WEEKEND MASS

Saturday
4:00 PM Sacred Heart

Sunday
7:30 AM Sacred Heart
9:15 AM St. Philip
11:00 AM Sacred Heart

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday—Thursday
7:45 AM
Sacred Heart

CONFESSION

Saturday
2:45 PM

Office: 24 Sacred Heart Place (207)782-8096
Hours: Mon—Thu 8:30 to 3:30 (Closed Fridays)
Email: ihmadmin@portlanddiocese.org **Website:** www.ihm-auburn.org

Fr. Robert D. Lariviere, Pastor

Deacon Denis Mailhot

St. Philip Church
2365 Turner Road

Sacred Heart Church
8 Sacred Heart Place
Corner of Minot & Western Avenue

GOSPEL MEDITATION -

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

April 11, 2021
2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. "Mercy is the heart of God," Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God's mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God's mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God's mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope," Pope Francis continues. God's all forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ's resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life's imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn't matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God's mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us. Breathe in God's mercy, allow the wind of God's presence to kiss all of your sins and caress all of your fears. Exhale peace.

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FAMILY formation

April Session #7 - Kneeling Before the Majesty of God

CHANGE: Sunday 4/11 St. Philip 10:30 am

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for **Ages 3-6** at Sacred Heart Parish Center in the atrium classroom. Helping your children learn about Jesus and their faith in a Montessori style setting. Call the office at 782-8096 for more information. *Sessions observe all guidelines for safety and social distancing. A mask or other approved face covering must be worn by everyone at all times.*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Please join us this Sunday, April 11, following the 11 AM Mass for the Divine Mercy Chaplet in song. The Icon blessed by Saint John Paul II will be place in the sanctuary at Sacred Heart Church. This is a much needed celebration after a long year with COVID. We hope to continue this service on the second Sunday of each month. We all needs God's Merch. *Provided by the Knights of Columbus of our Parish.*

Stewardship Offering

March 28	$ 5,440
Good Friday	$ 1,349
April 4	$ 6,551
Retired Priest Pension Fund	$ 3,412

"Compassion: The Gift of God's Healing Presence" Biddeford on April 23-25

Come away for a weekend to be quiet, to be loved, to be healed, and to bask in the intimate presence of a gentle, understanding, non-judgmental, nourishing, and life-giving God. "Compassion: The Gift of God's Healing Presence" will be held at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford on April 23-25. The retreat is $250 for those staying the weekend and $130 for commuters. For more information or to register, visit www.mariejosephspiritual.org or call (207) 284-5671.

"Encountering God in Nature" Biddeford April 30 – May 2

"Encountering God in Nature," with Heather Makowicz, will be offered at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford on April 30 – May 2. Makowicz organizes and leads hiking excursions and other outdoor experiences that integrate prayer, contemplation, and reflection to encounter God in His creation. The cost of the weekend, including a private room, is $250. For more information or to register, visit www.mariejosephspiritual.org or call (207) 284-5671.

Free Income Tax Preparation and eFiling

The income tax submission deadline has been extended to May 17th, 2021. **If you still have not filed your taxes, help is available.**

AARP Tax Aide offers free income tax help with federal and state income tax and the Property Tax Fairness Credit at Sacred Heart Church hall. Taxes are prepared and e-filed by IRS-certified tax preparers beginning April 5. Anyone with household income of $60,000.00 or less is eligible unless you have business or rental income.

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Appointments are required
Please Call 513-3170.

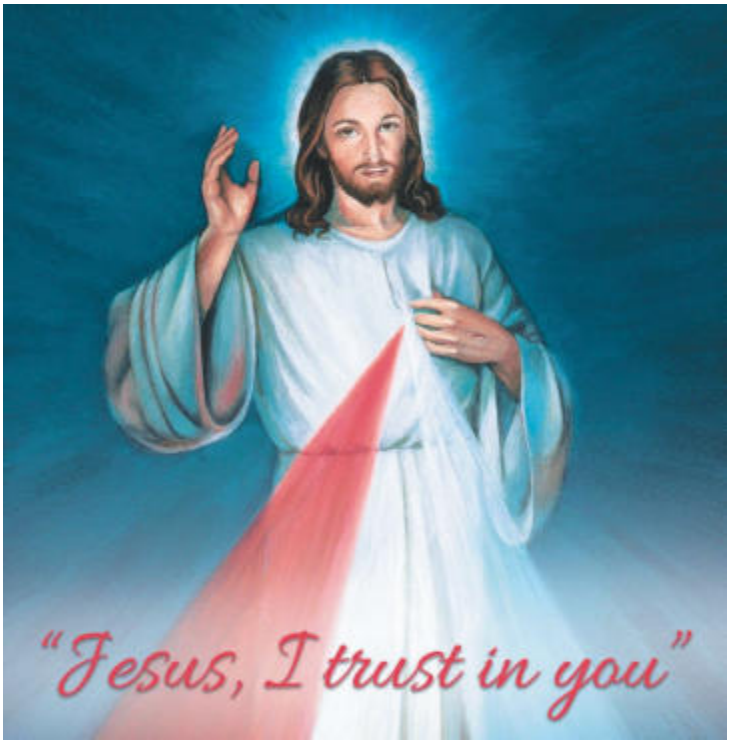
Understanding Our Catholic Faith

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



PRAYER REQUESTS

Joshua Cannady, Melanie Creamer, Marc Frennette, Jeremey Gagne, Gene & Marlene Keene, Matthew Piper, Joanne Raymond, Tony Renaud, Carmen White and Bruno Yomoah

Maine Virtual Catholic Youth Gathering on April 25

"One Shepherd, One Flock," a live, virtual, and interactive gathering for Maine Catholic youth will be held on Good Shepherd Sunday, April 25, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. As was done last year, you can meet as a group at one location or individually at home. There will be prayer, activities, short reflections, and games (including "Shepherdy!") as well as time for participants to share. For more information about the gathering or to register, visit www.portlanddiocese.org/content/maine-catholic-youth-gathering.

"Praying with Hearts and Hands" Biddeford on May 21-23

Join the Holy Knitters Prayer Shawl Ministry as it joyfully shares in the care of God's people by using the gifts of their hands to knit or crochet sacred prayer shawls. Prayers and blessings are woven into the shawls as hands work to fashion them. The shawls are then given to people for comfort, healing, or in celebration. Basic knitting or crocheting skills are a prerequisite for this retreat. A list of required materials will be sent upon registration. The cost is $250 for a private room. For more information or to register, visit www.mariejosephspiritual.org or call (207) 284-5671.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 4/10 **4:00 pm Sacred Heart**
Mr. Mrs. Adrian Vincent by Leo & Rita Vincent & Family

Sunday 4/11 **7:30 am Sacred Heart**
Richard Valcourt by Richard & Jackie Sawyer
9:15 am St. Philip
Yvonne Bilodeau by Doris, Randy & Josh Parenteau
11:00 am Sacred Heart
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioners

Monday 4/12 **7:45 am Sacred Heart**
George Landry by Pat & Mike Bilodeau

Tuesday 4/13 **7:45 am Sacred Heart**
Thomas Verreault, Sr. by K.C. Andy Valley 8742

Wednesday 4/14 **7:45 am Sacred Heart**
Gerald Lachapelle by Roland Bergeron

Thursday 4/15 **7:45 am Sacred Heart**
Deceased Loved Ones of Parishioners

Friday 4/16
NO MASS

Saturday 4/17 **4:00 pm Sacred Heart**
Georgette Hamel by Aleta Rioux & Bonnie Stone

Sunday 4/18 **7:30 am Sacred Heart**
Richard Valcourt by Sr. Dorene Moreau
9:15 am St. Philip
Armond Morin by Larry & Lorraine Vaillancourt
11:00 am Sacred Heart
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioners

Readings for the Week of April 11, 2021

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/ Jn 20:19-3
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: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/Jn 6:16-21
Next Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/ 1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

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