



SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

201 St. Mary's Avenue
La Plata, Maryland 20646-1390
(301) 934-2261

APRIL 24, 2022
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

(301) 648-8783 (Sacramental Emergencies)
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PASTORAL STAFF & OFFICES

REV. SCOTT WOODS, Pastor
REV. JACK A. BERARD, Parochial Vicar
REV. MR. WILLIAM CARTER, Permanent Deacon
REV. MR. MATTHEW C. LAIDLEY, Permanent Deacon
REV. MR. ALBERT E. GRAHAM, JR., Permanent Deacon, Retired

PARISH OFFICE:

205 St. Mary's Avenue - (301) 934-2261
Office Hours: Mon—Fri —9:00-3:00PM

Mrs. Concetta Schmitz, Office Manager
Mrs. Christine Knecht, Finance & Human Resources
Mrs. Caitlin Milby, Secretary

ARCHBISHOP NEALE SCHOOL:

104 Port Tobacco Road - (301) 934-9595 or (301) 870-3679
Grades Pre-K thru 8. After school day care.
Mrs. Teresa Skinner, Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

Mr. William Wannall, Pastoral Associate
(301) 934-2261, Ext. 107

MINISTRY TO HOMEBOUND, HOSPITAL & NURSING HOMES:

Mrs. Julie Ferrero, Coordinator
(301) 752-2377

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Ms. Anna Albright, Director
(301) 934-2261, Ext. 105

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Mrs. Emily Login, Director
(443) 684-1435

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE:

Mr. Michael Knecht
(301) 934-2261

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING:

Mrs. Ellen Blumhardt
(301) 641-1377

MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY:

Ms. Caitlin Langreich, M.A., LGPC, CCTP
(301) 541-3740

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays: Vigil Mass at 5:00 PM (Rosary at 4:20PM)
Sundays: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM & 12:00 PM
8:00 AM at St. Joseph's Monastery (Carmel)

DAILY MASSES:

Monday thru Friday - 12:00 Noon
7:15 AM at St. Joseph's Monastery (Carmel)
Wednesday - 7:00 PM
Saturday - 8:00 AM (Carmel), 9:00 AM (Sacred Heart)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

- **First Fridays:** 6:00 - 7:00 PM
- **Wednesdays:** 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- **Saturdays:** 4:00 - 4:45 PM
- **By appointment**

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

7:30-8:30 PM each Wednesday in the Main Church

FIRST FRIDAY: Confessions 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Mass & Devotions to the Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: For children (children younger than 7), parents should fill out the online Request for Baptism form and then **contact Concetta Schmitz** at 301.934.2261 at least one month in advance to schedule a date and attend a preparation class.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Couples must contact a priest or deacon at least 6 months before the anticipated date. The bride or groom must be a parishioner of Sacred Heart. Marriage preparation program is required.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Please call Mr. William Wannall in the parish office to arrange for the instructions about our faith. Classes are held on Tuesdays (September thru May) from 7:00-8:30 PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: We are an affiliate parish of the St. John Paul II Regional Faith Formation Program. K thru Grade 8, meets Sundays, 10:20 - 11:30 AM at ANS, September thru May.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK: To arrange for a home "Communion" call please contact Julie Ferrero at 301-752-2377 or call the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: To arrange for the Sacrament, please contact the parish office.

MARIAN DEVOTIONS: Weekly during May & October.

Miraculous Medal Novena/Rosary after 9 AM Sat. Mass. Rosary on Saturday at 4:30 PM before 5:00 PM Vigil Mass.

PARISH COUNCIL: Meets September through May.

YOUTH GROUP: For students in grades 6-12, see website for calendar events.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Welcome new members to our parish family. Please register as soon as possible. The registration form can be found on our website. To be eligible for admission to our Religious Education program, reception of the Sacraments or to receive testimonial letters for sponsorship outside the Parish, an individual must be a registered participating member of the parish, known to the pastor, attend the sacraments and supporting the ministries of the church.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING BULLETIN DUE TO PARISH OFFICE BY 12 NOON MONDAY

SACRED HEART CHURCH, LA PLATA

Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

7:00AM Repose of the soul of Chris Navarra
8:00AM Repose of the soul of Jaime Trochez
9:00AM Repose of the soul of Martin Shawn Spellacy
12:00PM Sacred Heart Parishioners

MONDAY, APRIL 25, SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST

7:15AM Intentions of Oscar Trochez
10:00AM Special intentions of Betty Coombs

TUESDAY, APRIL 26, EASTER WEEKDAY

7:15AM Repose of soul of Luisa Mantilla
12:00PM Intentions of Mike Holt

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, EASTER WEEKDAY

7:15AM Repose of the soul of Helen T. Stone
12:00PM Special intentions of Crystal Wedding
7:00PM Intentions of Lou Barrett

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, EASTER WEEKDAY

7:15AM Repose of the soul of Helen T. Stone
12:00PM Repose of the soul of Colleen Brett

FRIDAY, APRIL 29, SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

7:15AM Repose of the soul of Margaret Caroleo
12:00PM Repose of the soul of Rev. Desmond P. Murphy

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, EASTER WEEKDAY; VIGIL: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00AM Repose of the soul of Helen T. Stone
9:00AM Repose of the soul of Michael Echaniz
5:00PM Repose of the soul of Danny Hart

Please note that the 8AM Saturday and Sunday Masses, and the 7:15AM daily Mass take place at Mt. Carmel Monastery. All other Masses are celebrated at Sacred Heart.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Question: Where did the feast of Divine Mercy come from?

Answer: If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of Divine Mercy has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and love for the world. She received a set of prayers — the Divine Mercy Chaplet — and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God. St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.

Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young woman, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first-ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, “a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind with experience in the years to come.” ©LPi

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET NOVENA

Sunday, April 24, Divine Mercy Sunday

1:00-3:00—Exposition of Blessed Sacrament—Confessions
3:00PM—Divine Mercy Chaplet Sung



Please pray for our sick

Joe Lawrence, Marlene Sprouse, Ruth Watson, David and Cathy Osborne, Susan Murphy, Michelle Goldsmith, Harry Fraunfelder, Rachael Weaver, Bob Turgeon, Mary Charlotte Yates, Teresa Shuttles, Jim Isaac, Ralph Johnson, Calvin Ware, Wanda Woodland, Paul Wills, Louisette Lamoureux, Eleanor Hamilton, Rebecca Morris, Mary Barrasso, Janice Valdisera, Joan Johnson, Frances Franch, Brian Stack, Noel Edelen, Carol Humphrey, Mary Hammond, David Jones, Paula Miles, Monique Lamoureux, Pat Howell, Jeni Carrier, Jan Bond, Margie Simpson, William Jung, Brenda Carignan, Kass Harker, Toni Gallagher, John Bawner, Dave Forbes, Elroy Hemsley, Elva Yates, Julia White, George Jackson, Gianna Grace, Jamie Seith, Randy Martin, David & Kathryn Newman, Mary Krug, Marilyn Hoffmann, Carolyn Posey, and Mikey Raymond.

Names will remain on the above prayer list for 60 days from the time they are requested. At the end of that time, you may renew your request.

Thank You

A special thank you to the members of our parish and decorating team for their hard work and dedication in making our church look so beautiful during the Easter Season. Thank you for the generous donations made in memory and /or in honor of your family members that allowed us to have such beautiful Easter flowers.



MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA

Sunday, May 8, is Mother's Day. As is our custom here at Sacred Heart, a Novena of Masses, beginning on Mother's Day will be offered for all mothers, both living and deceased, whose names are submitted to us. Special cards and envelopes are available in the Narthex of the church. What a wonderful way to remember your mother on her special day!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Priest's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Happy Easter! As we celebrate the 2nd Sunday of Easter more popularly known as Divine Mercy Sunday. We conclude today the Divine Mercy novena begun on Good Friday. We see the Divine Mercy image is the Resurrected Christ. In the Divine Mercy Image we see the two rays pouring out of the side of Christ, one red and the other blue. These two rays spring forth from the open heart of Christ, much like the blood and water which came forth from His pierced side.

This devotion comes from a private revelation to Sr. Faustina, a young Polish nun in Krakow. Her convent is not particularly large and if not for her presence and this apparition it would not be particularly important. I have been blessed to visit the Shrine several times and it is noteworthy that is a little out of the way in the city. Krakow is a beautiful and ancient city, but her convent isn't by the Cathedral or main square or the university or the cultural hubs. No, the convent is in a more industrial area, up on a hill out of the way. Much like the message of Divine Mercy it is humble but powerful.

Sr. Faustina received this image and mission to spread devotion to Divine Mercy between 1931 and her death at 33 years old in 1938. The call for Divine Mercy Sunday was given to her in 1936 in Krakow. What is so striking is that not 2 hours away is the site of one of the greatest atrocities the world has ever seen, Auschwitz. Divine Mercy stands in stark contrast with such awful death and despair. The Lord prepared her, and the world, to receive life and hope from Him.

But what are those promises that provide such hope. Christ gave 14 to St. Faustina, but I'm going to copy four here:

"The two rays denote Blood and Water...These two rays issued from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father...I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy...whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy." (Diary of St. Faustina, 299-300)

"I desire that the Feast of Mercy...be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter...The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion (in a state of grace on this day) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary of St. Faustina, 699)

"The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death." (Diary of St. Faustina, 754)

"The prayer most pleasing to Me is prayer for the conversion for sinners. Know, my daughter, that this prayer is always heard and answered." (Diary of St. Faustina, 1397)

We should take these words seriously and place our trust in them.

God Bless, Fr. Jack

THIS WEEKS SECOND COLLECTION on April 24 is for CHURCH MISSIONS WITHIN THE US. Strengthening the Church at Home by supporting essential pastoral programs in financially challenged dioceses and eparchies in the United States through the annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Please be generous . Your support truly makes a difference. Thank you.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Due to early bulletin deadlines, the financial information will be included in the May 1 bulletin.

SACRED HEART SUMMER CAMP

Registration for Sacred Heart Summer Camp is now open! We will have 6 weeks of camp beginning June 20, with some new and exciting camps alongside some of our favorite from last year. All children ages 4-13 are welcome. For rates, camp options, registration, payment, and volunteering opportunities, visit our website: <https://www.sacredheartlaplata.org/summer-camp.html>



Divine Mercy Sunday

This weekend we celebrate the Sunday of Divine Mercy. God's greatest desire is to forgive us, pouring out His infinite mercy upon us so that we may be healed. Women and men alike who have been involved in an abortion may feel deep grief, guilt, anxiety, depression, broken relationships and a sense of alienation from God and Church. They may experience anniversary reactions to the date of the abortion or what would have been the baby's due date. For anyone struggling, the Church cares. It is never too late to seek the Lord's mercy and healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confidential and compassionate help is available through ProjectRachel@adw.org

In today's Gospel, Jesus appears to His disciples after His death exposing the wounds He endured for our salvation. Jesus said "Peace be with you." Only Thomas was not present when Jesus appeared; He doubted Jesus had appeared.

How often have we doubted the Lord?

How often have we hidden in fear, unable to bear the shame of our mistakes and failures? What sins have we painfully buried in our hearts rather than exposing them to the healing light of God's mercy?

St. John Paul II said in his homily for the Sunday of Divine Mercy. "Divine Mercy! This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity." Today we celebrate that Easter gift of God's unending, merciful love for all His children. This message is at the heart of the Gospel. Let us never fail to seek the mercy that God desires to freely give us. Jesus, we trust in You.



CEMETERY NEWS



The cemetery was recently cleared of all decorations. Now that we are in the mowing season please remember that holiday decorations must be removed within 2 weeks of the holiday. For example, Easter decorations should be removed by May 1st.

No ornamentation should be placed in the ground. They should be on the base of the stone or on the stone itself.

If you are interested in reserving a niche in columbarium of the parish cemetery, please call Catholic Cemeteries at 301-932-1766.

Free fill dirt is available if anyone is interested.

Call Gene Ambrogio at 301-934-1607 or email genecyte@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

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Get those Gift Cards from Archbishop Neale School Get your gift cards early! We stock Weis Markets, Safeway, Giant, Food Lion, Hunan Star, BJ's Club, Ledo's, Panera Bread and Starbucks ready for walk-in sales every **Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P. M.** on-line are Kohl's, Wal-Mart, Best Buy, Target, Shell and all your favorites – just tell us what cards you want and we place order for you! Call the **Certificate Office at 301.934.9595** any Friday and we will help you get started to order on-line at www.shopwithscrip.com (**our Non-profit Enrollment Code is LB28LFAD816**). Card orders placed by Monday will be sent to the school and ready for pick-up on Friday. Bring your check or cash when you pick up your cards.

Substitutes Needed

Archbishop Neale School is in need of substitute teachers. If you are interested, please contact the school office at 301-934-9595 for more information. Any applicant must be in full compliance with the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington's Child.

Archbishop Neale School is now enrolling students in grades PK3- 8th. To learn more about all that we have to offer or to schedule a tour, please call the school office (301) 934-9595 or email Mrs. Mary Ellen Howard at admissions@archbishopnealeschool.org. We would love to have you be a part of our school community!

Who Can Offer Anointing of the Sick?

Question: Can anyone offer the Anointing of the Sick to a sick or dying person, or is that only something a priest can do?

Answer: The Letter of James speaks to us of the ancient tradition of a special anointing and blessing of those who are sick: "Is there anyone sick among you? Let him send for the presbyters of the Church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord ... If he has committed any sins, they will be forgiven him" (5:14, 15b). This passage forms the foundation for the theology of the sacrament that we call "Anointing of the Sick." In keeping with what we read in the Letter of James and the ancient tradition of the Church, the anointing of a person of who sick or dying many only be performed by a priest or bishop.

Although deacons and other members of the Church are not able to celebrate the sacrament with a person who is sick, we can read Sacred Scripture and pray with and for those who are ill. Resources like the Book of Blessings also contain special blessings that can be celebrated by deacons or lay ministers. In the end, we want to be sure that we show a special care and concern for the sick, helping them to always experience God's loving comfort through made tangible through our acts of charity and service.



100 years of service to our Parish!

We are asking "Servant Leaders" to join us to Support, Help and Serve our Priests and community in any needs or services. Please contact Steve Urso at SJU-FIU@MSN.com or call 410-320-7078



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