

BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

WEEKEND MAGAZINE

April 28th, 2019

Sunday of Divine Mercy

3 Surprising Things About Divine Mercy Sunday



A feast for Pope Francis' favorite theme

1. Jesus asked for it.

St. Faustina Kowalska, was a young member of The Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Lodz, Poland. In the early 1930s, she received a series of messages from The Lord expounding His desire to extend mercy upon humanity. He asked her to write these messages down. Among the messages was the request for an image of Himself to be commissioned:

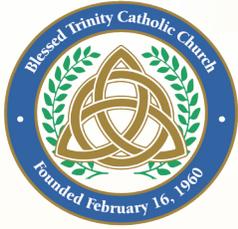
"Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus I Trust in You. I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and throughout the world." (The Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, Divine Mercy in My Soul, 47)

Further, the image was to be venerated in a special way and at a certain time:

"I want the image solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it." (The Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, Divine Mercy in My Soul, 341).

So, Jesus specifically asked for the Divine Mercy image to be painted and for a Feast of The Divine Mercy to be instituted on the Second Sunday of Easter. Interestingly enough, only young Sister Faustina's religious superiors and spiritual director knew that these supernatural occurrences were taking place. It wasn't until after she died that parts of the diary became public.

Article cont'd inside

**PASTOR**

Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

DEACON Bill Lovelace

DEACON John Schaefer

PASTOR EMERITUSMsgr. Anton Dechering
Retired

DEACON Lionel Roberts

Retired

CLERGY ASSISTANCE

Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM

Fr. Tom Kirchhoefer, VA
Chaplain**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday: 4:00 PM Vigil

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 am

HOLY DAYS

7:30, 9 am & 7 pm

Weekdays: 8:00 am

Saturday: 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays

3:00 -3:45 pm

or by Appointment

1600 54TH AVE S.
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WEB SITE<http://btsp.org>**2. It was a complete surprise to the Church.**

Sister Faustina's diary became increasingly known among the Polish people, especially a priest named Karol Wojtyla. As Pope John Paul II, he would help to fulfill Jesus' desire that His message of unfathomable mercy to sinners be spread to the entire world.

On the occasion of Blessed Faustina's elevation to the dignity of the altar (her Mass of Canonization) The Pope Shocked the world by announcing the proclamation of a new observance on the liturgical calendar. He said, "It is important ... that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called "Divine Mercy Sunday."

Needless to say it was kind of a surprise since only those who keenly paid attention to the decree of The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments a week earlier would have been aware of the surprise waiting in the middle of the now sainted pope's homily.

3. It's actually an opportunity to receive mercy.

More than just a passing observance of the mercy of Jesus, Divine Mercy Sunday is a day that Jesus wanted to extend His mercy to sinners. According to the diary of St. Faustina, Jesus requested Divine Mercy Sunday with an express purpose:

"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (The Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, Divine Mercy in My Soul,, 699)

This is known as a plenary indulgence, and is one of the most misunderstood concepts of Catholic teaching. Whenever we sin, there are temporal effects due to the sins we commit. Even though the guilt may have been forgiven in Sacramental Reconciliation, there are still "ripples" that our actions (or omissions) cause for which we have to account. This is where the understanding of purgatory comes in.

It is in purgatory that we atone for these "ripples" or effects of our sin. We're purged of all impurity before seeing God. Even though there's no real way to measure time in purgatory, this purifying isn't instantaneous. An indulgence is an application of the graces given by Christ's saving actions on the cross as well as the redemptive suffering of the saints to a soul in need. The Church, specifically the successor of St. Peter (the pope) and in some cases a bishop, has the authority to dispense these graces called "indulgences". They're either partial or plenary (or full).

A plenary indulgence is complete remission of that punishment, just like Jesus claims in St. Faustina's Diary. And it is on Divine Mercy Sunday (as well as other special times and days throughout the year) that the mercy of Jesus can be experienced in this way.

Bottom Line? Get to Confession if you haven't already, receive Holy Communion, pray for The Holy Father and his intentions, and dive deep into the mercy of Jesus. He's been waiting for you!

By Fr. Chris Decker, reprinted with permission from Aleteia

THOUGHTS WORTH SHARING

By Rev. Wayne Genereux, Pastor

Many Easter Blessings

Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter were spiritually meaningful to many parishioners from the feedback that I have received. The days leading up to Easter have always been a very special time of year for me. In 1997, I had the honor to bring the Holy Oils to St. John Paul II in St Peter's Basilica's. When I returned to the United States that summer I brought an oil stock of Sacred Chrism that he had blessed with me to be used at my Ordination to the Priesthood on August 15, in 1997. The entire panorama of our Faith comes alive during Holy Week and Easter. Truly very beautiful liturgies.

I am most grateful to so many people who made our Liturgical Ceremonies spiritually uplifting. Your dedicated service to our parish is deeply appreciated. May the Lord reward you for your talent in bringing people closer to Christ.

Divine Mercy Sunday

This past week we have gathered in prayer for the Divine Mercy Novena. Divine Mercy Sunday originally began with Pope St. John Paul II in 2002. The Pope always called upon us to turn to the mercy of God as the answer to the specific problems of our times.

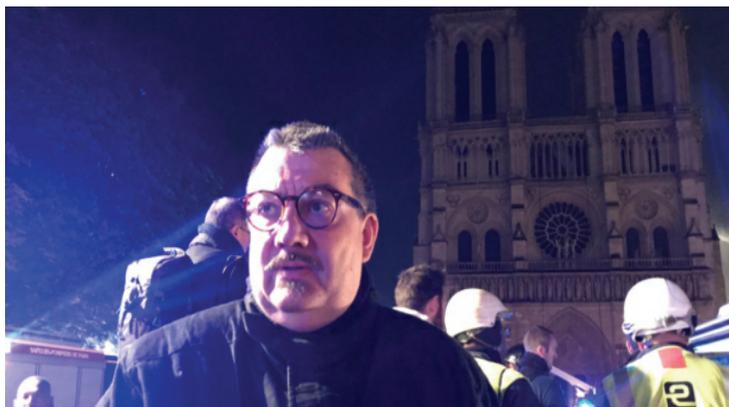
Kind personal regards, Father Wayne C. Genereux, Pastor

'He made straight for the relics' Firefighter chaplain saves Crown of Thorns

Providentially, his last name means "fire tender"

While the entire world is hailing the incredible work of the Paris firefighters, one man in particular — their chaplain — has found his way especially into the hearts of Catholics.

Father Jean-Marc Fournier entered the blaze with one mission: to save Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, and to rescue the most treasured relics of Notre Dame, the crown of thorns believed to be the crown pounded into Christ's head during the Passion, one of the nails of the crucifixion, and a piece of the Cross.



An emergency services source quoted by the Daily Mail said: "Father Fournier is an absolute hero."

"He showed no fear at all as he made straight for the relics inside the Cathedral, and made sure they were saved. He deals with life and death every day, and shows no fear."

Interestingly, this is not the first time Fr. Fournier has had to confront disaster and danger.

In 2015, during the Paris terrorist attack that killed 89 people at the Eagles of Death Metal concert, he was one of those who rushed in to tend to and console the wounded.

And that's not all. Father Fournier also served as an army chaplain, and during his time in that role, he survived an ambush in which 10 soldiers were killed.

By Kathleen N Hattrup, reprinted with permission from Aletheia

USFSP UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG

Attention USF St. Petersburg Students

A new Catholic student group is forming! Grow in your faith with fellow USF - St. Petersburg students. Please contact Fr. Justin Freeman, O. de M. for more information: fatherjustin@sjvcc.org



Volunteers Needed

Is God calling you to do something more? Blessed Trinity is in need of volunteers to take the Precious Body of Christ – Eucharist – to the Sick

and Homebound members of our Parish. If you are interested in this VERY SPECIAL Ministry, please contact Aimée Holley at 727-687-2829.



Attention Parishioners:

There will be no Grief Support Meeting in April. The next meeting will be May 16th.

First Annual Marian Eucharistic Congress

Take Mary Into Our Hearts & Homes

Renewing Our Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Personally and as a Diocese



"May Mary's example be our strength, light and our guide." – Bishop Gregory Parkes

Save the Date

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019

9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

**4 P.M. Mass of Renewal
Cathedral of**

St. Jude the Apostle

5815 5th Ave N, St. Petersburg



For more information, visit
www.dosp.org/heartofmary

In Cooperation with the International Consecrated Marian Society

COURAGEOUSLY
Living the Gospel

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday of Divine Mercy

Sat., April 27

8:00 a.m. Stephanie & Steven Roberts (dec)
& Hugh Bringenberg (dec)

4:00 p.m. Elinor Devine (dec)

Sun., April 28 - Sunday of Divine Mercy

8:00 a.m. Robert J. Fahy (dec)
& Thomas Jeszke (dec)

9:30 a.m. Blessed Trinity Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Bill Maslar (dec)
& Ellen Jane Vinson (dec)

Mon., April 29 - Mem. of St. Catherine of Siena

8:00 a.m. John (Jack) Kramer (dec)

Tues., April 30

8:00 a.m. Chris Roberts (liv)

Wed., May 1

8:00 a.m. Vocations

Thurs., May 2 - Mem. of St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor

8:00 a.m. Julie Ann Amaral (dec)

Fri., May 3 - Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles

8:00 a.m. Mary Lou Deuel (dec)
& Jean Bird (dec)

Sat., May 4

8:00 a.m. Bernard Azarewicz (dec)

4:00 p.m. Miriam Durst (dec)

Sun., May 5 - Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Shirley Stenglein (dec)

9:30 a.m. Blessed Trinity Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Maria & Francisco Barbosa (dec)
& Stephen Lynch (dec)

SACRAMENTS

Matrimony

Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

Baptism

We are honored that you would like to choose Blessed Trinity Catholic Church for the Baptism of your child! We ask that you please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for information regarding the Pre-Baptism Class before scheduling a Baptism.

Office Hours

Mon. - Fri. 9 am - 4 pm
Closed for Lunch Noon to 1 pm



Notre Dame's rose windows survived the fire

Donations 04/21/2019

The three windows must still be inspected up close for damage.

The three glorious rose windows adorning Paris' Cathedral of Notre Dame seem to have survived the great fire that destroyed the church's roof Monday evening.

"From what I can see, the windows have not been touched; the three beautiful rose windows that date from the 12th and 13th centuries are still there," Andre Finot, spokesman for the cathedral, told French CNN affiliate BFM TV.

There is still concern that the fragility of the building may lead to damage in the rose windows. Other stained glass windows were damaged, but those were newer.

"These are windows of the 19th century, much less important than they could be touched, but not the jewels of the 13th century. That's a little bit of a miracle. We are very relieved," Finot said.

French Culture Minister Franck Riester also said the rose windows at the north and south of the cathedral "do not appear for now to have sustained catastrophic damage."

But Maxime Cumunel, secretary general of France's Observatory for Religious Heritage, inserted a note of caution. "It seems they have not been destroyed for now, although we'll have to see what real state they're in, and whether they can be restored properly," she told Reuters.

"As befitting a church dedicated to the Virgin Mary, three rose windows shined upon the interior," art historian Elizabeth Lev wrote in the New York Post Tuesday. "This architectural rosary, made up of thousands of pieces of colored glass lovingly encased in a lead and stone frame, still had original fragments, despite the reformation, revolution, riots and even a sniper in World War II."

Though the windows date to the 13th century, Lev, author of *How Catholic Art Saved the Faith: The Triumph of Beauty and Truth in Counter-Reformation Art*, pointed out that much of the glass has been replaced since then. The windows were shattered during the French Revolution, but in 1861, master restorer Eugene Viollet le Duc replaced the glass.

Bishop Robert Barron, who produced a multi-part video series on the history of Catholicism several years ago, studied for a doctorate in Paris and remembers the windows well.

In an interview with Angelus News Tuesday, Barron explained that he has a particular attachment to the cathedral's north rose window (one that still contains some of its original medieval glass), which he calls a "very important and powerful spiritual symbol" for him.

"I've used it in almost all my books, and I talk about it all the time in a spiritual context. These are windows that St. Thomas Aquinas knew, and St. Bonaventure knew."

Easter/Offertory Collection	\$22,056
Holy Thursday	\$330
Good Friday	\$406
Building Fund	\$116
APA 2019	<u>\$3,201</u>

TOTAL: \$26,109

Want to try Online Giving?
Go to our website at btsp.org and click the online giving button.



Thank You for Your Continued Generosity!



This Week at Blessed Trinity

Sun.	4/28	10:45 a.m. - Family Faith Formation - FFR 7:00 p.m. - Men's AA - Rm 4
Mon.	4/29	7:00 p.m. - Prayer Meeting - FFR
Wed.	5/1	6:30 p.m. - Choir - Music Room
Thurs.	5/2	5:00 p.m. - St Vincent de Paul - Rm 4
Sat.	5/4	7:00 p.m. - Women's AA - Rm 4

Please call the Parish Office, (727) 867-3663, for information regarding ministries & organizations

From the Diocese: Social Media Safety

The Diocese of St. Petersburg has become aware that people are impersonating Bishop Parkes on Instagram and asking for money via private and direct messaging features. Bishop Parkes does not contact individuals on social media using the private message feature of Instagram. Please block and report any suspicious activity to Instagram and do not respond.

Follow these tips from the Federal Trade Commission and protect yourself from hoaxes, email scams and phishing (when internet fraudsters mimic a legitimate individual, organization or business to trick consumers into giving out their personal information or money).

- Be Aware! Legitimate organizations would never solicit sensitive personal information through insecure channels such as email, social media messaging or text messaging.
- Ignore suspicious emails, social media and text messages from someone who claims to need your personal information or financial assistance.
- To verify the legitimacy of an email, social media message or text message that you receive from any organization, including a church, call the office and speak to a representative who can assist.

Read here for more social media safety tips:

<https://www.dosp.org/announcement-about-social-media-safety/>



Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, We implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion.

Help expectant parents to welcome from God the priceless gift of their child's life. Console parents who have lost that gift through abortion, and lead them to forgiveness and healing through the Divine Mercy of your Son. Teach us to cherish and to care for family and friends until God calls them home. Help us to never see others as burdens. Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself, Amen.



Healing For Our Broken Church

Please join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Every first Friday of the month for the near future, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass we will have Eucharistic exposition, homily, meditation, and benediction at 10:30 a.m. You might want to pray for healing and for the victims of the scandal. Invest one hour with God, one on one.

Our next Adoration will be on Friday, May 3rd.



Couldn't make it to Mass? Wish you could hear that homily a second time? Check out our new YouTube channel! Simply go to YouTube.com and search "Blessed Trinity Catholic Church." You can either click any of the videos to watch or click the link to our channel to see a listing of all our videos. If you have any questions, please ask Vincent Sclafani or Kelly Gallagher for assistance!

Thank to you to the additional parishioners who helped donate to this year's Easter flowers:

Marian & Kim Barry
Joanne Heffern
Lois & Bernie McDonald
Barbara Thomas

Adkins, Chantale
Albertson, Michelle
Antczak, Harriet
Aselage, Karl
Attard, Stephanie
Banks, Cathy
Beekman, Connie
Bennett, Elizabeth
Blondheim, Carmen
Bogensberger, Rosemary
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Brown, Dorothy
Brown, Buck
Brown, Shaquita
Browning, Rea
Buckwald, Diane
Carfora, Palma
Carr, Elaine
Ceci, Shirley
Chavez, John
Chris, David
Christ, Kathryn
Cline, Wayne
Congiu, Rita
Cramer, David
D'Agostino, Frances
Dawson, Anthony Peter
Deacon Lionel Roberts

DeLuca, Rosemary
Detore, Alice
Devyn & Donna
Drougelis, Nijole
Favero, Beverly
Fazio, Mary
Feehan, Joe
Feltes, Chuck & Lauren
Ferero, Antoinette
Fiedler, Meghan
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Forbes, Rahim
Forbes, Tina May
Fraser, Sue Chapman
Freda, Eileen
Garcia, Jose M.
Graeme, Mary
Grimberg, Carol
Hamilton, Tom
Harris, Melonie
Hawkins, Ashlyn
Hawkins, Barbara
Hepp, Loren
Heylan, Edward H.
Hildebrand, Bud
Horne, Francesca
Huff, Walt & Carole
Iannello, Guy

Iglesias, Olivia
Infant Ursa
Irvin, Victoria
Kantowicz, Jan
Keithly, Claire
Kincaid, Kevin & Tammie
King, Ada
Kleinberger, Donovan
Kline, Irene
Kwesell, Eugene
Lanigan, John
Lashley, Diana
Lawrence, Sandy
Leath, Bill
Lee, Donald
Leininger, Carol
LeVan, George
Lindsay, Jane
Lucas, Laura
Lyons, Laura
Mack, Jackson
Maharne, Cecile
Mahoney, Colleen
Maitland, Steve
Mark, Jacqueline
Marois, Mary
McGarry, Jean

McManus, Elly
Membreno, Mary & Gus
Merchant, Geraldine
Merchant, Rhoda
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Mitchell, Stella
Monahan, Sheila
Morton, Donna Abby
Murdock, Cheryl & Evan
Neumann, Janet
Nichols, Robert
Noguez, Armida
Nuñez, Marleny
O'hara, Debbie
Pezzulo, Irene
Pope, Stoney
Post, Michael
Privitera, Sandy
Ramsey, Gerald
Ray, Terry
Reardon, Kevin
Reardon, Kara
Reed, Edward, Jr.
Remp, Al
Riemer, Dolores
Rivera, Joel
Reyes, Nila
Robinson, Agnes

Romani, Angelo & Marlene
Rosa, Joe & Nina
Sanders, Kimberly
Sanders, Marilyn
Sharp, Jennett
Shelby, Ron & Montez
Sheridan, Samantha
Simpson, Rose
Sister Elaine Taylor
Smith, Anita
St. Pierre, Rick
Stankiewicz, Cy
Storey, Barbara
Thompson, Sue
Thore, Isabelle
Tillema, Karen
Timm, Carol & Linda
Van Dusen, Caroline
Watson, Doug & Claire
Whalen, Dorothy
Wilson, Dolores
Wohlman, Fred
Wood, Jena