

# celebration of

Divine Mercy

Apri 28,2019

# St. Mary's Catholic Church

HAMBURG, IA.

Today, on the final day of the Octave of Easter, the eight-day celebration of Jesus' resurrection, we give praise and thanks for God's mercy. Scripture is replete with examples of divine mercy, foremost among them Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Truly, as we hear repeated in the responsorial psalm today, "(God's) mercy endures forever." As we celebrate today's liturgy, let us recall the times in our lives when we have felt that tender mercy.

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DIVINE

Divine Mercy (Second Sunday of Easter)

Acts 5:12-16; Psalm 118; Revelation 1:9-13,17-19; John 20:19-31

### Theme: The Human Touch

One day a nurse at a hospital heard cries of 'Help! Help!' coming from the room of a 96-year-old woman who had broken her hip. They rushed in to find that she was just thirsty. 'why don't you push the buzzer?' the nurse asked. 'I have done that,' she said and continued 'I tried but no one responded. The buzzer does not have any human touch.' Physical contact with others is very important. We desperately need to have someone next to us, a friendly and comforting presence. When you visit an orphanage, the children fight for the privilege of touching you.

With this in mind, we can understand how Thomas and the other apostles must have felt when death robbed them of the physical presence of their Master. They had pinned all their hopes and dreams on Christ. But then a storm broke over them and suddenly he was gone. A feeling of hopelessness and futility gripped them.

Beloved, to accept the message of Jesus is no easy matter. The gospel's challenges are unrelenting for the believer and seemingly ridiculous for the nonbeliever. Today's readings suggest how our faith response can counteract our fear and hesitancy to follow Christ wholeheartedly.

The gospel passage also focuses on the very real human experience of fear. The disciples seek the security of secret rooms and locked doors. Only the presence of Jesus is able to calm their anxieties and enable Thomas to profess: "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). We are all strengthened by his proclamation!

The readings of today remind us that faith involves movement from the world of God into the world of God's people. Here, doing is believing. To Pg. 3.....

In today's Gospel, we heard that Jesus showed the disciples His wounds: He showed them His hands and His side. They were the wounds made by the nails and the lance. Jesus, even after His resurrection, still carried His wound. Since He had a glorified body; He could have dispensed and disposed of His wounds. But He still carried them because:

### They are the Wound of His Identity

The wounds of Jesus are the infallible proofs that it was the same person. This is the same Jesus who walked with the disciples for the last three years; this is the same Jesus whom the disciples deserted when He was arrested, condemned and crucified; this is the same Jesus whom they unfastened from the cross and placed His body in the tomb. The wounds of Jesus were one of the living, physical connections between the Jesus before His death and Jesus after His resurrection.

To prove His identity, Jesus showed the disciples His wounds in His hands and on His side. When Thomas doubted the resurrection of the Lord, Jesus appeared to the disciples and said to Thomas, "put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hands and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe (Jn. 20:27-28)."

The wounds of Jesus are the wounds of His identity. Where are our wounds of identity? As Christians, where are your wounds, which you have suffered as a Christian? **Show your identifying wounds to Christ.** 

### They are the wounds of His Love

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (Jn. 10:11)." Jesus never avoided sufferings. In the garden of Gethsemane, when He was arrested, Peter took a sword and cut off the high Priest's slave's ear. Jesus rebuked Peter and said to him, "Put your sword back into its place (Mt. 26:51-53)." To Pg. 4..... Jesus suffered and bore His wounds not out of force or compulsion, but out of love for us. Those wounds were the marks of His love; they were the tokens of His love.

### They were the Wounds of Sacrifice

Jesus was the Lamb of Sacrifice. He is the Lamb on whom our sins are laid, and then led to the slaughter. By His Blood we are ransomed. He gave up His life for our sake. He died on our behalf as a substitute. Every time we look at His wounds, we need to cry out, "worthy is the Lamb that was slain." This is the Lamb that was slain for us, but this Lamb, although, slain, is yet alive.

### They are wounds of healing

The wounds of Jesus are not running sores; they are not the festering wounds, filled with bacteria. They are healed wounds; they are holy and salvific wounds. The Prophet Isaiah said, "He was wounded for our transgressions... and by his wounds we have been healed (Isaiah 53:5;1Pet 2:24)." Through the wounds of Jesus our broken relationship with the heavenly Father is healed; through the wounds of Jesus our broken relationship with one another is rectified.

As believers, we do not rest our faith against the signs and wonders found in the Acts of the Apostles, nor are we tested by persecution. Yet we do know fear. Each of us has our personal secret room and locked doors. We may be afraid of challenges. We may not want to look to the faith needs of others. We may not want to be labeled as overly pious. All of us are at least distant relatives of Thomas; we are victims of fear.

The doubting Thomas within us must be touched. We are asked to respond to the wounds within ourselves and others. Even in our weakness, we are urged to breathe forth the Spirit so that the wounds may be healed, and our fears overcome. Faith will free us! May we bear our wounds patiently as evidence of our Christian identity.



### The Promises of Divine MercyChaplet

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

2. "When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one." (Diary, 1541)

3. "When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as a just Judge but as a merciful Savior." (Diary, 1541)

4. "Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death." (Diary, 687)

5. "Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy....I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy." (Diary, 687)

6. "To priests who proclaim and extol My mercy, I will give wondrous power; I will anoint their words and touch the hearts of those to whom they will speak." (Diary, 1521)

7. "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, 1397) To Pg. 6..... 8. "At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony....I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me

in virtue of My Passion." (Diary, 1320; also, cf. Diary, 1572)

9. "Souls who spread the honor of My mercy...at the hour of death I will not be a Judge for them, but the Merciful Savior." (Diary, 1075)

10. "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image (of the Divine Mercy) will not perish." (Diary, 48).... "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." (Diary, 299)

11. "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, 699)

12. "Through this chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will." (Diary, 1731)

Do you know a couple married 60 to 80 plus years? Please nominate them in the Longest Married Couple search sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. The longest married couple in each state will be recognized and a special recognition is given to the longest married couple in the nation. Go to <u>www.wwme.org</u> or call this special phone number <u>405-850-4274</u>. Nominations must be received by midnight May 14, 2019. Married Couples: Would you like to re-live the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. Upcoming dates: May 3-5 Dubuque, IA For more information call 563-608-3305 or visit our website at iowa-wwme.org

### This and that\_\_\_\_

Appreciation: A thanksgiving heart is not only the greatest virtuous but

the mother of all virtuous. There are some of us who worked tirelessly behind the scene for the Triduum and Easter Celebration. A big thanks to you all. We cannot ignore the tremendous role played by our decorators, choir/cantors, pianist, altar servers, lectors, Eucharistic minister, wash linens, ushers, cleaners etc, whose indispensable effort enhanced our liturgy. Kudos!

Religious Education: Witnessing to the faith and passing on the teachings of the church is not an easy task. Thus, we are forever grateful to our faith formation teaches for their sacrifice and commitment to the church and our children. To our DR, Scott Mayberry we are appreciative to you for being in the forefront in our salvific journey.

**Donation:** St. Mary's Church community in Hamburg wishes to express their profound gratitude to the Knights of Columbus Council 1479 for donating \$1,000 to help individuals affected by the flood.



"All are invited to the *St. Peregrine Solemn Healing Masses Wednesday, May 1st and 8th at 5:30 PM* at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Des Moines. There will be Blessed St. Peregrine medals and anointing with blessed oil of St. Peregrine. A Novena will be said beginning May 1st – 9th. *St. Peregrine is the Saint of cancer and serious illnesses.* Download the Novena and Healing Mass Schedule at <u>StAnthonydsm.org</u>. ."

#### Dear First Communion Parents,

All too soon our kids; Bently Grasso, Evan Lauman, Cora Hirner, Kyla Spurlock and Cora Moody will be receiving their first Holy Communion next week. Congratulations!

"We are Easter People and Alleluia is our song." As our church community welcome you for the first time at the Eucharistic table of the Lord, I wish to



encourage parents to keep this fire of love in them. It is a simple but impressive ceremony that will engrave an indelible mark in their lives.

While I congratulate you for helping your child to reach this far. I wish to inspire you to keep nurturing in them the good work you have begun. Children learn by observing. If you don't pray or attend church and so on, your child will be on the path of becoming spiritually malnourished.

Our elders say, "you can force a horse to the river, but you can't force it to drink." Do your part and leave the rest to God. I pray that God gives you the grace to fulfill this task entrusted to you. Let us all keep the flame of faith alive to animate our children for spirit-filled society tomorrow.

Fr. Raphael

### Holy Humor

Clever Kids—-Elephant:

The class teacher asks students to name an animal that begins with an **"E"**. One boy says, "Elephant."

Then the teacher asks for an animal that begins with a **"T".** The same boy says, "Two elephants."

The teacher sends the boy out of the class for bad behavior. After that she asks for an animal beginning with "**M**".

The boy shouts from the other side of the wall: "Maybe an elephant!"



### Readings for the Week of April 28, 2019

**Sunday:** Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/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

St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26--2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf.17b]/Mt 13:54-58

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

Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/Jn 6:16-21

Next Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

### Holy Humor

Clever kids:

A police officer found a perfect hiding place for watching for speeding motorists. One day, the officer was amazed when everyone was under the speed limit, so he investigated and found the problem.

A 10 years old boy was standing on the side of the road with a huge hand painted sign which said, **"Radar Trap Ahead."** 

A little more investigative work led the officer to the boy's accomplice: another boy about 100 yards beyond the radar trap with a sign reading **"TIPS"** and a bucket at his feet full of change.

## Jesus Appears to his Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)

Y	J	Μ	Ν	Ρ	S	Μ	В	J	D	J	Y	D	J	S
С	Х	Ι	Т	А	Т	F	Μ	L	Н	0	Y	W	А	Х
W	Х	R	Κ	Ν	Y	G	Х	Ρ	0	F	0	Μ	Е	D
Х	Μ	А	D	V	Y	G	Е	А	Х	С	0	R	Е	Н
R	Х	С	С	J	V	D	R	L	Х	Н	Κ	V	S	А
Т	L	L	U	V	Е	D	А	Е	Т	Ν	Е	Е	D	М
Т	Κ	Е	S	Н	Е	Н	Ι	R	С	Ι	Ν	S	D	S
0	Х	S	С	W	В	А	S	S	L	0	С	Y	Ν	Т
G	R	U	0	L	Κ	Ν	Ζ	Е	С	L	R	G	D	Ν
Е	0	Н	D	Q	Ζ	D	В	Н	J	Ι	Ι	D	Е	Ρ
Т	S	Ι	U	J	J	S	А	S	R	S	Ρ	F	Е	Ζ
Н	Ν	Т	F	Е	Κ	D	Ρ	Ι	А	М	Ι	L	В	D
Е	Т	W	U	S	Ν	Κ	D	D	U	L	G	Е	Е	Е
R	S	R	Ν	U	Κ	Ρ	S	Е	S	L	V	Н	Ν	S
R	Ρ	Т	V	S	V	D	0	U	В	Т	Ι	Ν	G	В

JESUS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	RECORDED
MIRACLES	SIGNS	SHOWED	BELIEVED
DOORS	LIFE	HANDS	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	THOMAS	SIDE	LOCKED





# ST. MARYS HAPPENINGS

#### PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

CHRIS HINES JOSH SIMMONS JACOB ANDERSON JUSTIN PHILLIPS DERRICK HUBARD STEVEN ANDERSON COLBY MCGINLEY

Your Contributions <u>April 21, 2019</u>

Plate—\$195.80 Tithes—\$2620.00





- 5-5--Layne Ettelman 5-5--Kylee Foster
- 5-12--Bill Ettelman
- 5-15--Larry Moores
- 5-16--Becky Lockhart
- 5-16--Wendy Duncan
- 5-16—Maddy Duncan
- 5-17--Maryn Phillips
- 5-19--Tom Lockhart

5-20--Judy Clark



5-11-Tom and Becky Lockhart 5-23-Shane and Connie Smith 5-28-Robert and Mary Burkhiser



Greg Andersen Grady Secht Reese Kemp James Dowling LeRoy Herscheid Noah Howe Mary Lou Miller Dottie Dankof Isacc Durr Robert & Nancy Dalton Todd Quick Harold & Verona Mitchell Joel Loggins Kenneth Russell Bill Long Henry Johnsen Lawrence DuBois Angie Witter-Childers Pat Sheldon Joe Kirk Tim Konecny Esther McCowan Jeff Guiane Shawn Collins Drake Travis Martha Gude Gloria Green **Diane Cunningham** Sister Helen Bissen Alan Briggs All who are feeling the effects of the flood

	Apr. 28		May 5	May 12	Ma	y 19	May 26		
2019	Divine Mercy Sunday		3rd Sunday of Easter	4th Sunday of Easter	5th Sunday of Easter		6th Sunday of Easter		
2013	8:	30	8:30 1st Communion	8:30	8:	30	8:30		
Greeters and Ushers	Robert & Mary Burkhiser		Denny & Joella Travis	Rick & Teresa Jamison	Terry & Kim Travis		Angie Sheldon Kathy Moody		
Eucharist Ministers	Joe & Robbi Travis		Annie Wakefield Dan Goodman	Vince Hilton Anne Hendrickson	Travis		Bill Green Dan Goodman		
Servers	Tate Mount Max Mount		Brady Hutt Isac Hutt	Mia Foster Kylee Foster			Keely Mount Mia Foster		
Lector	Michael Gallagher		Rick Jamison	Carolyn Maher			Linda Dewhirst		
Mass Setup	Rosie		Joe	Rosie	Joe		Rosie		
Cantor	Beth		Cara/Beth	Kim	Children's Choir/Cara		Beth		
Accompanist	Nancy		Kate/Emily	Donna	Emily/Kate		Nancy		
Coffee and Donuts	N/A			N/A	N/A		N/A		
Wash Linens	Marilyn Gude		Annie Wakefield	Annie Wakefield	Annie Wakęfield		Annie Wakefield		
PASTOR		PASTO	DRAL ASSISTANT	Bookkeep			CTOR OF FAITH FORMATION		
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