



Holy Child Church
240 S Main St, Mansfield, PA



Reverend Bryan B. Wright
Pastor



Saint Mary of Częstochowa Church
144 St Mary's St, Blossburg, PA

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT March 17, 2024



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

United with the Pope, we the members of Holy Child Parish seek to be a welcoming church, which fosters spiritual development and expresses charity by living in word and deed the life of Christ. Under the leadership of the bishop, our goals are to implement effective ministries through word, worship, and the sacraments, to enhance the spiritual growth of our parish family, and to encourage, through works of love and faith, the unity of the Church.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office to schedule a meeting with the Pastor and to schedule the ceremony.

Reconciliation: Confessions are heard on:

Saturdays: 2:15-3:00 pm Holy Child Church
First Fridays: 9:00-10:00 am Holy Child Church
First Saturdays: 10:00-11:00 am Saint Mary's Church
By appointment: please contact the Parish Office.

Holy Communion: Those preparing to receive Holy Communion for the first time are asked to call the Parish Office.

Matrimony: Couples should contact their Pastor at least six months before the planned wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: For the infirm & homebound. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

New Parishioners: Welcome to Holy Child Parish! New parishioners are asked to register by contacting the Parish Office. Registration is required for our religious education programs and for the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Matrimony.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	4:00 PM	Holy Child
Sunday	9:00 AM	Saint Mary's
Sunday	11:15 AM	Holy Child

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday	3:00 PM	Holy Child
Sunday	8:30 AM	Saint Mary's
Sunday	10:45 AM	Holy Child
Monday	11:30 AM	Saint Mary's
Tuesday	11:30 AM	Saint Mary's
Thursday	5:15 PM	Holy Child
Friday	8:00 AM	Holy Child



DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS

Monday	12:00 PM	Saint Mary's	The Angelus
Monday	12:45 PM	Saint Mary's	Miraculous Medal
Tuesday	12:00 PM	Saint Mary's	The Angelus
Tuesday	12:45 PM	Saint Mary's	Saint Jude
Thursday	6:00 PM	Holy Child	The Angelus

PARISH CONTACTS

Financial Secretary: Darlene Buck 570-662-3568
Secretary: Cara Clementi 570-662-3568
Cemeteries: Cleo Warren 570-662-3568, by appointment
Director of Religious Education: Darlene Buck 570-540-1332
catholic.dre.holychild@gmail.com
Good Samaritans: Parish Office, 570-662-3637
Health Ministry & Medical Equipment Loaning:
Dotty Welsh 570-662-2057
Knights of Columbus: Scott DiMarco; srdimarco@hotmail.com
Ladies Guild: Patty Hutcheson 570-662-2034
St. Mary's Hall: 638-2783 Holy Child Hall: 662-9996

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
~ prior to all Masses ~



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 16 **VIGIL: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**
4:00 pm, Holy Child: IHO Martin Anthony Ostapowicz
(by The Ostapowicz Family)

Sunday, March 17 **5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**
9:00 am, St. Mary's: † Parishioners
11:15 am, Holy Child: † Joseph & Joe Sleboda (by The Family)

Monday, March 18 *St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*
12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Alice Abrams (by Doug & Kathy Draxler)

Tuesday, March 19 **SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Jack & Sharon Muldowney
(by The Muldowney Cousins)

Wednesday, March 20 **Lenten Weekday**
No Mass

Thursday, March 21 **Lenten Weekday**
6:00 pm, Holy Child: † JoAnn Wemesfelder (by Rita Hanson)

Friday, March 22 **Lenten Weekday**
8:30 am, Holy Child: † Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence DiSipio
(by The Muldowney Cousins)

Saturday, March 23 **VIGIL: PALM SUNDAY**
4:00 pm, Holy Child: † Harold Andrews (by Pat)

Sunday, March 24 **PALM SUNDAY**
9:00 am, St. Mary's: † Parishioners
11:15 am, Holy Child: † William & Jacqueline Gitchell
(by The Jim Thomas Family)



SANCTUARY LIGHT INTENTIONS: THIS WEEK

Holy Child: † The Sleboda Family
by John & Sue Sleboda

Saint Mary's: private intention by Dar Buck
The Sanctuary Light burns to remind us of the Real Presence of Christ reserved in the tabernacle.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS—2:15 PM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH
FIRST FRIDAYS—9:00 AM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH
FIRST SATURDAYS—10:00 AM—ST. MARY'S CHURCH

PARISH OFFERINGS RECEIVED MAR 4-10. THANK YOU!

Sunday Envelopes	\$4,130.00
Fuel	30.00
Easter	25.00
Easter Flowers	140.00
Holy Thursday	5.00
Good Friday	5.00
Cemeteries	10.00
Total:	4,345.00

Diocesan Collections

Care & Education of Priests 40.00

Catholic Relief Services 170.66

Thank you for your generosity!

If you would like a **2023 STATEMENT**, contact the Office.

PRAYER LIST

PLEASE PRAY... We pray, always, for deceased parishioners, family, friends, and benefactors. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. For those serving our country: Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families in our time of need. For those who need special prayers:

* Ryan Bates	* Jane Mahonski
* Kirk Euson	* Christopher Mortensen
* Richard Faber	* Terri Nash
* Bernice Frederick	* Richard Niemczyk
* Catherine Gallagher	* Ethel Sandstrom
* Ann King	* Lori Sherant
* Tony Lupkowski	* Kenneth Simpson
* Tom MacBlane	* Yolanda Tacka
	* Jack Watson

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.



To request prayer for someone due to sudden illness, upcoming surgery, hospital stay, or those experiencing a hardship, please contact the Parish Office. To respect our parishioners' privacy, please ask and specify if their names are to be put in the bulletin, added to the prayer chain, or both.

"SPARE A PRAYER" PRAYER CHAIN

Contact: Maryjane Seifried at seifriedmaryjane@gmail.com or 549-7550 or Dotty Welsh at dhjrw@ptd.net or 662-2057.

Our Lord is always listening.

VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know would like to receive Holy Communion, a pastoral visit, or a mailed bulletin, please contact the Parish Office.



Would you or someone you know enjoy a friendly visit, a partner to play cards or games with, someone to read to them, or simply keep company? As an outreach of Marian Ministries, Mary Hohman has offered to visit local residents and nursing homes, to spend time with people who may feel alone. Contact Mary at (717) 203-9090.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sun 3/17	Jer 31:31-34 Ps 51:3-4, 12-15 Heb5:7-9 Jn 12:20-33
Mon 3/18	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Ps 23:1-6 Jn 8:1-11
Tue 3/19	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Wed 3/20	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 Jn 8:31-42
Thu 3/21	Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 Jn 8:51-59
Fri 3/22	Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-7 Jn 10:31-42
Sat 3/23	Ez 37:21-28 (Ps) Jer 31:10-13 Jn 11:45-56
Sun 3/24	Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession) Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18a, 19-20, 23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14: - 15:47

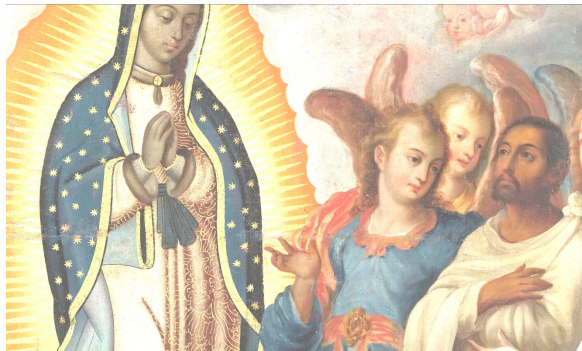
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE NOVENA

MARCH 12—DECEMBER 12, 2024

RETURN TO OUR LADY:

***WORLDWIDE CALL TO PRAYER AND
CONSECRATION TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE***

BY CARDINAL BURKE



“I’m calling on every Catholic in America to return to Our Lady and join in prayer.”

-RAYMOND LEO CARDINAL BURKE

In a world grappling with great disease, a war rages on in Europe. After years of truce, a new invasion of Palestine threatens to unsettle the Middle East. Theological debates are politicized and lead millions of believers to abandon the faith. A bishop writes: unless the hand of God intervenes directly, all will be lost.

The year is 1531. On the outskirts of Mexico City, the Virgin Mary appears to a simple indigenous man and makes a humble request. A continent is converted and the course of history is changed forever.

It was during an age much like our own when Our Lady first appeared to Saint Juan Diego some 500 years ago. Again, we are contending with disease, war, and deep spiritual confusion. Again, many poor souls are tempted to fear that all hope is lost.

But Our Lord has not called us to fear. No matter the darkness of our age, men and women of faith are not without the truth and love of Christ, nor the faithful care of His mother. Through Saint Juan Diego’s humble and courageous cooperation with grace, Our Lady’s intercession transformed the world and brought millions of souls to Christ. It is this same maternal care & protection that we seek today—a care and protection that she will grant us, if we earnestly ask for it.

Our Lady has not forgotten her children: her care for us is as strong today as it was 500 years ago.

There is real, miraculous, and transformative peace in the protection of Mary’s Mantle. To this end, Cardinal Burke is calling upon all Catholics to join him in a significant Novena seeking Our Lady’s intercession. Those who sign up to accompany the Cardinal in this urgent effort can expect short video reflections from His Eminence each month, in addition to regular written reflections and prayers. The Novena will culminate in a consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

THE MIRACLE IS STILL HAPPENING.

When Juan Diego opened his tilma and roses poured out, a miracle was set into motion. The miracle continues with our participation in this historic prayer event to Our Lady.

Join the world in prayer.

Daily Prayer

OF THE NINE-MONTH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

*To be prayed daily throughout the nine-month novena from
March 12 to December 12, 2024.*

O Virgin Mother of God, we fly to your protection and beg your intercession against the darkness and sin which ever more envelop the world and menace the Church. Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, gave you to us as our mother as He died on the Cross for our salvation. So too, in 1531, when darkness and sin beset us, He sent you, as Our Lady of Guadalupe, on Tepeyac to lead us to Him Who alone is our light and our salvation.

Through your apparitions on Tepeyac and your abiding presence with us on the miraculous mantle of your messenger, Saint Juan Diego, millions of souls converted to faith in your Divine Son. Through this novena and our consecration to you, we humbly implore your intercession for our daily conversion of life to Him and the conversion of millions more who do not yet believe in Him. In our homes and in our nation, lead us to Him Who alone wins the victory over sin and darkness in us and in the world.

Unite our hearts to your Immaculate Heart so that they may find their true and lasting home in the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Ever guide us along the pilgrimage of life to our eternal home with Him. So may our hearts, one with yours, always trust in God’s promise of salvation, in His never-failing mercy toward all who turn to Him with a humble and contrite heart. Through this novena and our consecration to you, O Virgin of Guadalupe, lead all souls in America and throughout the world to your Divine Son in Whose name we pray. Amen.

-Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

Video Meditations

Each month, His Eminence will send a short meditation on the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and some practical encouragement as you journey through these grace-filled months.

Written Reflections

In addition to short video reflections, His Eminence will provide written reflections to help draw you into deeper love for Our Lady and for Christ, Her Son.

For the monthly meditations and reflections, sign up at:

novena.cardinalburke.com/

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA
GOOD FRIDAY—DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
(MARCH 29—APRIL 7)

THE IMAGE OF THE DIVINE MERCY



Jesus, I trust in You



In 1931, our Lord appeared to St. Faustina in a vision. She saw Jesus clothed in a white garment with His right hand raised in blessing. His left hand was touching His garment in the area of the Heart, from where two large rays came forth, one red and the other pale. She gazed intently at the Lord in silence, her soul filled with awe, but also great joy. Jesus said to her:

“Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over [its] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory (Diary, 47, 48). I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You (327). I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and [then] throughout the world (47).”

At the request of her spiritual director, St. Faustina asked the Lord about the meaning of the rays in the image. She heard these words in reply: “**The two rays denote Blood and Water.** The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him (299). By means of this image I shall grant many 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** (742).” These words indicate that the Image represents the graces of Divine Mercy poured out upon the world, especially through Baptism and the Eucharist.

Many different versions of this image have been painted, but our Lord made it clear that the painting itself is not what is important. When St. Faustina first saw the original image that was being painted under her direction, she wept in disappointment and complained to Jesus: “Who will paint You as beautiful as You are?” (313). In answer, she heard these words: “**Not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush lies the greatness of this image, but in My grace.**” (313). So, no matter which version of the image we prefer, we can be assured that it is a vehicle of God’s grace if it is revered with trust in His mercy.

THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

A *novena* is typically nine days of prayer in preparation for a celebration of a feast day. At the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy Novena is recited perpetually at the Hour of Great Mercy — the three o’clock hour. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy can be said anytime, but the Lord specifically asked that it be recited as a *novena*. “**By this Novena (of Chaplets), I will grant every possible grace to souls.**”

For each of the nine days, our Lord gave Saint Faustina a differ-

ent intention: “**I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fountain of My mercy, that they may draw therefrom strength and refreshment and whatever grace they have need of in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death**” (St. Faustina’s Diary, 1209).

First Day:

Today bring to Me ALL MANKIND, ESPECIALLY ALL SINNERS, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. In this way you will console Me in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges Me.

Most Merciful Jesus, whose very nature it is to have compassion on us and to forgive us, do not look upon our sins but upon our trust which we place in Your infinite goodness. Receive us all into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart, and never let us escape from It. We beg this of You by Your love which unites You to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.

Second Day:

Today bring to Me THE SOULS OF PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS, and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy. It was they who gave Me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them as through channels My mercy flows out upon mankind.

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to Your service,* that they may perform worthy works of mercy; and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in heaven. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard—upon the souls of priests and religious; and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son in which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen.

*In the original text, St. Faustina uses the pronoun “us” since she was offering this prayer as a consecrated religious sister. The wording adapted here is intended to make the prayer suitable for universal use.

Third Day:

Today bring to Me ALL DEVOUT AND FAITHFUL SOULS, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. The souls brought Me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were that drop of consolation in an ocean of bitterness.

Most Merciful Jesus, from the treasury of Your mercy, You impart Your graces in great abundance to each and all. Receive us into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart and never let us escape from It. We beg this grace of You by that most wonderful love for the heavenly Father with which Your Heart burns so fiercely.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon faithful souls, as upon the inheritance of Your Son. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, grant them Your blessing and surround them with Your constant protection. Thus may they never fail in love or lose the treasure of the holy faith, but rather, with all the hosts of Angels and Saints, may they glorify Your boundless mercy for endless ages. Amen.

Fourth Day:

Today bring to Me The PAGANS AND THOSE WHO DO NOT YET KNOW ME. I was thinking also of them during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.

Most compassionate Jesus, You are the Light of the whole world. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who do not believe in God and of those who as yet do not know You. Let the rays of Your grace enlighten them that they, too, together with us, may extol Your wonderful mercy; and do not let them escape from the abode which is Your Most Compassionate Heart.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who do not believe in You, and of those who as yet do not know You, but who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Draw them to the light of the Gospel. These souls do not know what great happiness it is to love You. Grant that they, too, may extol the generosity of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

Fifth Day:

Today bring to Me THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE SEPARATED THEMSELVES FROM MY CHURCH,* and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. During My bitter Passion they tore at My Body and Heart, that is, My Church. As they return to unity with the Church, My wounds heal and in this way they alleviate My Passion.

Most Merciful Jesus, Goodness Itself, You do not refuse light to those who seek it of You. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who have separated themselves from Your Church. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart; but bring it about that they, too, come to glorify the generosity of Your mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who have separated themselves from Your Son's Church, who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces by obstinately persisting in their errors. Do not look upon their errors, but upon the love of Your own Son and upon His bitter Passion, which He underwent for their sake, since they, too, are enclosed in His Most Compassionate Heart. Bring it about that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen.

*Our Lord's original words here were "heretics and schismatics," since He spoke to Saint Faustina within the context of her times. As of the Second Vatican Council, Church authorities have seen fit not to use those designations in accordance with the explanation given in the Council's Decree on Ecumenism (n.3). Every pope since the Council has reaffirmed that usage. St. Faustina herself, her heart always in harmony with the mind of the Church, most certainly would have agreed. When at one time, because of the decisions of her superiors and Father confessor, she was not able to execute Our Lord's inspirations and orders, she declared: "I will follow Your will insofar as You will permit me to do so through Your representative. O my Jesus, I give priority to the voice of the Church over the voice with which You speak to me (Diary, 497). The Lord confirmed her action & praised her for it.

Sixth Day:

Today bring to Me THE MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND THE SOULS OF LITTLE CHILDREN, and immerse them in My mercy. These souls most closely resemble My Heart. They strengthened Me during My bitter agony. I saw them as earthly Angels, who will keep vigil at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of grace. Only the humble soul is capable of receiving My grace. I favor humble souls with My confidence.

Most Merciful Jesus, You yourself have said, "Learn from Me for I am meek and humble of heart." Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart all meek and humble souls and the souls of little children. These souls send all heaven into ecstasy and they are the heavenly Father's favorites. They are a sweet-smelling bouquet before the throne of God; God Himself takes delight in their fragrance. These souls have a permanent abode in Your Most Compassionate Heart, O Jesus, and they unceasingly

sing out a hymn of love and mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon meek souls, upon humble souls, and upon little children who are enfolded in the abode which is the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls bear the closest resemblance to Your Son. Their fragrance rises from the earth and reaches Your very throne. Father of mercy and of all goodness, I beg You by the love You bear these souls and by the delight You take in them: Bless the whole world, that all souls together may sing out the praises of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

Seventh Day:

Today bring to Me THE SOULS WHO ESPECIALLY VENERATE AND GLORIFY MY MERCY,* and immerse them in My mercy. These souls sorrowed most over my Passion and entered most deeply into My spirit. They are living images of My Compassionate Heart. These souls will shine with a special brightness in the next life. Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death.

Most Merciful Jesus, whose Heart is Love Itself, receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who particularly extol and venerate the greatness of Your mercy. These souls are mighty with the very power of God Himself. In the midst of all afflictions and adversities they go forward, confident of Your mercy; and united to You, O Jesus, they carry all mankind on their shoulders. These souls will not be judged severely, but Your mercy will embrace them as they depart from this life.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls who glorify and venerate Your greatest attribute, that of Your fathomless mercy, and who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls are a living Gospel; their hands are full of deeds of mercy, and their hearts, overflowing with joy, sing a canticle of mercy to You, O Most High! I beg You O God: Show them Your mercy according to the hope and trust they have placed in You. Let there be accomplished in them the promise of Jesus, who said to them that during their life, but especially at the hour of death, the souls who will venerate this fathomless mercy of His, He, Himself, will defend as His glory. Amen.

*The text leads one to conclude that in the first prayer directed to Jesus, Who is the Redeemer, it is "victim" souls and contemplatives that are being prayed for; those persons, that is, that voluntarily offered themselves to God for the salvation of their neighbor (see Col 1:24; 2 Cor 4:12). This explains their close union with the Savior and the extraordinary efficacy that their invisible activity has for others. In the second prayer, directed to the Father from whom comes "every worthwhile gift and every genuine benefit," we recommend the "active" souls, who promote devotion to The Divine Mercy and exercise with it all the other works that lend themselves to the spiritual and material uplifting of their brethren.

Eighth Day:

Today bring to Me THE SOULS WHO ARE DETAINED IN PURGATORY, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. Let the torrents of My Blood cool down their scorching flames. All these souls are greatly loved by Me. They are making retribution to My justice. It is in your power to bring them relief. Draw all the indulgences from the treasury of My Church and offer them on their behalf. Oh, if you only knew the torments they suffer, you would continually offer for them the alms of the spirit and pay off their debt to My justice.

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said that You desire mercy; so I bring into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls in Purgatory, souls who are very dear to You, and yet, who must make retribution to Your justice. May the streams of Blood and Water which gushed forth from Your Heart put out the flames of Purgatory, that there, too, the power of Your mercy

may be celebrated.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls suffering in Purgatory, who are enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. I beg You, by the sorrowful Passion of Jesus Your Son, and by all the bitterness with which His most sacred Soul was flooded: Manifest Your mercy to the souls who are under Your just scrutiny. Look upon them in no other way but only through the Wounds of Jesus, Your dearly beloved Son; for we firmly believe that there is no limit to Your goodness and compassion. Amen.

Ninth Day:

Today bring to Me SOULS WHO HAVE BECOME LUKEWARM,* and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: 'Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will.' For them, the last hope of salvation is to run to My mercy.

Most compassionate Jesus, You are Compassion Itself. I bring lukewarm souls into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart. In this fire of Your pure love, let these tepid souls, who, like corpses, filled You with such deep loathing, be once again set aflame. O Most Compassionate Jesus, exercise the omnipotence of Your mercy and draw them into the very ardor of Your love, and bestow upon them the gift of holy love, for nothing is beyond Your power.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon lukewarm souls who are nonetheless enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Father of Mercy, I beg You by the bitter Passion of Your Son and by His three-hour agony on the Cross: Let them, too, glorify the abyss of Your mercy. Amen.

*To understand who are the souls designated for this day, and who in the Diary are called 'lukewarm,' but are also compared to ice and to corpses, we would do well to take note of the definition that the Savior Himself gave to them when speaking to St. Faustina about them on one occasion: There are souls who thwart My efforts (1682). Souls without love or devotion, souls full of egoism and selfishness, proud and arrogant souls full of deceit and hypocrisy, lukewarm souls who have just enough warmth to keep themselves alive: My Heart cannot bear this. All the graces that I pour out upon them flow off them as off the face of a rock. I cannot stand them because they are neither good nor bad (1702).

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

In addition to the Novena, our Lord revealed to St. Faustina a powerful prayer that He wanted everyone to say—The Chaplet of Divine Mercy. St. Faustina prayed it almost constantly, especially for the dying, and the Lord urged her to encourage others to say it, too, promising extraordinary graces to those who would. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited using ordinary Rosary beads of five decades. It is preceded by two opening prayers from the Diary of St. Faustina and followed by a closing prayer.

1. Make the Sign of the Cross: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. Optional Opening Prayers

St. Faustina's Prayer for Sinners: O Jesus, eternal Truth, our Life, I call upon You and I beg Your mercy for poor sinners. O sweetest Heart of my Lord, full of pity and unfathomable mercy, I plead with You for poor sinners. O Most Sacred Heart, Fount of Mercy from which gush forth rays of inconceivable graces upon the entire human race, I beg of You light for poor sinners. O Jesus, be mindful of Your own bitter Passion and do not permit the loss of souls redeemed at so dear a price of Your most precious Blood. O Jesus, when I consider the great price of Your Blood, I rejoice at its immensity, for one drop alone would have been enough for the salva-

tion of all sinners. Although sin is an abyss of wickedness and ingratitude, the price paid for us can never be equalled. Therefore, let every soul trust in the Passion of the Lord, and place its hope in His mercy. God will not deny His mercy to anyone. Heaven and earth may change, but God's mercy will never be exhausted. Oh, what immense joy burns in my heart when I contemplate Your incomprehensible goodness, O Jesus! I desire to bring all sinners to Your feet that they may glorify Your mercy throughout endless ages (Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 72).

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.

(Repeat three times): O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!

3. Our Father...

4. Hail Mary...

5. The Apostles' Creed

6. The Eternal Father

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.

7. On the 10 Small Beads of Each Decade

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

8. Repeat for the remaining decades

Saying the "Eternal Father..." (6) on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion..." (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

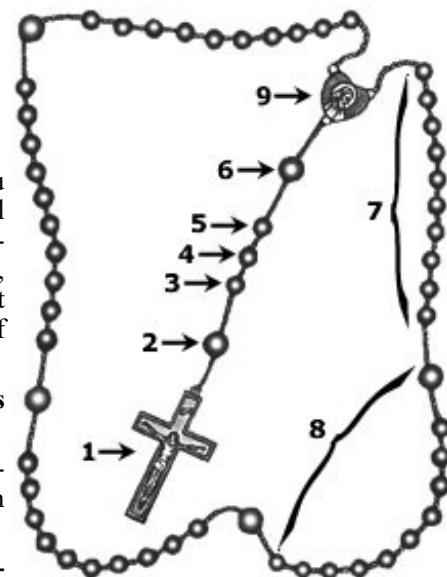
9. Conclude with Holy God

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

10. Optional Closing Prayers

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.

O Greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your mercy — to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out. Gracious God, do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles! O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through, and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You, we implore You: anticipate us with Your grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence, as Your children, await Your [Son's] final coming — that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope: through His merciful Heart, as through an open gate, we pass through to heaven (Diary, 1570).



HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE

MARCH 28TH - HOLY THURSDAY

7:00 pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Child Church

MARCH 29TH - GOOD FRIDAY

The Passion of The Lord

1:00 pm Solemn Services, Holy Child Church

3:00 pm Stations of The Cross & Divine Mercy Novena,
St. Mary's Church (No Meager Meal)

MARCH 30TH - HOLY SATURDAY

10:30 am Blessing of Baskets & Divine Mercy Novena, St. Mary's

8:00 pm Solemn Easter Vigil Mass, Holy Child Church



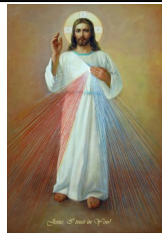
MARCH 31ST—EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 am Mass, St. Mary's Church

11:15 am Mass & Divine Mercy Novena, Holy Child Church

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Jesus appeared to Saint Faustina and invited her to spread the message of His Divine Mercy to the world. He gave her the Divine Mercy Novena, which starts on Good Friday and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday.



*Novena to the
Divine Mercy*



Holy Child Parish offers the following Novena schedule:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
Good Friday	March 29th	3:00 pm	St. Mary's
Holy Saturday	March 30th	10:30 am	St. Mary's
Easter Sunday	March 31st	12:30 pm	Holy Child
Monday	April 1st	12:10 pm	St. Mary's
Tuesday	April 2nd	12:10 pm	St. Mary's
Wednesday	April 3rd	8:30 am	Holy Child
Thursday	April 4th	6:00 pm	Holy Child
Friday	April 5th	7:00 pm	Holy Child
Saturday	April 6th	5:00 pm	Holy Child
Divine Mercy Sunday	April 7th	2:30 pm	Holy Child

Times are approximate; immediately following Masses.

On April 7th, Divine Mercy Sunday, Holy Hour with Adoration & Confessions begins at 2:30 pm followed by the final Novena chaplet. A reception will be held in Holy Child Hall at the conclusion of the Novena.

The Novena can always be said in private. Everyone is welcome to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday and attend the reception. Instructions can also be found at: catholicnovenaapp.com/novenas/divine-mercy-novena/#

GOOD SAMARITANS SPRING CASH RAFFLE

Please make all raffle returns

by this weekend!

Drawing date: March 24, 2024.

Donation: \$5/ticket.

Prizes: 1st - \$500.00, 2nd - \$250.00,
3rd - \$150.00, 4th - \$100.00.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Mar 17: *Bible Study: Holy Week*, after 11:15 Mass

Mar 21: KofC Assembly starting with 6pm Mass, Holy Child

Mar 24: *Bible Study: Holy Week*, after 11:15 Mass

Mar 31: KofC will lead the Rosary prior to Mass

Apr 3: Health Ministry, 10:30am, Holy Child Hall

SEEKING MUSICIANS

A personal care home in Mainesburg is seeking musician(s) to provide music once or twice a month. Please contact Jody Chappell 570-404-5708. Thank you!



John & Ann Kearns were part of Holy Child Parish for decades. John was an usher. Since relocating to Wellsboro and giving up their licenses, they are unable to attend Mass. However, I was hoping you could

spread the word about this

SURPRISE 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY
to anyone who knows him.

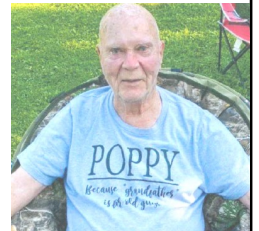
Sunday March 24th, 2:00-4:00 PM

Tioga County Fairgrounds

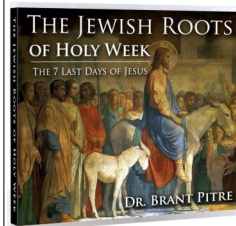
2258 Charleston Rd, Wellsboro, PA

RSVP to Celeste @ 570-404-0841

Thanks so much. Celeste Thomas (John's granddaughter)



LECTIO BIBLE STUDY: THE JEWISH ROOTS OF HOLY WEEK



Dr. Brant Pitre takes his knowledge of the Jewish roots of Christianity and uses it to unveil the mysteries of the most sacred and solemn week of the entire year:
1. Palm Sunday: Why did Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey?

2-3. Holy Monday-Tuesday: Why did Jesus curse the fig tree on holy Monday?

4. Spy Wednesday: What is the hidden meaning to Judas' betrayal of Jesus? Why is this day called "Spy Wednesday"?

5. Holy Thursday: How exactly did the disciples prepare the Passover for Jesus?

6. Good Friday: What is the meaning of the blood and water that flowed from Jesus' side?

7. Holy Saturday: Why did Jesus rest in the tomb? Where did Jesus' soul go on Holy Saturday?

8. Easter Sunday: Why did Jesus rise on the "first day of the week"?

Join us this Sunday, March 17 after the 11:15 Mass for refreshments and the first episode. If you're looking to truly enter into the mystery of Holy Week with Jesus, then this Bible study is for you.

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*Please help to
maintain a prayerful*
SILENCE AND REVERENCE



May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored,
glorified, loved, and preserved throughout
the world, now and forever. St. Jude, work-
er of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of
the homeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9
times a day, by the 8th day your prayers
will be answered (if it be God's will.) It has
never been known to fail. Publication must
be promised. Thank you, St. Jude. Amen.