APRIL 19, 2020  DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said to him, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” - Jn 20:29

2º DOMINGO DE PASCUA

Jesús añadió: “Tú crees porque me has visto, dichosos los que creen sin haber visto”. - Jn 20, 29
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Sacramental Life
Baptism, Baptismal Preparation Class, Weddings, Hospital Visits, Home Ministry (Eucharist), Scrip: Call Parish Office - 849 - 5121

Anointing of the Sick: First Tuesday of the month at the 8:00am Mass at Saint John the Baptist or by appointment.

Reconciliation: Saint John: Saturday 4:00pm and following the 8:00am Mass on Mondays and Tuesdays. Saint Mary: Saturdays at 4:30pm and following the 8:00am Mass on Wednesdays.

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction:
First Fridays of the Month 8:30am - 10:00am
Thursdays 9:00am - 9:00pm—Saint John the Baptist

PRIEST VISITS—If you or a loved one is ill and would like a visit from a priest, please call the rectory at 849 - 5121 for St. John’s or St. Mary’s. It is also very helpful if you tell care staff that you are a member of St. Mary of the Lake Parish or St. John the Baptist Parish. Msgr. Gunn and Fr. Gabi will regularly check with local hospitals and care centers to inquire about parish members in need of assistance.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host,
by the Divine Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls.

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH WITH THE CATHOLIC HERALD
Learn more about your Catholic faith by reading the Catholic Herald. If you do not subscribe but wish to receive the Catholic Herald print or new e-Edition in your home, contact your parish office.

If you need prayers for health issues, world peace, family issues, etc., or if you’d like to join the Prayer Network, please contact Doris Labarre 849 - 9692.
**Readings for the Week of April 19, 2020**

**Sunday:**
Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

**Monday:**
Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]; Jn 3:1-8

**Tuesday:**
Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd, 2, 5 [1a]; Jn 3:7b-15

**Wednesday:**
Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]; Jn 3:16-21

**Thursday:**
Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]; Jn 3:31-36

**Friday:**
Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]; Jn 6:1-15

**Saturday:**
1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 [2]; Mk 16:15-20

Next Sunday:
Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [11a]; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

Please remember to keep in your prayers all those who have recently died and their families.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

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**A Spiritual Communion**

*Author Unknown*

Jesus, truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament,
I love You above all things and
I desire to possess You within my soul.
Since I am unable at this moment to receive You
Sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as being already there
And unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Please take an opportunity to pray for religious vocations by signing up to take the **Traveling Chalice**. You host the chalice for a week by displaying the chalice and praying for vocations each day. The pickup and drop off occurs on the weekend. For more information or to sign up please call Ed Gilkes at 608-358-5096 or email at edgilkes@gmail.com.

**Current Schedule:**
April 4/5 — Jim & Peg Tillman

For updates and information on COVID-19 from Bishop Hying and the Diocese of Madison, please go to their website: www.madisondiocese.org/updates
A Prayer When Baptism and the Sacraments Must Be Delayed

I know it’s not a race or a test of will, Lord. Yet I feel a bit lost now that the Triduum has ended and the baptismal waters remain just out of reach.

In this time of waiting, may I receive your grace—in patience that hopes with all who long to gather at your table, in compassion that abides with all aching to embrace again, and in mercy that anoints the sorrowing with the promise of joy’s return.

Let me be alert to the opportunities each day to fall more deeply in love with your Word and with your people who live that Word by their faith and courage.

Teach me to trust that the new life promised to me is already mine, for Christ is living and ever at my side. And help me wait in joyful hope for the day I know is coming when all our longings will soon be filled with your love that knows no bounds.

Amen

Diana Macalintal, © 2020

MONDAY IN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

MATTHEW 28:8-15

From Bishop Barron:

Friends, in today’s Gospel Jesus encounters the women on the road to tell the disciples of his Resurrection, early evidence for the reality of his rising.

Far too many contemporary scholars attempt to explain away the Resurrection, turning it into a myth, a legend, a symbol, a sign that the cause of Jesus goes on. But this kind of speculation is born in faculty lounges, for few in the first century would have found that kind of talk the least bit convincing.

Can you imagine Paul tearing into Corinth or Athens with the message that there was an inspiring dead man who symbolized the presence of God? No one would have taken him seriously.

Instead, what Paul declared in all of those cities was anastasis (resurrection). What sent him and his colleagues all over the Mediterranean world (and their energy can be sensed on every page of the New Testament) was the shocking novelty of the Resurrection of a dead man through the power of the Holy Spirit.

A dead man who stayed in his grave would be, necessarily, a false Messiah, and his teaching, however inspiring, could never hold off the power of death.

Lord Jesus, You traveled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness among the people. At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now in this health crisis so that we may know your healing love.

Heal those who are sick: may they regain their health and strength.
Heal us from our fear, which prevents us from helping one another.
Heal us from our pride, which makes us certain of our health and life apart from you.
Bless health care professionals with strength and Compassion as they selflessly respond to our needs.
We make this prayer in your strong and holy name, you, who with the Father and Spirit, live and reign for ever and ever.
Amen.

A PRAYER IN TIMES OF PESTILENCE

The Star of Heaven that nourished the Lord drove away the plague of death which the first parents of man brought into the world.
May this bright star now vouchsafe to extinguish that foul constellation whose battles have slain the people with the wound of death.
O most pious Star of the Sea, preserve us from pestilence; hear us, O Lady, for Thy Son honors Thee by denying Thee nothing.
Save us, O Jesus, for whom Thy Virgin Mother supplicates Thee.

V: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
R: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
Amen.
History of the Message and Devotion to Divine Mercy

by Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC.

The Message of the Divine Mercy that Sr. Faustina received from the Lord was not only directed toward her personal growth in faith but also toward the good of the people. With the command of our Lord to paint an image according to the pattern that Sr. Faustina had seen, came also a request to have this image venerated, first in the Sisters’ chapel, and then throughout the world. The same is true with the revelations of the Chaplet. The Lord requested that this Chaplet be said not only by Sr. Faustina, but by others: “Encourage souls to say the Chaplet that I have given you.”

The same is true of the revelation of the Feast of Mercy. "The Feast of Mercy emerged from my very depths of tenderness. It is my desire that it solemnly be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the fount of My Mercy."

These requests of the Lord given to Sr. Faustina between 1931 and 1938 can be considered the beginning of the Divine Mercy Message and Devotion in the new forms.

Through the efforts of Sr. Faustina’s spiritual directors, Fr. Michael Sopocko, and Fr. Joseph Andrasz, SJ, and others — including the Marians of the Immaculate Conception — this message began to spread throughout the world.

However, it is important to remember that this message of The Divine Mercy, revealed to St. Faustina and to our present generation is not new. It is a powerful reminder of who God is and has been from the very beginning. This truth that God is in His very nature Love and Mercy Itself, is given to us by our Judeo-Christian faith and God’s self-revelation. The veil that has hidden the mystery of God from eternity was lifted by God Himself. In His goodness and love God chose to reveal Himself to us, His creatures, and to make known His eternal plan of salvation. This He had done partly through the Old Testament Patriarchs, Moses and the Prophets, and fully through His only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In the person of Jesus Christ, conceived through power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, the unseen God was made visible.

Jesus reveals God as Merciful Father

The Old Testament speaks frequently and with great tenderness about God’s mercy. Yet, it was Jesus, who through His words and actions, revealed to us in an extraordinary way, God as a loving Father, rich in mercy and abounding in great kindness and love. In Jesus’ merciful love and care for the poor, the oppressed, the sick and the sinful, and especially in His freely choosing to take upon Himself the punishment for our sins (a truly horrible suffering and death on the Cross), so that all may be freed from destructive consequences and death, He manifested in a superabundant and radical way the greatness of God’s love and mercy for humanity. In His person as God-Man, one in being with the Father, Jesus both reveals and is God’s Love and Mercy Itself.

The message of God’s Love and Mercy is especially made known by the Gospels.

The good news revealed through Jesus Christ is that God’s love for each person knows no bounds, and no sin or infidelity, no matter how horrible, will separate us from God and His love when we turn to Him in confidence, and seek his mercy. God’s will is our salvation. He has done all on our behalf, but since He made us free, He invites us to choose Him and partake of His divine life. We become partakers of His divine life when we believe in His revealed truth and trust Him, when we love Him and remain true to His word, when we honor Him and seek His Kingdom, when we receive Him in Communion and turn away from sin; when we are mutually caring and forgiving.
A quick history
Just a couple of generations ago, Catholics would have considered the Angelus to be an essential part of their daily routine. The bells of nearby Catholic churches would ring, and they would stop, pray the Angelus, and then return to whatever it is they were doing.

In fact, the Angelus was a common part of Catholic life throughout the Middle Ages when illiterate laity found it to be a great way to imitate the monks and nuns who were praying the Liturgy of the Hours throughout the day. Just as the religious would stop everything throughout the day and pray together the Divine Office, the laity in the nearby towns and villages could stop and pray together in unison when hearing the bells ring at 6 a.m., noon, and 6 p.m.

A brief meditation on the prayers
To understand more fully the impact this devotion can have on your daily life and the life of your family, let us meditate briefly on each of the prayers within the devotion. The prayers express beliefs we can put into practice throughout our days.

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
   R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Interruptions are difficult. When the bell rings or the notification on your phone pops up to remind you it is time to pray the Angelus, you have to stop whatever you are doing and focus your mind and heart on God. I imagine this was a similar experience for Mary, whose unexpected visit from an angel set her on an unbelievable journey with God.

Likewise, we encounter frequent “Angelus moments” in which God speaks to us in unexpected ways. Look for and welcome the interruptions in your days, both small and large. Whether it is a phone call or message from a friend, a request from a coworker, or a comment on social media, God may be calling you in unique and unexpected directions. Are you willing to set aside your plans and open yourself up to the working of the Holy Spirit in your life as Mary did?

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
   R. Be it done to me according to thy word.

The self-help authors and speakers of the world often motivate their audiences with strategies to take control of our lives by setting big goals and taking intense action to reach them. They suggest the latest “life hacks” to reach these goals as quickly as possible.

By echoing the words of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Angelus, we take a different approach. We let God know that his will for us is our priority. We seek to align our desires, dreams, and goals with his Word. We seek only to serve him as simple handmaids. Can we, like Mary, open ourselves up completely to the Word of the Lord?

V. And the Word was made flesh.
   R. And dwelt among us.

The biggest challenge we face from our culture today is the misguided notion that God is either distant or dead. From atheists to agnostics, the idea is that God is not here because we cannot physically see his existence. With this prayer we remind ourselves that our God did become flesh and walked this very earth, and God continues to be present among us. Where will we encounter God today, and how can we bear testimony to these encounters to those who may not see God’s presence in their lives?

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
   R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The most common way for us to pray is to ask God for help. These prayers often focus on our personal desires, needs, and wants. There is nothing wrong with this, of course, but through this petition to Mary, we seek something different. We ask her to pray for our worthiness. Could we ask Jesus directly? Sure, but here we turn to Mary as the perfect model of humility. Though she was the Mother of God, she sought to be just a simple handmaid, and that is why she has been crowned queen of heaven. What areas of your life need to be made more worthy of unity with God?

The concluding prayer
We conclude the Angelus with an appeal to the Lord to pour forth his grace into our hearts. We also remind ourselves of the significance of Christ’s entire life from his incarnation to his passion, death, and resurrection. Not only that, we also remind ourselves of our shared destination with Christ: to rest in his glory. With the grace of God in our hearts, what can we do for the people around us?

An invitation to pray
Maybe you already pray the Angelus daily, or maybe this is an opportunity to start praying it again. Maybe this is the first time you’ve really heard of the prayer, and that’s OK, too. It was completely new to me before I started praying it.

Why did I start? It was very simple: Someone invited me to pray it. In turn, I invited my wife to pray it with me. Then we invited our children to pray it with us. The Angelus is a devotion meant to be shared with others. Let’s pray it together, whether physically present together or united in spiritual prayer.

My question to you is:

Will you lead?
The Angelus is traditionally prayed in a call and response format, with a leader announcing the versicle (V) and everyone present saying the response (R).

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to your word.

Hail Mary . . .

V. And the Word was made Flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary . . .

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:
Pour forth we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by his passion and cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection.

Through the same Christ Our Lord.

Amen.
2019-2020 FAITH FORMATION

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First Holy Communion Masses

Children, we will look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of First Holy Communion at a future date when we can all come together on your big day! It will be a day of great joy and thanksgiving as you receive the Body & Blood of Christ for the first time.

Discerning Vocations

Question: What does it mean to discern a vocation?

Answer: The word vocation comes from the Latin word vocare, meaning “to call.” A vocation is a calling or invitation from God to serve in a particular way. For Catholics, that calling might be as a priest, sister, or married person. Vocation is the way we respond to the invitation to share in God’s grace and witness to God’s love in the world.

Discerning a vocation is the process in which we pray for God’s guidance. We listen for God’s message that is often quiet and unassuming in a world filled with noise and distractions. We look at our gifts and talents, seek the advice of others, examine our motives, and listen to see what God is asking of us. The goal of discernment is to follow what the Lord wills, not what we think is the best idea. Many men enter a seminary to discern if that is their vocation, only to discover that their calling is to marriage. Others have resisted the idea for long periods of time, until finally they could resist no more. Some great saints have described that dilemma. Vocation is a human process of divine origin, and each of us must strive constantly to hear the call of God in our lives.

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CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL TEENAGERS!!!

It’s been a crazy few weeks. There’s a lot up in the air, and we’re not sure when we’ll start gathering at the Church again – but that doesn’t mean youth events have to stop...

Thousands of teenagers from across the country are gathering on Sunday nights for the BIGGEST YOUTH NIGHT EVER. It’s called ProjectYM Live and each week it’ll feature some of the biggest speakers and worship leaders in the Catholic youth ministry world – last week they had OVER TEN THOUSAND students participate.

Saint John the Baptist is signed up to participate and students do NOT need to preregister.

All students have to do is head to PROJECTYM.COM/WATCH this Sunday at 7pm CDT.

Students will need a PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS to log on.

The broadcast starts at 7pm CDT, but plan to log in a few minutes early to make sure you’re on when it starts. Students can access the event on any device with a web browser – but the faster the connection, the better.

Eileen Daley edaley@stjb.org

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Vacation Bible School

Saint John the Baptist Church

June 16–19, 2020??? TBA

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED TO SHARE IN THE MARVELOUS MYSTERY VBS!

HS & MS Students—Adults

Contact Eileen Daley at edaley@stjb.org Or (608) 849-5121 ext 174

©LPi
WE NEED HELP!

Are you looking for some meaningful way of helping families within our community? The Waunakee Food Pantry is in need of Volunteers who are under the age of 70, in good health and not caring for someone with a health need at this time. We are still open our normal schedule but with drive up service only in order to maintain social distancing. Donations can be made at the Waunakee Food Pantry, 806B S. Division St. in the donation box outside the door.

Top Items Needed by the Waunakee Food Pantry

- Spaghetti sauce
- Snacks
- Breakfast cereal
- Laundry detergent
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Toiletries (Soap, shampoo, etc.)
- Condiments (honey, mayonnaise, ketchup and mustard)
- Crackers
- Canned meats
- Canned fruit
- Boxed or bagged dinners (Hamburger Helper)
- Boxed potatoes
- Pancake mix
- Pancake syrup
- Flour
- Sugar
- Snack items and crackers (Snack items that can be put into the Children’s luncheons, any type of cracker)

Please check expiration dates on food items before you donate.

Diocese of Madison OEC—
Marriage and Family—608 - 821 - 3000

Marriage Prep Weekend Retreats
Make the most of your marriage preparation!
For dates and registration, go to www.madisondiocese.org/mp

ESPAÑOL preparacion matrimonial
Spanish Real Life, Real Love Marriage Prep Session
Llame al 608 - 821 - 3000 para REGISTRARSE

World Wide Marriage Encounter

“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” Do you believe that Jesus is the Lord of your marriage? Bring God into your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter. For more info go to: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653. Para un fin de semana en español por favor llamen a Candelario y Emilia al 815-375-4250.

Healing from Abortion
Healing from Abortion — One Weekend at a Time
Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats - offer Hope and Healing for any person, who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion.

Visit:  www.madisondiocese.org/rachel
or
www.madisondiocese.org/projectrachel

Breakfast for the Homeless—Cereal for breakfast, sugar and powdered coffee creamer is always needed. A designated box will remain in the Gathering Room at Saint John the Baptist Church for these items if you are able to donate. Your donations mean a great deal Thank you!
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Give Yourself Completely—The early days of the first Christian community were not easy by any measurement. Jesus had been executed, and his disciples had to be discreet so as not to meet a similar fate. Jesus was now risen, but the truth of his resurrection was not accepted by all. However, the depiction of that early community in Acts 2:42-47 would lead someone to believe it was the opposite situation. We are told of community life where people lean on each other and share great joy. They ate and prayed together, and many wonders and signs were occurring to lift the community and bear witness to the power of Jesus Christ. They were disciples living out their faith, and it was their strong sense of stewardship that made all this possible in the face of threatening Roman and Jewish powers.

Today, we find the Church in a new turmoil. Increasing secularism, abuse scandals, and a lack of true fidelity place us once again in a time that is not easy. A friend of mine likes to say that any challenge of sin we encounter in the Church has its origin in a lack or misunderstanding of the stewardship way of life. We create our burdens by not using our gifts wisely and by turning inward selfishly.

Could we use the story in Acts of the early Church to help us today? If we begin with the decision to give of ourselves completely to God and His people, will we become agents of change? There is only one way to find out.

RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Regálate Completamente—Los primeros días de la primera comunidad cristiana no fueron fáciles en ninguna medida. Jesús había sido ejecutado, y sus discípulos tenían que ser discretos para no encontrarse con un destino similar. Jesús había resucitado, pero la verdad de su resurrección no era aceptada por todos. Sin embargo, la representación de esa comunidad primitiva en Hechos 2: 42-47 llevaría a alguien a creer que era la situación opuesta. Se nos habla de la vida comunitaria donde las personas se apoyan mutuamente y comparten un gran gozo. Comieron y oraron juntos, y muchas maravillas y señales estaban ocurriendo para levantar a la comunidad y dar testimonio del poder de Jesús-cristo. Eran discípulos que vivían su fe, y fue su fuerte sentido de corresponsabilidad lo que hizo posible todo esto ante la amenaza de los poderes romanos y judíos.

El día de hoy, encontramos a la Iglesia en un nuevo tumulto. El creciente secularismo, los escándalos de abuso y la falta de verdadera fidelidad nos ubican nuevamente en un momento que no es fácil. Un amigo mío le gusta decir que cualquier desafío de pecado que encontremos en la Iglesia tiene su origen en la falta o la incomprensión de la forma de vida de corresponsabilidad. Creamos nuestras cargas al no usar nuestros dones sabiamente y al volvernos egoístamente hacia adentro.

¿Podríamos usar la historia de la Iglesia primitiva en Hechos para ayudarnos hoy? Si comenzamos con la decisión de entregarnos completamente a Dios y a Su pueblo, ¿nos convertiremos en agentes de cambio? Solo hay una manera de descubrirlo.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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