



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



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## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024

### DIVINE MERCY IN MY SOUL



In the year 2000 Our Holy Father Pope John Paul instituted a new feast, the Feast of Divine Mercy which was celebrated for the first time in 2001 on the Second Sunday of Easter. It arises out of a series of apparitions which a Polish nun, Sr. Faustina, received. Sr. Faustina was born in Poland in 1905. When she was twenty years old she entered the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy where she lived for the next thirteen years until her death on October 5th 1938. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1993 and canonized in 2000. When canonizing her Our Holy Father said, "Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr. Faustina 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 twentieth century, the century we have just left behind. In fact, it was between the First and Second World Wars that Christ entrusted his message of mercy to her. Those who remember, who were witnesses and participants in the events of those years and the horrible sufferings they caused for millions of people know well how necessary was this message of mercy' Jesus speaking to St Faustina said to her: 'The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of

tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy.' (Diary §699)... 'My daughter, if I demand through you that people revere My mercy, you should be the first to distinguish yourself by this confidence in My mercy. I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbours always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbour: the first - by deed, the second - by word, the third - by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy, and I request the worship of My mercy through the solemn celebration of the Feast and through the veneration of the image which is painted. By means of this image I shall grant great graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of my mercy because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works.' (Diary §742) *Fr Denis*

### A PRAYER FOR DIVINE MERCY

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.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Sunday 7th April Holy Hour and confessions at 3pm

The Feast of Divine Mercy, celebrated on the Octave of Easter (the Sunday after Easter), is a relatively new addition to the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar. Celebrating the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ, as revealed by Christ Himself to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, was extended to the entire Catholic Church by St. John Paul II in 2000, the day that he canonized Saint Faustina. There will be a holy hour in honour of divine Mercy here in the church on Sunday 8th April at 3pm. There is a novena which begins on Good Friday and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday. **Priests will be available to hear confessions during holy hour.**

**RC HOSPITAL**

**CHAPLAIN:** John O' Neil. Please call the Chaplaincy office at the Lister Hospital Contact Tel: Mobile: 07876 526935 Lister 01438 285518,

**FOR ALL GENERAL PARISH ENQUIRIES**

**CONTACT:** Parish Office: Tel: 01462 893127

**CHURCH HALL HIRE:**

Please contact parish office 01462 893127

**BAPTISM**

**PREPARATION:** For further information please contact the parish office on 01462-893127 .

**RCIA COURSE:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programme consists of regular weekly meetings; if you would like to find out more, please speak directly to Fr. Denis.

**ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL** is our Catholic Parish Primary School. Parish families are welcome to visit and have a tour of the school. Contact the School Office or the Head teacher, Mr Tom Timson 01462 892478

The school website is <http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk/index.html>

**NEWSLETTER**

Please submit items for inclusion, preferably by Tuesday evening, by either emailing the parish email address ([baldock@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:baldock@rcdow.org.uk)) or handing them to Fr. Denis. Thank you.

**Baldock Catholic Scout Group**

For boys and girls aged 6 to 14. Contact: [enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk)

**Your SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES**

have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk. Please Contact: Patricia Cusack & Colette Murphy [Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) [Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**MEN'S PRAYER GROUP -**

Our next meeting will be on 13 April at 8.30am in the Parish Room. We are currently following a short series of very informative YouTube talks by Bishop Robert Barron on the Mass. We finish promptly at 10.30am.

**CALLING FOR HELP**

Spring is here and the small but perfectly formed Gardening Group needs more help with keeping our church grounds neat and tidy. Just an hour or two a month would make all the difference. Contact Charlie on 07941 327050 if you would like to help in any way.

**THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)**

is having an evening of celebration for the North Herts District, we will be honoured to have the Stevenage Mayor, Myla Arceno joining us. This is an opportunity to hear more about the valuable outreach work of the SVP. You are warmly invited to join us at St Joseph's Church Hall, Stevenage SG1 1NJ on **Thursday 11th April at 7.30pm**. Please contact Rachel Spartan on 07941 965675 for more information on the SVP in our area.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE BOXES**

For anyone using the planned giving envelopes, a new set is available for the new financial year. They are on the table at the back of the church, labelled by name and envelope number. Please collect your set from there.

Also, if you have signed up for Gift Aid but your tax circumstances have since changed, please let us know by sending an email to the [Baldock@](mailto:Baldock@) address, which you will find on the newsletter.

**YOUNG PEOPLE - HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BECOMING AN ALTER SERVER FOR MASS?**

We are always looking for more young/older people to help with serving across all of our Masses. If you have made your First Holy Communion then why not come along and give it a try? Full support and training is given. Please see Fr Denis if you are interested.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:**



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Peter Robinson, Mary Callaghan and Barry Evans, Catherine the Princess of Wales and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially Sylvia Kelly; and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Robert Grey; Josuah Corby; John Albone; Lisa Gratte; Norah O'Leary; James Harkin; Mary Piper; Margaret Delaney; Teresa Casey; Patrick Bowen; Margaret Lee; Nuala Darling; Ivy Cesvette; Patrick Hearne; Patrick Hearne; Arthur Dilley.

**MISSIO RED BOX SCHEME**

Please could Red Box Holders bring in your Red Boxes for counting. Many thanks.

Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	People of the Parish
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Myniam Anderson Thanksgiving
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Lucy Stevenson
Thu 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Concetta Lanni RIP
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	

Please note that mass intentions as set out above may not always be read out, but the intention is offered. Fr. Denis is still celebrating the Vigil Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night & Sunday Mass at 10.30am. All are accessible through the Parish Facebook page: **Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury**. For more information, please go to the Parish website. The Wednesday Word is available via: <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 19<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage, led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, is open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/>