

ST. LAWRENCE O'TOOLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Est. 1934



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PASTOR

Rev. Patrick M. Dobec, P.P.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

19 April 2020

Divine Mercy Sunday is a solemnity celebrated on the Sunday after Easter, the Octave of Easter. It is originally based on the Catholic devotion to the Divine Mercy that Saint Faustina Kowalska reported as part of her encounter with Jesus, and is associated with special promises from Jesus and indulgences issued by the Church. In 2000, Pope John Paul canonized Sister Faustina and many are inspired and moved by this devotion.

Let us pray . . .

For those experiencing illness and infirmity . . . especially those suffering from COVID-19 and all our parishioners and all of our parishioners and friends undergoing treatment at this time..

For all health care workers and support staff . . . that they be blessed with stamina, wisdom and good health as they respond to the overwhelming needs of those who are ill.

For those experiencing anxiety . . . that the peace of the Risen Christ may console the worried hearts of many.

For those who have died and left this transitory life . . . especially for the repose souls of the Pandemic and Esther Shalla. Requiescant in Pace!

(ALL CANCELLED) PUBLIC MASSES & MEETINGS

By ancient tradition, the Old Testament is not read during the Easter season. Accordingly, when readings are chosen from the Commons, the First Reading is chosen from the selections given from the Easter Season. When there are three readings, the first is taken from the *Acts of the Apostels or Revelation*, the second from the Epistles.

THE SHROUT OF TURIN: Silent witness of the Resurrection

For the history and evidence regarding the famous Shroud of Turin, visit: www.shroud.com

Pope Francis said that the face in the shroud "invites us to contemplate Jesus of Nazareth. This image . . . speaks to our heart and moves us to climb the hill of Calvary, to look upon the wood of the Cross, and to immerse ourselves in the eloquent silence of love."

THE CELEBRATION OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION will be re-scheduled when we are allowed to gather again for Mass.

THE REGINA COELI is one of four antiphons (short liturgical texts sung or chanted, often as seen below, in a responsorial pattern) dedicated to Our Lady. Traditionally, it is prayed in the morning, at noon, and in the evening in place of the Angelus, during the Eastertide until Pentecost. Our church bell rings at 12 noon and at 6:00 p.m. daily as a reminder to be joined in this prayer to Our Lady.

REGINA COELI

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, Alleluia.

For He, whom thou wast worthy to bear. Alleluia.

Has risen as He said. Alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad, O virgin Mary. Alleluia

Because the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us Pray

O God, Who by the Resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, hast been pleased to give joy to the whole world, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Gospel accounts of the resurrection tell us that the disciples gathered in the upper room with the doors locked because of fear. After the crucifixion of the Lord three days earlier, the disciples were riddled with anxiety, worry and fear for their lives. Despite the doors being locked, the Risen Christ appeared among them and his first words to them were "Peace be with you".

For the first time in our lifetimes the doors of our church remain locked. The extraordinary circumstances of these difficult days demands of us a radical form of sacrifice for the sake of the common good and public health. The turmoil and upset of our current situation can easily distract us from the lasting work of the Easter mysteries given to us in Holy Baptism. In his Easter Vigil homily of 2007 Pope Benedict XVI preached:

The gates of death are closed, no one can return from there. There is no key for those iron doors. But Christ has the key. His Cross, his radical love, he is the key that opens them. The love of the One who, though God, became man in order to die – this love has the power to open those doors. This love is stronger than death. (Easter Vigil, April 7, 2007)

Like the disciples on the Day of Resurrection, we may at times find ourselves tinged with anxiety, worry and fear. While it is not possible for us to gather together in our church building for the sacred liturgy, now is the time for us to allow the Risen Christ to penetrate the locked doors of our hearts and receive the peace that only He can give.

FORMED.ORG is an online portal with Catholic movies, faith formation videos, audio talks and children's videos. They have announced free access to all their resources for the next 40 days.

OUR CHURCH BUILDING AND PARISH OFFICE are now officially closed by instruction of the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese and the government.

Here are some instructions from Pope Francis on how to make an act of perfect contrition.

<https://zenit.org/articles/cant-go-to-confession-pope-says-talk-to-god-your-father-ask-forgiveness-full-text-of-morning-homily/>

**Registered Households 176
Last Sunday's Offering \$4229.00**

50 Household Envelopes & 8 E-transfers: \$2234.00	2 \$38.00	Share Lent to date: \$1407.00
Visitors Envelope:	Building Fund: \$105.00	
Easter Sunday Offering to date: \$1367.00	Easter Flowers to date: \$316.00	
	Initial: \$10.00	

Your kind remembrance of our Parish in your donations helps us to meet our ongoing expenses. Thank you to all who continue to generously support our Parish Community. May God Bless You.

PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

MY JESUS,

I believe that You are present In the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, And I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

HOSPITALS AND SENIOR'S CARE HOMES – Various institutions – hospitals and senior care homes – have adopted protocols for visiting their facilities. At the present time, it is not possible to visit those sites – even for the Priest. Similarly, it is not possible to visit senior homes. All of this to protect the patients and residents, as well as the staff.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS) – Due to the restrictions on public gatherings, and abundance of caution in terms of close contact with others, we are not able to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the normal manner. Penitents are reminded that their desire for forgiveness, perfect contrition and an intention to confess their sins (even mortal ones) at the earliest opportunity, obtains the forgiveness of sins.

BELLS FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS – The bells of our Parish are ringing often these days! When daily mass is celebrated you are invited to pray an “Our Father” for our healthcare providers. When you hear the bells, pray!

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK – Catholic Education week 2020 begins on Sunday, May 3, 2020. The catholic school in our parish would have engaged in a series of events to celebrate the ongoing gift of publicly-funded Catholic education. Publicly funded has existed in Ontario since 1841 and its graduates have served Ontario and Canada very well. The current generation of students in our publicly funded Catholic schools will serve with the same spirit and generosity as their previous generations. This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, “*Igniting Hope.*” The CEW biblical quote is, “*may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the Holy Spirit.*” Romans 15:13