**April 10/11, 2021 Second Sunday of Easter**

Mass Intentions

When a priest celebrates Mass every day, he offers each celebration of the Eucharist for a particular person or intention. By doing so, he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention. To request a mass intention, please visit or call the parish office.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 10th **†** BenAnton Balugo

Sunday, April 11th – **SI** Claudette Forcier (birthday)

Tuesday, April 13th –**†** Patrick Emokpae

Wednesday, April 14th – **SI** Marie Hinse

Thursday, April 15th – **SI** Henri & Dorianne Hinse (70th Wedding anniversary)

Friday, April 16th - **†** Patrick Emokpae

Saturday, April 17th – **SI** Claudette Forcier

Sunday, April 18th –**†** Real Bérubé

**† = Repose of the Soul** **SI = Special Intention**

The Archdiocese of Edmonton offers the following points for our reflection to encourage and guide our active participation in the sacred liturgy during these pandemic times.

♦ If you are healthy and able, and if your home parish has space for you, it is best to attend mass in person.

♦ If you cannot attend mass in person, choose to watch a live-streamed celebration rather than a recorded one whenever possible. Live-streamed liturgies unfold in the present moment, and thus afford the opportunity for those participating virtually to join in real time with the Church at prayer.

♦ Create an appropriate atmosphere in your home to follow the live-streamed mass. For example, fashion a sense of sacred space by displaying the Bible, a crucifix, candles, or an image of Our Lord and Our Lady.

♦ Turn off all distractions, including the phone. Do not try to multitask by participating in the celebration while doing other things around the home.

♦ While not necessary for participation in a live-streamed mass, you could nevertheless choose to prepare spiritually by honouring the one-hour Eucharistic fast prior to the beginning of the liturgy. Reverence would also keep us from consuming food or drink during the liturgy unless required for medical reasons.

♦ Take some time for prayer before mass. Read prayerfully beforehand the Scriptural readings assigned for the mass in order to be fully attentive to the Word of God when it is proclaimed.

♦ Tune in on time. Make the sacred liturgy the first priority of your day.

♦ Dress appropriately, as you would for in-person participation at church.

♦ Be conscious of assuming an attentive posture. Choosing to follow mass from a chair rather than a sofa or recliner, for example, may help in this regard.

**PRE-REGISTERING ONLINE FOR MASSES**

**PLEASE –** only register the actual number of people that will be attending (numerous times the registered number is higher than the ones actually attending which prevents others from registering for mass)

Please include all the names of the people that will be attending with you.

**Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 11th, 2021**

“You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen Me, says the Lord; Blessed are those who have not seen Me, but still believe!” ~ Gospel of John

Confessions – 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet – 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Benediction – 3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Prayed on ordinary rosary beads, The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy is an intercessory prayer that extends the offering of the Eucharist, so it is especially appropriate to use it after having received Holy Communion at Holy Mass. It may be said at any time, but our Lord specifically told St. Faustina to recite it during the nine days before the Feast of Mercy (the first Sunday after Easter). He then added: “By this Novena, (of Chaplets) I will grant every possible grace to souls.”

The eighth and final day of the Octave of Easter is celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. Though every second is filled with the mercy of God, this day is especially observed to recollect and acknowledge the mercy we receive from God.

According to Saint Faustina, it is a day when the floodgates of mercy are opened wide and God lavishes us with more than we could hope for.

Pope Saint Paul II put this celebration on the church’s calendar in the year 2000 when he raised Sister Faustina to sainthood. In his message the Pope said, "Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr. Faustina Kowalska to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time. By Divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind."

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever; reads this Sunday’s responsorial Psalm. God never fails to shower his love and mercy on all those who turn to Him. We get a glimpse of Divine Mercy in action in this Sunday’s first reading. The early Christians believed in Divine Mercy and were so filled with the Holy Spirit that, “no one claimed private ownership” rather, “everything they owned was held in common.”

In the Gospel, the apostle Thomas says that he must have some proof before he can believe this incredible truth of Jesus’ resurrection. Perhaps he wanted to claim to the world during his apostolic journeys, that he had seen the risen Lord and testified himself, and that his preaching was authentic.

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, let us thank God for the abundance of His gift that He bestows upon us. Let us turn our eyes toward our merciful Lord and be open to all that He wishes to bequeath on us.

**Covid-19 update** *On January 18, 2021* we received revised restrictions from the Office of Divine Worship under the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton regarding enhanced public health measures issued by the Government of Alberta. Items to note are:

-**mask use is** **mandatory**

-Funerals max attendees is 20

-Weddings & Baptisms max attendees is 10

- In person faith groups meetings in parish space including sacramental preparation, Knights, CWL & RCIA restricted to a maximum of 10 people.

**The rules we enforce come from our Archbishop and we should be obedient to our Archbishop.**

**KEVIN KERRIGAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** -This scholarship, sponsored by Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus Council is open to year 2021 graduating high school seniors who attend St. Vital Church as well as a members of the Parish that are attending post secondary schooling at any level.  Preference will be given to a graduating high school senior.  The scholarship has a value of $500. and will be awarded on the basis of all round achievement rather than for strictly academic performance.  Achievement in the areas of academics, athletics, the arts, school, community and church involvement will be considered as well as the question of financial need in determining the successful candidate. Deadline for applying is May 31, 2021.  Applications are at the back of church and online at the Parish website (see KofC link).

**K of C Food Drive**

The Knights of Columbus will hold its monthly food drive in support of the Leduc Food Bank the weekend of April 24, 25.  Please drop your donation in the bin in the Church vestibule.

Thanks to all the Parishioners who have been supporting this effort over the months.  The needy of Leduc County thank you as well.

**Baptism Preparation Course**

Monday, April 19th and June 14th at 7 p.m. Call the parish office to register.

**Living in the Word** - I invite each member of our Archdiocese to examine their practice of turning to God for mercy. Let us each consider: When was the last time I went to confession? How often do I seek the Lord's mercy in this wonderful sacrament? These are essential questions that every missionary disciple must ponder with great seriousness, because only by receiving God's mercy can we become its agents for others*. (Archbishop Smith, Pastoral Letter, September 14, 2017)*

**Retrouvaille:**

A Lifeline for Married Couples Virtual Weekend, April 22-25

For more information: info@helpourmarriage.ca, or helpourmarriage.org

**PRAYER OF THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH**

The official prayer of the Year of St. Joseph - To you, O blessed Joseph (Ad te, beate Ioseph) - was composed by Pope Leo XIII in his 1889 encyclical, Quamquam Pluries. The Holy Father asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary especially during October, the month of the Holy Rosary. This prayer is enriched with a partial indulgence.

**THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH PRAYER**



***To you, O blessed Joseph (Ad te, beate Ioseph)***

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God’s Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. ***Amen***

**What is Lectio Divina?**

In the centuries old tradition of lectio divina - which is Latin for sacred reading - it is suggested that, before or after your morning or evening meditation, you read a passage of scripture. After reading this go back to it, either then or later, and spend some time - even 15 or 20 minutes if you can - reverently turning the passage over in your heart. Read slowly and experience the meaning of the words for you now. Let the reality of the words become more and more a part of your being. Your growing appreciation for the Living Word of God will lead you to a life of constant wonder, gratitude and love. *Adapted from - The Burning Heart, Gregory Ryan*

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