

PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

480 McIntyre Street West - North Bay, Ontario - P1B 2Z4

19 April 2020

Second Sunday of Easter

"Peace be with you."

Saint Luke describes the early Christian community, as they devoted themselves to prayer, the communal life ... [and] ... the breaking of bread. Peter's Letter stresses the living hope that believers now have through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. In John's Gospel, the resurrected Jesus appears to his disciples, saying, Peace be with you and showing them his wounds. He breathes on them, and says, receive the Holy Spirit and grants them the authority to forgive sins. Later, he convinces Thomas of the truth of the Resurrection. The Church continues to celebrate and give thanks for the mystery of the Resurrection. God has anointed his only Son as our Savior and Redeemer. So with hearts full of hope, joy, and faith, let us be reconciled to God in his Divine Mercy and share that mercy with the world.



Our Parish Mission Statement

We, the members of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption community, believe that we have been called through Baptism to live the Good News of Jesus Christ under the patronage of Mary, our Mother.

We accomplish this by proclaiming the Word, celebrating the Sacraments, & reaching out to others.

PASTOR Most Rev. Marcel Damphousse, D. D.
Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie

RECTOR Msgr. Dave Tramontini
ASSISTANT Rev. Rex Lumine

PERMANENT MINISTERS

Deacons
Rev. Mr. Albert Falconi
Rev. Mr. Donald Shago
Rev. Mr. Rick Hamelin
Rev. Mr. Gary Westenek

Diocesan Order of Women
Mrs. Shirley Falconi
Mrs. Norma Milligan
Miss Ruth Godon

Our faith community dates back to 1886 when we were originally located on Main Street West and called St. Mary's of the Lake and the cornerstone of the existing Cathedral was laid in 1904. The history of our parish is recorded in the memories of thousands of people who built our community.



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Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Theologians speak about "church" and "Church". Church with a small "c" refers to a building. Church with a big "C" refers to a community. In the midst of disturbing and frightening times please allow me to share my joy in what we have done as a Church.

I want to thank the deacons and permanent ministers under the leadership of Al Falconi, and the executive of the CWL led by Shirlene Condie for organizing teams and taking on the huge task of contacting every registered parishioner. A separate group of parishioners were set to help respond if someone who was contacted needed help in anyway. Well over 2,000 calls were made.

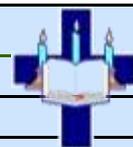
The original intent was to see if everyone was OK and if anyone needed errands run or groceries picked up. What was discovered was that, although in some cases the services were needed, for the majority of people, the grace of the contact was that someone cared enough to reach out. The parishioners who made the phone calls reported back that they felt they had been graced! The joy of reaching out and the joy of being acknowledged, is a sure sign of the work of the Holy Spirit among us!

Also, please be assured that myself and Fr. Rex remembered and prayed for all those who were listed on our Easter Memorial listing last weekend.

Yours in Christ,
Msgr. Dave

READINGS: 20 - 26 April

Monday	Acts 4. 23-31; John 3. 1-8
Tuesday	Acts 4. 32-37; John 3. 7b-15
Wednesday	Acts 5. 17-26; John 3. 16-21
Thursday	Acts 5. 27-33; John 3. 31-36
Friday	Acts 5. 34-42; John 6. 1-15
Saturday	1 Peter 5: 5b-14; Mark 16. 15-20
Sunday	Acts 2. 14. 22-33; 1 Peter 1: 17-21; Luke 24. 13-35



Second Sunday of Easter Reflection — by Deacon Rick Hamelin

(See video version @ procathedral.ca)

Mary already has told the disciples, that she has seen the Lord, but it just makes no sense to them. It is into this context that the Risen Christ appears to His Disciples.

What was the first thing that Jesus says to the disciples? Does He say: Where were you? Or does He say: You abandoned me! Neither. Astonishingly, Jesus says: “PEACE BE WITH YOU.”

Then John gives us what must be one of the greatest understatements in Scripture. John writes: They rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Of course, there is absolute delight in seeing Jesus risen from the dead. However, we must think the rejoicing happens partly because in saying “PEACE BE WITH YOU,” Jesus is also saying “I FORGIVE YOU.”

There are two basic types of peace. The first is *peace with ourselves*. None of us will be perfect disciples. There may be many days in a row when we disappoint Jesus or disappoint someone close to us. But we are so much more than the sum of our mistakes and failings. We are so much more than the sum of our successes and breakthroughs. We are the Beloved of God, His Chosen and the Destined for Heaven. Jesus is not interested in reviewing all of our past sins. Jesus is not interested in questioning all of our current motivations. All Jesus wants to do is point us to the Love that we already have for Him. We will then find our way to that peace in our hearts. The more peaceful we are, the easier it will be to follow Jesus and to fulfill His Calling for us.

The other form of peace is the *peace we have for each other*. Jesus’ gift of peace is meant to spill over into our relationships with each other. Immediately after telling the disciples, “PEACE BE WITH YOU” Jesus says: “As the Father has send me, so I send you.” Jesus is sending us out, asking us to treat each other with the same Mercy and the same Love that He has shown us. It is a Mercy that pulls down the dividing walls of hostility, of unforgiveness and of prejudice. It is a Love that empowers us to love each other deeply, and to be at Peace with one another.

Throughout his life, Jesus worked tirelessly to remove the obstacles that keep us from knowing peace with God, peace in our hearts and peace with each other. Then, on Easter Sunday, Jesus announces that the promise is now fulfilled. Every obstacle to peace has been removed. Now Jesus stands before us as a forgiving Saviour, not as a vengeful judge. Jesus stands before us offering His Peace.

Let His words sink into our heart. Let the truth behind them find a home in you. “PEACE BE WITH YOU” is so much more than a pleasant greeting. It is a Promise and a Gift from our Almighty God.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Pro-Cathedral Council 100th Anniversary
Celebrations Cancelled

Due to the health and safety risk that the Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19 presents to the members of the CWL and their family and friends, the organizing committee of the 100th anniversary celebration has cancelled the upcoming event that was to be held on June 17 until further notice.



Next weekend members are asked to observe the **Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel**.

The following is a schedule of celebrations that will be televised on Sunday, April 26, Easter Standard Time:

VisionTV 8:00 am
YesTV 10:30 am
Salt&Light 10:30 am and 11:00 am

You can also pray the Prayer Service for the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel which can be found on our website at procathedral.ca under Current News and on the Catholic Women's League section under Groups.

PRAYER LINE

The prayer line is a group of parishioners who pray for the needs of others. Concerns great and small are presented to the Lord on your behalf. If you have a prayer request or would like to join the group call Sister Shirley McNamara at 474-3800, Ext. 295 or Lorraine Atchison at 474-0613 and they will gladly pass them on to others who are waiting to receive your requests.



Through the mercy of God, may the souls of our recently faithful departed, rest in peace. Please keep them and their families and friends in your prayers.

JEAN BELEC

LAURINA LAFRAMBOISE

In compliance with Ontario Government directives the Cathedral and Parish Office are closed until further notice. Parish email and telephone messages will be checked and responded to in a timely manner.



Earth Day celebrates its 50th anniversary on April 22. Please be mindful of how each of affects the environment and ways we can help Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle — see samples below:

- Conserve water; Plant a tree; Compost
- Use energy-efficient lightbulbs
- Don't disturb natural habitats when walking
- Pick-up litter when going for walks (wear gloves!)

Sunday Masses

Resources for viewing masses can be found on our website under CURRENT NEWS. Locally recorded, Sunday English and French masses; Salt & Light; EWTN, and more. Also, Living with Christ is offering free prayer resources and downloads of the daily mass texts. Visit our website at procathedral.ca to view these exceptional resources.

Bells & Prayer

When our bells ring at 12:00 noon and 6:00 PM it is customary to pray the Angelus. Perhaps during this time we can say an extra prayer for our healthcare workers, those who continue to work in essential services, and those who have been infected by the coronavirus.

Thank you to everyone for their continued commitment to donating to the Cathedral. We appreciate your generosity!

Ways to Continue Supporting the Cathedral:

- We continue to accept **envelopes** at the parish door through the mail slot—you can drop off current and postdated cheques.
- Forms for **Visa/Mastercard and Automatic Bank Withdrawals** can be found on our website under About Us—Stewardship. Drop off completed forms to the parish office.
- We now have a **Donate Today button** on our website. Just click and fill in the blanks and you can make a donation to the Cathedral.
- **E-transfer** to music.finance@procathedral.ca Put in the message of the e-transfer how you would like your funds disbursed (i.e. Sunday, Building, Easter, etc.)

Again, as long as it does not cause hardship to you, we are grateful for your continued support.

Below is a reflection from a cloistered nun in the Netherlands. Given our lockdown circumstances, it seems very appropriate today.

“The very first Easter was not in a crowded worship space with singing and praising. On the very first Easter the disciples were locked in their house. It was dangerous for them to come out. They were afraid. They wanted to believe the good news they heard from the women, that Jesus had risen. But it seemed too good to be true. They were living in a time of such despair and such fear. If they left their homes their lives and the lives of their loved ones might be at risk. Could a miracle really have happened? Could life really had won out over death? Could this time of terror and fear really be coming to an end?”

Alone in their homes they dared to believe that hope was possible, that the long night was over and morning had broken, that God's love was the most powerful of all, even though it didn't seem quite real yet. Eventually, they were able to leave their homes, when the fear and danger had subsided, they went around celebrating and spreading the good news that Jesus was risen and love was the most powerful force on the earth.

This year, we might get to experience a taste of what that first Easter was like, still in our homes daring to believe that hope is on the horizon. Then, after a while, when it is safe for all people, when it is the most loving choice, we will come out, gathering together, singing and shouting the good news that God brings life even out of death, that love always has the final say!



This year we might get the closest taste we have had yet to what that first Easter was like.”

I pray that all who read this take the positive lesson from the reading. Please remember that all humanity is blessed because of the gift of God's love, the teachings of Jesus, and the strength of the Holy Spirit.

God bless you and your loved ones.

MASS REQUESTS

Please know that all masses that were booked or requested will be re-scheduled once our liturgies begin again.





Divine Mercy Sunday

Celebrated on Second
Sunday of Easter

On May 5, 2000, Pope Saint John Paul II decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter, the Octave of Easter, would be known as Divine Mercy Sunday. The feast was established by the pope after he canonized Saint Faustina, a humble Polish nun to whom Jesus revealed his message of divine mercy.

Born in 1905, Saint Faustina became a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy at age 20. While at the convent, beginning in February 1931, she received several revelations from Jesus, who communicated to her the depth of his mercy and his desire that all be merciful to one another.

The Lord also shared with her his desire that a feast day be dedicated to Divine Mercy and that it be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Saint Faustina's diary, in which she details the revelations, includes 14 occasions on which the Lord asks that a feast day be established.

CELEBRATING DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

Many people are wondering whether they are still able to receive the graces of Divine Mercy Sunday even though it is not possible to receive Holy Communion due to the pandemic

In 2002 there was a special Vatican decree, establishing the plenary indulgence, to provide a special provision to obtain the plenary indulgence, without attending Mass. It is in the last section of the decree, titled "*For those who cannot go to church or the seriously ill*". The document, which has perpetual force, clearly states that "all who for a just cause cannot leave their homes" "may obtain a plenary indulgence on Divine Mercy Sunday".

This does not remove the 3 conditions, which must be fulfilled, to receive the plenary indulgence, which are: (a sacramental confession, a Eucharistic communion, and a prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff). The decree clearly states that these must be done "as soon as possible". The decree reads, as follows:

"if totally detesting any sin, as has been said before, and with the intention of fulfilling as soon as possible the three usual conditions, will recite the *Our Father* and the *Creed* before a devout image of Our Merciful Lord Jesus and, in addition, pray a devout invocation to the Merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you)."

There is no doubt, that Pope St. John Paul II, was guided, by the Holy Spirit, when he established this, very, special plenary indulgence, with every possible provision, so that everyone can obtain the incredible gift of the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment.

For the complete decree from the, official, Vatican website, go to: http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/tribunals/apost_penit/documents/rc_trib_appen_doc_20020629_decree-ii_en.html

How to Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy is a glorious way to enter into the abundant Mercy of God. It only takes a few minutes and can easily be prayed almost anywhere.

Using a rosary, follow the guide below to offer this wonderful prayer. It is especially good to pray it at the three o'clock hour.

Using a rosary make the sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You! (Repeat three times)

Introductory Prayers

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayed on large bead prior to each decade

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

Prayed on 10 small beads of each decade

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Prayed after all 5 decades of Chaplet are complete

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (Repeat three times)

Optional Concluding 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.