host will be presenting The Age of Mary: A Talk on Spiritual Warfare and Bleeding Hands, Weeping Stone. The day includes Liturgy, Marian Devotions, light breakfast and lunch. Pre-registration is required by April 28. Cost \$15. Contact Judy Warntz at 419 867-1227 or Susie Pinkham, Pastoral Center, 419 244-6711, Ext. 4929 to register.

Bluffton University's 2017 **Spring Instrumental Concert** will be held at 2:30 p.m. today, Sunday, April 23 in Yoder Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Class is Wednesday, April 26th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Also there is a brief catechist meeting after class to wrap up end of year.

Jr. High classes are finished and will resume in the fall.

God Squad: Travis will communicate with the youth group.

Lenten Rice bowls were due Wednesday, April 12, 2017. If you have not turned them in, please do so immediately.