



MASSES FOR THE WEEK  
April 14—April 20  
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR  
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE  
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SATURDAY, APRIL 14**

- 4:00 p.m. Leon Autin; Norman Bent; Edward Comeaux; Marlene Morris; John O'Brien; Dr. Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr.  
5:30 p.m. Theresa M. Barry; Stephanie Maria Grisaro; Frank Hemelt; Jonathan McCall; Laura Mercedes Messina

**SUNDAY, APRIL 15**

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)  
9:30 a.m. Dr. Rafael Barreda; Roberta Wynne Bruley; Marlene Tessitore Cascio; Castrogiovanni-Prados Families; Jane O'Brien Chatelain; John M. Coogan; Robert E. Garofalo, Sr.; Charles Gegg; Howard Henriques; Markey-Burke-Knowles Family; Betty Miller; Ludger Mark Miller; Mr. & Mrs. Carol J. Ragas; Dr. Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr.; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Rachel Turley; Dorothy Watlington; Tom & Dottie Watson & Family  
11:00 a.m. Camden Boatright; Olga Strohmeier Falati; Frank C. Hemelt; Theresa Gremillion Matherne; Jessica O'Brien; Carol Ragas; Roy A. Robichaux, Sr.; Agatha Formusa Sunseri;  
5:30 p.m. In thanksgiving for our priests

**MONDAY, APRIL 16**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
12:00 p.m. Jim & Penny Hitt; Joed Loustaunau; Aileen O'Brien; Dr. Alfred E. Ramirez, Sr.; Rachel Turley

**TUESDAY, APRIL 17**

- 11:30 a.m. Conchetta Commarata Salvaggio  
12:00 p.m. Mary Guzzardi Cammarata; Tiffany O'Brien; Dr. Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
12:00 p.m. Cammarata-Guzzardi Families; Christina O'Brien; Dr. Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 19**

- 11:30 p.m. Alice Cohen; Stephen Luccioni  
12:00 p.m. Maselli Families; Robert O'Brien; Dr. Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 20**

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List  
12:00 p.m. Winnie Duhon; Kathleen O'Brien; Dr. Alfred E. Ramirez, Jr.

**TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.***Low Sunday*

**Solemn High Mass**—First Sunday of the month.  
**Benediction**—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND BENEDICTION**

Every Sunday 3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

**THIRD SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2007****ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH**

9:00a.m.—11:00a.m.; *Cenacle of Our Loving Mother.*

**SUNDAY OFFERING**—April 8, 2007

First Collection \$ 19,050  
Second Collection\* \$ 4,620

\* Maintenance and Restoration

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY—DAY OF GRACE**

*The graces of My Mercy are drawn by Trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive...* - Our Lord to St. Faustina

**MASS HONORING DIVINE MERCY**

Sunday, April 15, 2007

St. Joseph Church, 1802 Tulane Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana

1:30 p.m. Rosary and Adoration

2:30 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet

3:00 p.m. Holy Mass

Celebrant: The Most Reverend Alfred C. Hughes  
Archbishop of New Orleans

The Monstrance of Hope will be used for the Hour of Adoration. This will be the last parish visit of the monstrance within the Year of the Eucharist.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU**

A sincere "thank you" to all who made the Easter Triduum such a beautiful and spiritually uplifting celebration. The participating clergy, along with the splendid music, the preparation of the church and the diligent effort of everyone involved truly made this a glorious Easter celebration.

**NINTH MORNING OF SPIRITUALITY FOR MEN**

Saturday, April 21, 2007 from 9:00a.m.—12:30p.m.

Saint Leo the Great Catholic Church; 2916 Paris Ave.; N.O.

Theme: *You're OK Kid! The Healing of a Father-Son Relationship*

Celebrant: Most Reverend Alfred C. Hughes

Homilist: Bishop Shelton Fabre

Main Speakers Ed and Eddie Reinhardt of Denver, Colorado

The day will include prayer, reconciliation and Eucharist.

**COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS**

The Claddagh Group invites all for coffee and doughnuts in Reynolds Hall, behind the rectory, after the Sunday morning Masses.

**EXHIBITION OF THE VATICAN MOSAIC STUDIO**

Old Ursuline Convent; 1100 Chartres St., New Orleans

Through June 1, 2007; 9:00 A.M.—5 P.M.

504-569-1401; 800-536-7786; www.vaticanmosaics.com

Thirty-seven mosaic artworks from the Vatican Mosaic Studio, replications of prominent artwork.

**THE MASS IS THE GREATEST FORM OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY**

To schedule a Mass, please fill out the Mass Form found in the vestibule of the church and deliver it to the rectory office, or place it in the collection basket.

**PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL**

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Ree Alario; D. J. Ales; Harold Berrigan, Jr.; Michael Brasset; Lillian Capozzi; Margie Case; Michelle Catalanatto; Tony Clesi; Jim Clynych; Celestine Cook; John Copes; Jackie Dabdoub; Grace Daigle; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Regina Dillon; The Dunlap Family; Joseph Ebberman; Donald Faust, Jr.; Mildred Flynn; Anette Folse; Joseph French; John G. Fulcher; Kelly Granier; Richard Hellenus; Marie Herty; Marilyn Kitto; Zivana Kovacevich; Brenda Lawson; Carrie LeBoef; Albert Leonhard; Betty Leonard; Alton Lewis; Glenda Liuzza; Dorothy Luquet; Reverend Val A. McInnes, O.P.; Irene Mackenroth; Carol Mallette; Colin McInnis; Joseph Morales; Gerald L. Moran, Jr.; Madeleine Nicoladis; Suzanne Nogues; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Robert Plaskas; J. Van Provosty; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Mercedes Sunseri; Charlene Taranto; Ashley Turkington; Eleanor Mary Wells

## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

### POPE BENEDICT ON DIVINE MERCY

"God's passionate love for his people — for humanity — is at the same time a forgiving love. It is so great that it turns God against himself, his love against his justice."

This is a startling, radical, statement about divine mercy — the kind of declaration that one might expect to see attributed to Pope John Paul II. But it was Pope Benedict XVI who wrote it, in his first encyclical *Deus Caritas Est (God Is Love)*.

Seven years after Pope John Paul II first announced the creation of Mercy Sunday, many priests are still wary of the feast. Why do they hold back? There is a certain assumption that the Divine Mercy is a private devotion that had a personal meaning to a particular Polish man who happened to also be Pope, but that it is not for everyone.

Reading Pope Benedict's words about Divine Mercy should dispel that notion. Rather than attributing the popularity of the Divine Mercy devotion to Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI seems more likely to attribute the greatness of Pope John Paul II to his devotion to Divine Mercy.

In his homily before the conclave that elected him, he summed up John Paul's pontificate by speaking about the late Pope's emphasis on the Divine Mercy: "Jesus Christ is divine mercy in person: Encountering Christ means encountering the mercy of God," said Pope Benedict. "The mercy of Christ is not a cheap grace; it does not presume a trivialization of evil. Christ carries in his body and on his soul all the weight of evil, and all its destructive force. He burns and transforms evil through suffering, in the fire of his suffering love."

He concluded last year's Way of the Cross by saying: "The Way of the Cross is the way of mercy, the way of mercy that puts a limit on evil: This is what we learned from Pope John Paul II. It is the way of mercy; hence, the way of salvation. ... Let us pray to the Lord to help us be 'infected' by his mercy."

He often noted that Pope John Paul II died after Mercy Sunday Mass. And in a March 26 homily last year, Benedict said forcefully: "The Pope, in this last text which is like a testament, then added: 'How much the world needs to understand and accept Divine Mercy!'"

In a visit with the sick on May 7, Pope Benedict embraced not just the message of Divine Mercy, but the specific devotion popularized by St. Faustina. The image the devotion promotes is a portrait of Jesus with rays of light emanating from his heart. The words "Jesus, I trust in you" are inscribed below.

Pope Benedict told the sick people, "You who say in silence: 'Jesus, I trust in you' teach us that there is no faith more profound, no hope more alive and no love more ardent than the faith, hope and love of a person who in the midst of suffering places himself securely in God's hands."

He later spoke about visiting the convent where "Sister Faustina Kowalska, contemplating the shining wounds of the Risen Christ, received a message of trust for humanity which John Paul II echoed and interpreted and which really is a central message precisely for our time: mercy as God's power, as a divine barrier against the evil of the world."

In his homilies, the Holy Father has given us some of our most eloquent and adamant enunciations of God's mercy:

Men and women are prone to doubt God's care for them. So Pope Benedict stressed: "God loves us in a way that we might call 'obstinate' and enfolds us in his inexhaustible tenderness."

The wrong kind of emphasis on God's mercy can create the impression that God forgives all in an apathetic way, more like a benign uncle than a loving Father.

So the Pope stresses God's anger, too. "The anger and mercy

of the Lord alternate in a dramatic sequence, but love triumphs in the end, for God is love."

And always, he seeks to root trust in God's mercy in the Gospels and the sacraments rather than in private revelation.

"How many people also in our time are in search of God, in search of Jesus and of his Church, in search of divine mercy, and are waiting for a 'sign' that will touch their minds and their hearts!" he said, in one homily. "Today, as then, the Evangelist reminds us that the only 'sign' is Jesus raised on the cross: Jesus who died and rose is the absolutely sufficient sign."

The Church grants an indulgence for participation in Mercy Sunday devotions (see page B2). In his new document on the Eucharist, Pope Benedict recommends such indulgences, but emphasizes that the sacraments of confession and the Eucharist are the most important aspects of them.

Finally, Pope Benedict used Divine Mercy to sum up our Christian lives.

"To understand and accept God's merciful love: May this be your commitment, first of all in your families and then in every neighborhood milieu."

This Mercy Sunday is a good day to start.

*National Catholic Register*

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### A RENEWED WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

The Apostles told Thomas who had been absent from that first extraordinary encounter: Yes, the Lord has fulfilled all that he foretold; he is truly risen and we have seen and touched him! Thomas however remained doubtful and perplexed. When Jesus came for a second time, eight days later in the Upper Room, he said to him: "put your finger here and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing!" The Apostle's response is a moving profession of faith: "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:27-28).

"My Lord and my God!" We too renew that profession of faith of Thomas... If we can recognize in this Apostle the doubts and uncertainties of so many Christians today, the fears and disappointments of many of our contemporaries, with him we can also rediscover with renewed conviction, faith in Christ dead and risen for us. This faith, handed down through the centuries by the successors of the Apostles, continues on because the Risen Lord dies no more. He lives in the Church and guides it firmly towards the fulfillment of his eternal design of salvation.

We may all be tempted by the disbelief of Thomas. Suffering, evil, injustice, death, especially when it strikes the innocent such as children who are victims of war and terrorism, of sickness and hunger, does not all of this put our faith to the test? Paradoxically the disbelief of Thomas is most valuable to us in these cases because it helps to purify all false concepts of God and leads us to discover his true face: the face of a God who, in Christ, has taken upon himself the wounds of injured humanity. Thomas has received from the Lord, and has in turn transmitted to the Church, the gift of a faith put to the test by the passion and death of Jesus and confirmed by meeting him risen. His faith was almost dead but was born again thanks to his touching the wounds of Christ, those wounds that the Risen One did not hide but showed, and continues to point out to us in the trials and sufferings of every human being.

*BENEDICT XVI*

*Excerpt from Easter message 2007*