

Sunday, Apr 12, 2026

The quality of mercy

The church named the Sunday after Easter Divine Mercy Sunday to celebrate the devotion to the mercy of Jesus as revealed to Blessed Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who died in 1938 and was declared a saint in 2000. God's bountiful mercy to us calls us to show mercy as well. Saint Faustina prayed, "I want to be completely transformed into your mercy and to be your living reflection, O Lord. May . . . your unfathomable mercy pass through my heart and soul to my neighbor." Why not make today a time to rededicate yourself to showing mercy, love, compassion, and forgiveness to all those you encounter?

SOLEMNITY OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER;
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31 (43). *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope."*

Monday, Apr 13, 2026

Get a new life

Have you ever been asked if you are born again? Just what does that mean? It comes from the verse found in the Gospel of John that earlier versions of the Bible translated as "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). In modern translations in both the Catholic New American Bible and the Protestant New Revised Standard Version, the passage is translated as "No one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Whether you use the term "born again" or "born from above," Jesus' meaning is clear: Those who accept the Good News of Christ live a life free from fear of sin and death. Our worst moments do not define us when we repent and embrace Christ's love. In Baptism, we receive the gift of eternal life and the forgiveness of sins. Celebrate your new life!

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8 (267). *"Do not be amazed that I told you, 'You must be born from above.'"*

Tuesday, Apr 14, 2026

Trust in the unknown

There is a folksy saying, attributed to many different ethnic groups, that goes: "Every baby is born with a loaf of bread under his arm." In so many words, it means that God will provide, even if you're not exactly sure how. It's difficult to let go of worry in the face of uncertainty, whether it's being able to care for a child or to handle any important responsibility. Your willingness to try, despite your fears, without knowing the outcome, shows faith. Trust that God will see you through it.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 4:32-37; John 3:7b-15 (268). *"There was no needy person among them, ... the proceeds ... were distributed to each according to need."*

Wednesday, Apr 15, 2026

That nothing should be wasted

God went to a whole lot of trouble to make the world we know and love. Think of how creation astonishes with its beauty: delicate lilies of the valley, the smell of a pine forest, starry nights, birdsong, your favorite color, the touch of velvet. Would God create so much gorgeous detail for a world that is merely disposable? In the same way, do we each struggle through our personal histories only to be lost in the end? God is in the saving business, intending to

rescue the goodness of the old creation for the new one. As Saint Clement says, "The Lord has turned all our sunsets into sunrise."

Take a moment to praise God by enjoying this glorious new day.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21 (269). *"God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."*

Thursday, Apr 16, 2026

Think good thoughts

Now that Lent is over, those who chose to give up social media or gossip may be finding themselves sucked back into the everyday world of bombast, news hype, and juicy tidbits. We are bombarded by mind-numbing, spirit-draining trivialities all day long; it is no wonder many of us slip into casual indifference about what is true, real, and worthy of our attention. Saint Thomas More warned us about this: "Occupy your minds with good thoughts, or the enemy will fill them with bad ones." Counter the tendency toward cynicism or pettiness with doing or saying the kind thing.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36 (270). *"The one who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of earthly things."*

Friday, Apr 17, 2026

Keep your intentions pure

In this post-Easter season we are invited to reflect on the intentions behind our actions. When our motives are pure, when they are truly selfless—in other words, when they come from God—then whatever we do will bear good fruit. If on the other hand our deeds stem from vanity, arrogance, or a desire for praise, then they will not bear good fruit, no matter how altruistic they may appear to others. Take a moment today to pray that your words and actions come from your inner being, where God resides, that you may bear good fruit and be found worthy to suffer for Christ's sake.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15 (271). *"They left . . . rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name."*

Saturday, Apr 18, 2026

A lived-in faith

Theory can get in the way of practice, especially when it comes to our faith. "I don't preach a social gospel; I preach the gospel, period," Desmond Tutu said. "The gospel . . . is concerned for the whole person. When people were hungry, Jesus didn't ask, 'Now is that political or social?' He said, 'I will feed you.' Because the good news to a hungry person is bread." Perfecting the way that we live the gospel is the challenge of a lifetime. It means moving beyond semantics to action. Faith, after all, is lived—both in word and in deed.

EASTER WEEKDAY

Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21 (272). *"The word of God continued to spread."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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