

This Sunday is known as Divine Mercy Sunday

Though it started out from a revelation that was made by Jesus to Saint Faustina, it is now an official feast in the Catholic Church. It has not added anything new by naming this new feast, but just sort of re-energized what was always celebrated as a great feast in the early Church. Over the years, the Church had lost some of the fervour for the Octave of Easter.

It was no accident that Saint Thomas wasn't present on that first Easter. That scenario was ordained by God to get us to understand the importance of trusting (believing) in Jesus in order to obtain grace. It was also ordained by God that the very first act that Jesus performed after His Resurrection was none other than the institution of the sacrament of Confession. These two events play a crucial role in salvation.

On Easter Sunday, and all throughout the week, we celebrate the creation of grace that Jesus has obtained for us by His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. On the following Sunday, the Octave of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) we celebrate the fulfilment of what Easter is all about and we receive a big outpouring of a whole ocean of graces. The obtainment of these graces is brought about by trusting in Jesus and by approaching His ministers and going to Confession. Pope Benedict, in his book, "The Spirit of the Liturgy", wrote of the importance of having such an image to assist in every liturgy and as a sign of hope to lead people to the Second Coming of Christ. He wrote of the "void" that was caused by the removal of icons and sacred art from our sanctuaries and the importance of having the images.

Jesus also insisted that the Divine Mercy image be venerated and solemnly blessed on Mercy Sunday. And why not? The image perfectly represents everything that happens in that Gospel. It even supports the other readings including the reference to the washing away of sins in water, redeeming us in the blood, and the new birth in the Spirit, found in the Opening Prayer. It also represents that it is through "trust" that we receive grace, with the words "Jesus, I trust in You".



Catholic Parishes of St Mary, Lady of Lourdes

St. Mary's Brierley Hill,
Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswinford and
Our Lady of Lourdes, Cradley Heath.
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Part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham: Reg. Charity No. 234216



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

11TH APRIL 2021

PSALM RESPONSE

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Alleluia, alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia! (Roman Missal)



Easter (B1)	Psalter week 2	Intention/Info
Sunday 10th /11th 2nd Sunday of Easter	Sat 5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH 11.30am Mass OH	Bernadette Beardsmore People of the Parish Seamus Walsh
Monday 12th		
Tuesday 13th	10am Mass OH 10.30am-11am OH 7.30pm KF	Gerald and Winnie Price Adoration Novena
Wednesday 14th	10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH	Chacko Adoration
Thursday 15th	1.30pm Funeral KF	Geoff Smart
Friday 16th	10.30am-11am KF 11am Mass KF 12.30pm Funeral KF	Adoration Geoff Smart Ellen Morris
Saturday 17th		
Sunday 17th /18th 3rd Sunday of Easter	Sat 5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH 11.30am Mass OH	People of the Parish Pat Horner Dorothy Winwood

Please pray for all those whose have died, especially Tom Murphy, Ellen Morris and Geoff Smart, those on our April deceased list and for all those whose anniversaries occur this month. May they all rest in peace.

Collections: BH GA £155.00, Loose £261.67, Hall hire £60.00, KF GA £45.00, Loose £79.00, Donation £310.00, Car parking £20.00, Holy Places £6.00, CAFOD £18.91.

Please pray for all those who are sick including Jess Shaw, Eva McCall, Harold Shackley, Michael Rose, Jill Rowe, James Kearney, Catherine Greenaway, Barbara Masterman, Margaret Shipley, Tess Barnsley, Steve Dunn, Lynsey Cooper, Alec Huffer, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Roy Davies, Chris Rylands, Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Peggy Tromans, Rob Bryan, Ilona Bryan, Betty Storey, Lily Petford, Connie Birch, Stella Jones, Margaret Marlowe, Don Neale, Anne Peters, Jackie Spittle, Barry Simner, David Barnsley and Dawn Russon. May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

FOODBANKS - both our foodbanks have now reopened to help those in need. If you are able to donate to them they will be happy to accept your donations - the need is growing and donations are much needed at this difficult time for so many people

EASTER TRIDUUM

Thank you to everyone for making our Triduum a happy and blessed even with no problems. Fr George was very complimentary and happy to celebrate with us. A big thanks to all those who got the Churches ready, flowers, cleaning etc, to our servers and readers and especially those who helped clean afterwards to keep us Covid secure!

Novena our Novena will be said at Kingswinford this Tuesday led by Fr Shanju. Parishioners from any Church are welcome to attend.

Git Aid Envelopes - Envelopes for Kingswinford and Brierley Hill are now available at the back of Church. If you have any questions or want to Gift Aid at Brierley Hill please contact Sheila Jelf on 07753 106343. Thank you.

APF boxes -OH - These need emptying again. Please return your box to Fr Shanju at Church as soon as possible for counting. Any problems please contact Tabitha on 0345 0700 707. Thank you.

Divine Mercy Prayer

Eternal God,
in whom mercy is endless
and the treasury of compassion
- inexhaustible,
look kindly upon us
and increase Your mercy in us,
that in difficult moments
we might not despair
nor become despondent,
but with great confidence
submit ourselves to Your holy will,
which is Love and Mercy itself.

Amen.

