



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

April 18-19, 2020

NEW SUNDAY DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Among all of the elements of devotion to The Divine Mercy requested by our Lord through St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the Feast of Mercy holds first place. The Lord's will with regard to its establishment was already made known in His first revelation to the saint, as recorded in her *Diary*. In all, there were 14 revelations concerning the desired feast. Our Lord's explicit desire is that this feast be celebrated on the first

Sunday after Easter. This Sunday is designated in "The Liturgy of the Hours and the Celebration of the Eucharist" as the "Octave Day of Easter." It was officially called the *Second Sunday of Easter* after the liturgical reform of Vatican II. Now, by the Decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the name of this liturgical day has been changed to: "Second Sunday of Easter, or Divine Mercy Sunday."

'Now On Throughout the Church'

Pope John Paul II made the surprise announcement of this change in his homily at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000. There, he declared: "It is important then 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.'*"

By the words "the whole message," Pope John Paul II was referring to the connection between the "Easter Mystery of the Redemption" — in other words, the suffering, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"For there are three ways of performing an act of mercy: the merciful word, by forgiving and by comforting; secondly, if you can offer no word, then pray - that too is mercy; and thirdly, deeds of mercy. And when the Last Day comes, we shall be judged from this, and on this basis we shall receive the eternal verdict."

St Faustina



Fr. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | Rev. Mr. Jean Mattar, Deacon | Joseph Abraham, Sub-deacon

Address: 11 Franklin Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

Office: 508-996-8934 | Fax: 508-996-8934 | Evening Emergency Number: 561-371-5316 | Website: www.ourladyofpurgatory.org

Email: ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net | Facebook Page: Our Lady of Purgatory Catholic Church - Maronite Rite

OFFICE HOURS: The Church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

of Christ, followed by the sending of the Holy Spirit — and this Feast of Divine Mercy, the Octave Day of Easter, which fulfills the grace of atonement as lived through by Christ Jesus and offered to all who come to Him with trust.

The Importance of the Image

During his homily, John Paul also made clear that the Image of The Divine Mercy St. Faustina saw, which is to be venerated on Divine Mercy Sunday, represents the Risen Christ bringing mercy to the world (see *Diary* 49, 88, 299, 341, 570, 742). Pope John Paul II said: "Jesus shows His hands and His side [to the Apostles]. He points, that is, to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in His Heart, the source from which flows the great wave of mercy poured out on humanity.

"From that Heart, Sr. Faustina Kowalska, the blessed whom from now on we will call a saint, will see two rays of light shining from that Heart and illuminating the world: **'The two rays,'** Jesus Himself explained to her one day, **'represent blood and water'** (*Diary*, 299).

"*Blood and water!* We immediately think of the testimony given by the Evangelist John, who, when a soldier on Calvary pierced Christ's side with his spear, sees blood and water flowing from it (see Jn 19:34). Moreover, if the blood recalls the sacrifice of the cross and the gift of the Eucharist, the water, in Johannine symbolism, represents not only Baptism but also the gift of the Holy Spirit" (see Jn 3:5; 4:14; 7:37-39).

The Meaning of the Day

Clearly, Divine Mercy Sunday is not a new feast established to celebrate St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not *primarily* about St. Faustina at all — nor is it altogether

a *new* feast! As many commentators have pointed out, The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter; nevertheless, the title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does highlight and amplify the meaning of the day. In this way, it recovers an ancient liturgical tradition, reflected in a teaching attributed to St. Augustine about the Easter Octave, which he called "the days of mercy and pardon," and the Octave Day itself "the compendium of the days of mercy."

Liturgically the Easter Octave has *always* been centered on the theme of Divine Mercy and forgiveness. Divine Mercy Sunday, therefore, point us to the merciful love of God that lies behind the whole Paschal Mystery — the whole mystery of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ — made present for us in the Eucharist. In this way, it also sums up the whole Easter Octave. As Pope John Paul II pointed out in his *Regina Caeli* address on Divine Mercy Sunday, 1995: "the whole octave of Easter is like a single day," and the Octave Sunday is meant to be the day of "thanksgiving for the goodness God has shown to man in the whole Easter mystery."

Given the liturgical appropriateness of the title "Divine Mercy Sunday" for the Octave Day of Easter, therefore, the Holy See did not give this title to the Second Sunday of Easter merely as an "option," for those dioceses who happen to like that sort of thing! Rather, the decree issued on May 5, 2000, by the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship and The Discipline of the Sacraments clearly states: "the Supreme Pontiff John Paul II has graciously determined that in the Roman

Missal, after the title Second Sunday of Easter, there shall henceforth be added the appellation 'or [that is] Divine Mercy Sunday'..."

Divine Mercy Sunday, therefore, is not an *optional* title for this solemnity; rather, Divine Mercy is the integral name for this Feast Day. In a similar way, the Octave Day of the Nativity of Our Lord was named by the Church "The Feast of the Mother of God."

http://www.divinemercysunday.com/mercy_sunday.htm

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

O Divine Ocean of Mercy and Compassion, be with us in our time of trial and difficulties.

Today I make an act of spiritual communion with you, the Life-Giving Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. At this time, I am not able to receive the sacred body and blood of my Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, but I choose to live in union with him and in the unity of the Holy Spirit. I offer my day, my daily life, my joys and sorrows to you, for those around me, and for the whole world. Be with us O life-giving Triune God, for we know that nothing in this world has power over us. O Lover of all people, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Please know that confession is available before liturgies. You may also call to set up an appointment.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 18, @ 5:00 PM, liturgy is being offered for the deceased members of the MacAllister and Maslanka families and for Nancy Calder requested by Subdeacon Joseph Abraham and CarolAnn Maslanka. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, April 19, @ 10:30 PM, (New Sunday) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Edward and Bertha Baroody requested by Gaby and Amal Baroody and family. May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, April 25, @ 5:00 PM, liturgy is being offered for the souls of Herve and Yvette LeBlanc and Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by Mike and Diane LeBlanc. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, April 12, @ 10:30 AM, liturgy is being offered for the souls of Fred Thomas, Joao and Fernanda Baptista, Mena Carvalho and Edigio Baptista requested by Fernanda Thomas. May their souls rest in peace.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

This month of April, the wine and bread offerings are in memory of Joseph and Louise Dupre by their family. May their souls rest in peace.

Anyone who would like to give an offering in memory of a loved one or for a special intention for the month of October, please see Fr. Vincent. The cost for the month is \$75.00, which covers the cost of the communion bread and wine. Thank you and God bless.

ملخص العظة

شك توما

تبدأ قراءة إنجيل اليوم بظهور يسوع الثاني لتلاميذه. لماذا شكَّ توما بالرب القائم من بين الأموات؟ عندما مات يسوع على الصليب، تشنت تلاميذه. لم يعرفوا ما عليهم أن يفعلوا أو إلى أين يذهبوا. تصرف توما كأبي إنسان حزين ومتألم، انفرد وعزل نفسه عن العالم. أول مرة ظهر فيها يسوع للتلاميذ، كان توما غائبًا. وعندما أخبره التلاميذ أن يسوع قام من بين الأموات، لم يصدقهم وقال "مَا لَمْ أَرَّ أَثَرَ الْمَسَامِيرِ فِي يَدَيْهِ، وَأَضَعُ إِصْبَعِي فِي مَوْضِعِ الْمَسَامِيرِ، وَأَضَعُ يَدِي فِي جَنْبِهِ، لَنْ أُوْمِنَ!" فظهر يسوع مرة ثانية بحضوره فكرر يسوع كلام توما ودعا ليضع إصبعه في أثر المسامير في يديه وعلى جنبه. في تلك اللحظة قال توما: "رَبِّي وَإِلَهِي!" فتأكد أن ما قاله التلاميذ كان صحيحًا.

فات على توما الكثير من الأمور لأنه عزل نفسه. ونحن أيضًا نفتقد للكثير عندما ننسحب من مجتمعنا. أشياء حسنة تحدث لنا فقط عندما ندعم بعضنا البعض ولا نحصل عليها في عزلتنا. يقول لنا بولس الرسول في رسائله أنه علينا أن نبني إيمان بعضنا البعض. وإيماننا مبني على الرحمة والتعاطف مع الآخرين. لم يتجاهل يسوع توما لأنه شكَّ ولم يتجاهل بطرس عندما أنكروه، بل أظهر لهما رحمته وعطفه ودعاهما للعودة إلى أحضانهم. ماذا يعني لنا هذا؟ كأبي عائلة، أحيانًا نواجه خلافات قد تبعدنا عن بعض، لكنه علينا دائمًا أن نتذكر أن علاقتنا مبنية على المحبة والرحمة كما يُظهر لنا يسوع ذلك مرة بعد مرة.

عندما نتألم بسبب الآخرين، تكون المحبة هي سبب ألماننا. المحبة مؤلمة! إنها ليست دائمًا كاملة؛ ليست دائمًا عادلة، لكنها دائمًا موجودة، حتى خلال مصاعبنا. لو لم تكون موجودة لما تألمنا.

اليوم نحقق بأحد الرحمة الإلهية. فلنتأمل برحمة يسوع علينا. فلنتحد كرعية واحدة واضعينا خلافاتنا جانبًا. فنرى نعمة يسوع ونبني بعضنا بعضًا بإيمان. يا إخوتي وأخواتي، رغم كل آلامنا وحزننا، الآن هو الوقت، للإستناد على جماعتنا فعندما يكون لقاؤنا مع الرب وجهًا لوجه.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL LITURGIES WILL BE AVIALABLE THROUGH ZOOM.

PLEASE SEE THE SCHEDULE BELOW. I WILL SEND AN INVITATION FOR EACH SERVICE. I WILL ALSO SEND THE TEXT FOR EACH LITURGY SO THAT YOU MAY PARTICIPATE AT HOME.

ALSO PLEASE BE SURE YOU PLACE YOUR PHONE OR COMPUTER ON MUTE ONCE YOU LOG INTO THE SERVICE.

ANNUAL BISHOPS CHARITY APPEAL

Each year the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn appeals to each parish for the annual Bishops Charity Appeal. The money is divided as follows: 30% for priests' retirement, 25% go towards the seminarian's education and boarding, 15% goes toward our endowment fund, 15% goes to Patriarchal liturgical commission and texts, and 15% goes to Lebanon. Each parish in the eparchy is asked to send an amount based on the size of the parish and the ability to raise this money for these much-needed programs. OLOP Church must raise \$3,500.00 from February 24-April 10, 2020. All of you have been very generous in the past and I am confident we will raise the amount requested. Thus far we have collected \$1,163.00 toward that amount. I thank you for your continued generosity for this worthy cause.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Fernanda Thomas, Hiam Cheiab, Leo Roderick, Anthony (Tommy) Thomas, Rose John, Theresa John, Laurette BouRamia, Annie Peter, Jeannie Francis, Mariam David, Norma Thomas, Zita Drouin, Lucienne Rodrigues, Ed DaRocha, Edmond Salameh, and Alice Daher. If anyone is missing from this list please contact the Church office.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

FOR

April 11-12, 2020

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,680.00
Easter Flower Donation	\$ 100.00
Altar Wine and Hosts	\$ 100.00
Bishop's Appeal	\$ 50.00
Total:	\$ 4,930.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY BY SENDING IN YOUR WEEKLY COLLECTIONS VIA MAIL. THIS HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL FOR THE CHURCH. GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

OVER 75 YEARS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE CRAFTSMANSHIP



DUPRE
INC.

BLOCK • BRICK • GLASS BLOCK
BLUESTONE • FIELDSTONE • COBBLESTONE
Cutting and Core Drill • Driveways
Steel Fabrication and Installation
Handicap Access

508-993-8088
369 Nash Rd. • New Bedford

www.duprecontractors.com

SALON PERSIA
308 THAYER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI

Wassim Chedid 401-837-0664
Tuesday & Saturday, 9-12:30pm
Wednesday & Friday, 9-6 pm

Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337
Monday & Friday, 9-12:30pm
Tuesday & Thursday, 9-6 pm
Saturday 9-4 pm

401-831-9536 • WWW.SALONPERSIA.COM

FULL SERVICE SALON



Wassim Chedid 401-837-0664
Tuesday & Thurs
1-6pm
Saturday
1-5pm

Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337
Monday,
Wednesday &
Friday
1-6pm

CHARBEL CHDID
508-315-2688

WWW.HEADSOFSTATESALON.COM
North Dartmouth, MA
653 State Road (Route 6) • 508-999-0177

Leonardo chdid
774 503 2935

Counseling
ASSOCIATES

152 Dean Street, Taunton, MA
508-837-0790

*Greetings from
the Saunders Family*

**Rick, Bill, Patrick
& Will Saunders**

*"Our Family Serving
Your Family"*

www.saundersdwyer.com



*Fairhaven Lumber
Company*

(508) 993-2611
FAX: (508) 999-3960
120 Alden Road,
Fairhaven, MA

*Fairhaven
Funeral Home*

117 Main St., Fairhaven MA 02719
508-994-9471
Lawrence E. Sylvia - managing director
**COMPLETE FUNERAL PLANNING
TO MEET YOUR NEEDS**
A Hathaway Family Funeral Home
1813 Robeson St., Fall River, MA 02720



For Weddings,
Banquets,
Post-Funeral
Gatherings
Private Functions

107 S Main St.
Acushnet
(508) 995-3221

www.centuryhouse.biz

Rua's West End Pizzeria
We're In Your Neighborhood

Corner of 196 Shawmut Ave. & Durfee St., New Bedford
We Deliver In All West End & Central New Bedford Areas
\$1.00 OFF ANY SIZE PIZZA WITH COUPON

**SUBS • PIZZA
DINNER PLATES • SPAGHETTI
SALADS • BEVERAGES**

Now Just Around the Corner and a Phone Call Away!
996-6774 • 996-6775
Open Daily 11:00am to 10:00pm



**CYCLONE CLEANING &
RESTORATION SERVICES**

- ◆ Carpets & Upholstery
- ◆ Commercial/Residential Cleaning
- ◆ Smoke/Water Damage
- ◆ Washing/Waxing/Stripping Floors

Call the company you've counted
on for years - CALL CYCLONE!
Anthony David • (508) 995-8816
833 Mount Pleasant St. • New Bedford, MA 02745
www.CycloneCleaning.com



**DHM DEBROSS
HATHAWAY
MARVEL**
Heating - Air Conditioning

465 N. Front St.
New Bedford, MA
(508) 999-1226
dhmoil@outlook.com

 A Division of
**SEA LAND
ENERGY**

Advanced Dental Spa

Family, Cosmetic and Implant Dentistry
**Dr. Raed Yazbeck
Dr. Vivianne Khalife-Yazbeck**
140 Dartmouth St.,
New Bedford, MA 02740
Tel: 508-717-0554
www.advanceddentalspa.net