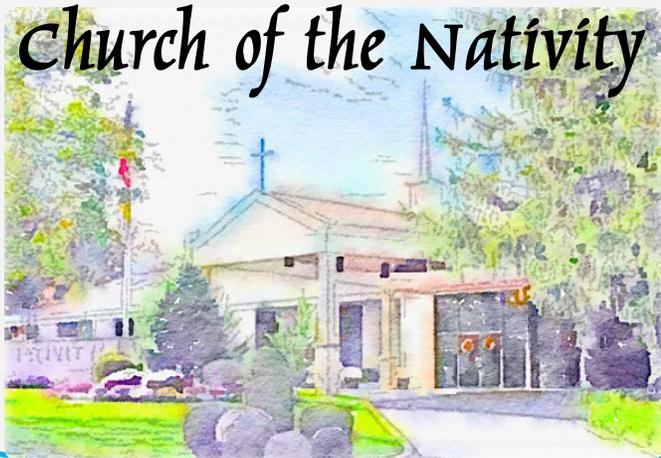


# Church of the Nativity



## Mass Schedule

LIVE on Facebook

Sunday: 10:15am

Daily Mass - Monday-Saturday 7:30am

Check our website for information  
and updates at [nativitynj.org](http://nativitynj.org)

A Stewardship Parish

April 19, 2020

315 Prospect Street ♦ Midland Park ♦ NJ ♦ 07432  
Parish Website: [www.nativitynj.org](http://www.nativitynj.org)

Church Office: 201.444.6362 FAX 201.444.5056 Email [office@nativitynj.org](mailto:office@nativitynj.org)  
Religious Education Office: 201.447.1776 Email [religioused@nativitynj.org](mailto:religioused@nativitynj.org)

## Divine Mercy Sunday 2020



Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-45)

*MASS Intentions*

During this time of pandemic all weekday Masses are at 7:30am and Sunday Mass is at 10:15am

Time	Mass Intention	Mass Requested By
<b>Saturday</b> April 18th		
12:10PM	<b>Grace Secreti</b>	Marilyn Nagle
5:00PM	<b>Jack Caldiero</b> <i>(16th Anniversary)</i>	Joseph & Anna Caldiero
<b>Sunday</b> April 19th <b>Divine Mercy</b>		
8:00 Mass	<b>Janice Fraccassini</b>	Philip & Karen Fraccassini
9:00 Mass	<b>Jack &amp; Jay Esposito</b>	Family
10:15 Mass	<b>Vincenzo &amp; Rosalia Veli</b>	Tony & Phyllis Veli
12:00 Mass	<b>Ben &amp; Pearl Schork</b>	Tom & Ruth Major
Monday, April 20th 12:10PM	<b>Rev. Jorge Ortiz</b>	Fr. George K.
Tuesday, April 21st 12:10PM	<b>Richard Smith</b>	Nativity Parishioners
Wednesday, April 22nd 12:10PM	<b>Josephine Salvano</b>	Palumbo Family
Thursday, April 23rd 12:10PM	<b>Arnold Rhodes</b>	Maryann Szczesny Karen Nighingdale
Friday, April 24th 12:10PM	<b>Margaret Lasher</b>	Ray & Marge Latterner
<b>Saturday</b> April 25th		
12:10PM		
5:00PM	<b>Eileen Smyth</b> <b>Al Melzl</b>	Donaghy Family Mike & Karen Doherty
<b>Sunday</b> April 26th		
8:00 Mass	<b>Claire Saccomanno</b>	Saccomanno Family
10:15 Mass	<b>Al Melzl</b> <b>Rose O'Hagan</b>	Vincent & Paula Mollica Patrick & Janet O'Hagan
12:00 Mass	<b>Michael Nagel</b>	Marilyn Nagal

***This Week At Nativity***

**Week of April 13th**



*Easter Flower Collection*

In Memory of...

Laura Patterson

Frank J Moore

Robert & Kathleen Scavone

Ryan Daniel Peters

Deceased Members of the  
Walter & Judith Fitzgerald

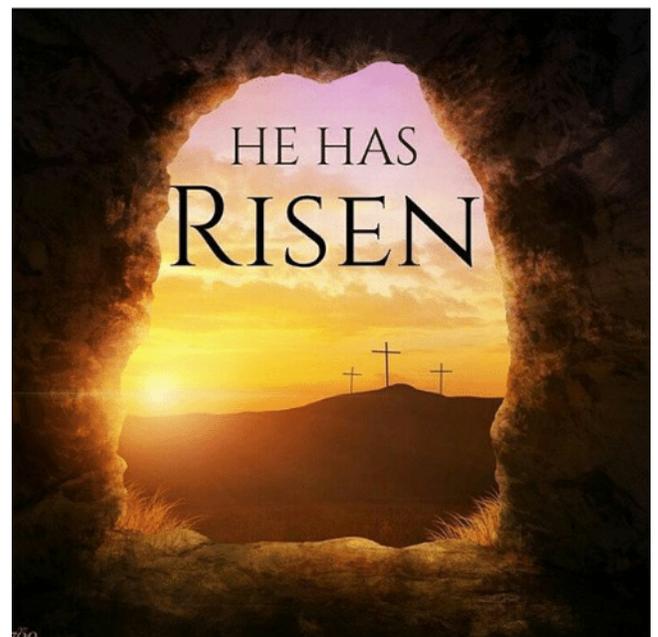
Marilyn Jane Nichols

**Every Week in...**

this time,

Please... pray for each other.

Check on your neighbors



*Please remember in your prayers the sick who have asked for our prayer*

**Pat Birrer, Terry DeSimone, Begonia Ceron, Nick Gismondi**

\*\*\*\*\*

*Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased*

**Margaret McPherson, Howard Peterman, Fred Tinoso, Rev. Jorge Ortiz, Rev. Gioacchino Basile, Peter Marks, Richard Smith, Anne Parente,**

*A Word  
from the  
Pastor*



## What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

When and why did the church begin celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday?

The world was in the midst of the Great Depression in 1931 and the memories of World War I were still very much alive in the minds of Europeans when in Poland a sister of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), is said to have been personally visited by Jesus. According to her diary, which was listed on the Index of Forbidden Books for more than 20 years, an image was revealed to her of the risen Lord, from whose heart shone two rays, one red (representing blood) and the other “pale” (symbolizing water), with the words “Jesus, I trust in you” at the bottom. Faustina wrote in her diary that Jesus told her, “I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish.”

When she was canonized in 2000 under the direction of fellow countryman Pope John Paul II, he proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday, thereby widely promoting the devotional practices associated with Faustina’s visions, already popular in many communities.

St. Faustina, a poorly educated daughter of a humble Polish family, kept a 600-page diary of the apparitions she claimed continued for years. Her entries focus on God’s mercy, the call to accept God’s mercy and to be merciful, the need for conversion, and the call to trust in Jesus. It had been Jesus’ own wish, she wrote, to establish a feast day: “I [Jesus] desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls. . . . I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My Mercy.”

Among the practices associated with the devotion are its novena, the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy (a series of prayers organized similarly to a rosary), the Hour of Great Mercy (a time of prayer traditionally celebrated at 3 p.m.), and the plenary indulgence granted to those who receive the Eucharist and celebrate reconciliation on Divine Mercy Sunday.

But the road to the universal recognition and institutionalization of the devotion was anything but smooth. Since Sister Faustina’s diary, which she claimed Jesus himself had asked her to keep, had been previously listed on the Index of Forbidden Books, it curtailed the exercise of the devotional practices. Detractors claimed that her writing contained theological errors, while her defenders attribute mistakes to a faulty translation from Polish to Italian. While the diary is no longer on the Index and her canonization has officially put away concerns regarding the orthodoxy of her writings, critics remain.

The celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday is an opportunity to reflect on the theme of how God’s mercy can overcome sin and, as the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments states, “a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind [sic] will experience in the years to come.”

*By Santiago Cortes-Sjoberg*

*This article appeared in the May 2011 issue of U.S. Catholic (Vol. 76, No. 5, page 46).*



**CATECHETICAL MINISTRY**

**April 19, 2020**

**Religious Education K-8 Program**

All families presently enrolled in our CCD program will receive re-registration letters for the Fall Sessions shortly. We are grateful to the catechists, assistants, helpers, students and especially parents for all they have done to make this year meaningful to so many.

**First Communion Program**

Children should continue to review their "Blessed" First Communion book, not only to enrich your child's formation, but to inspire your entire household of faith. As soon as we hear from the Archdiocese of Newark, we will communicate with you regarding the new directives to the celebration of the sacrament.

**Confirmation Programs**

Just a few reminders...  
ALL forms are overdue. Please give your immediate attention to this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Religious Education Office 201-447-1776

**Religious Education – Summer Option for grades K-6**

Children attend 10 days, Monday – Friday; 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM and must attend Advent and Lent sessions and Sunday masses during the school year for continued Religious Education. The Summer Option will run from Monday, August 10 to Friday August 21, 2020. Registration forms were mailed and also are available at the Religious Ed. Office.



The **Legion of Mary** is a lay apostolate group devoted to Our Blessed Mother. and devote yourself to Mother Mary.



**Sanctuary Light Memorials**  
 Week of April 20, 2020

The Sanctuary Light in the Church is burning in memory of  
**John and Susie Klybus**  
 By: Fr. George Klybus

The Sanctuary Light in the Chapel is burning in memory of  
**George Campbell**  
 By: Fred & Pat Shaver



**Paschal Candle Memorial**

- Rosella Murgia*  
By: *Louis Murgia*
- Deceased Members of the Bruno & Mullady Families*  
By: *Francesca Mullady*
- James Kevin Sullivan*  
By: *Marlene Nardone*
- Members of the Gallagher Family*  
By: *Hugh Gallagher*

*Memorialize the Paschal Candle in the name of a loved one, in thanksgiving, to honor a special birthday or anniversary or other occasion in your family. This year's Paschal Candle will be used all year long for funerals and baptisms.*

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*This offering is in memory/honor of:*

The Church of the Nativity Prayer Chain is accepting prayer requests. Please call the rectory with your request.



**The Biography of St. Maria Faustina**

(August 25, 1905 – October 5, 1938)

An excerpt from *Apostle of Divine Mercy*, a biography published by the Vatican.

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, an apostle of Divine Mercy, belongs today to the group of the most popular and well-known saints of the Church.



Saint Maria Faustina

**O my Jesus, each of Your saints reflects one of Your virtues; I desire to reflect Your compassionate heart, full of mercy; I want to glorify it. Let Your mercy, O Jesus, be impressed upon my heart and soul like a seal, and this will be my badge in this and the future life.** (*Diary*, 1242)

Through her, the Lord Jesus communicates to the world the great message of God's mercy and reveals the pattern of Christian perfection based on trust in God and on the attitude of mercy toward one's neighbors.

Sister Faustina was born on August 25, 1905 in Glogowiec, Poland of a poor and religious family of peasants, the third of 10 children. She was baptized with the name Helena in the parish church of Swinice Warckie. From a very tender age she stood out because of her love of prayer, work, obedience, and also her sensitivity to the poor. At the age of seven she had already felt the first stirrings of a religious vocation. Helen made her first Holy Communion at the age of nine, which was very profound moment in her awareness of the presence of the Divine Guest within her soul. She attended school for three years. After finishing school, she wanted to enter the convent, but her parents would not give her permission. Being of age at 16, Helen left home and went to work as a housekeeper in Aleksandrów, Lodi, and Ostrówek in order to find the means of supporting herself and of helping her parents.

**Helen joins Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy**

Helen never lost her desire for a religious vocation. After being called during a vision of the Suffering Christ, she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy on August 1, 1925, and took the name Sr. Maria Faustina of the Most Blessed Sacrament. She lived in the Congregation for 13 years in several religious houses. She was at Krakow, Plock and Vilnius, where she worked as a cook, gardener, and porter.

**Week of April 20, 2020**

The Bread and Wine in the Church are offered in memory of

*Elizabeth Campbell*

By:  
*Fred & Pat Shaver*



**Nativity has expanded its Daily Mass Schedule**

**We now have Mass every day LIVE on Facebook at 7:30am**

Externally nothing revealed her rich mystical interior life. She zealously performed her tasks and faithfully observed the rule of religious life. She was recollected and at the same time very natural, serene, and full of kindness and disinterested love for her neighbor. Although her life was apparently insignificant, monotonous and dull, she hid within herself an extraordinary union with God.

It is the mystery of the Mercy of God which she contemplated in the word of God as well as in the everyday activities of her life that forms the basis of her spirituality. The process of contemplating and getting to know the mystery of God's mercy helped develop within Sr. Maria Faustina the attitude of child-like trust in God as well as mercy toward her neighbors.

Sister Maria Faustina, consumed by tuberculosis and by innumerable sufferings which she accepted as a voluntary sacrifice for sinners, died in Krakow at the age of just 33 on October 5, 1938, with a reputation for spiritual maturity and a mystical union with God. The reputation of the holiness of her life grew as did the cult to the Divine Mercy and the graces she obtained from God through her intercession.

You can have a loved one fondly remembered by sponsoring the Bread and Wine at Mass in the Church or the Chapel in memory of them.

Please complete the form and return it to the Church Office with your donation of \$10 for a Bread & Wine offering for a week.



(Please check one)

- Church Bread & Wine
- Chapel Bread & Wine

Week starting, Monday \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

This offering is in memory / honor of:  
(Please circle one)

### Pro Life Corner

**Three Strikes & They're Out!**  
**Throwing Abortion Advocates a Curveball with the Facts**  
**Abortion should be allowed to save the life of the mother.**

**STRIKE 1:** There is no medical evidence to substantiate the claim that abortion is a recognized treatment for saving a mother's life. In a Sept. 2005 Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI) report on why U.S. women have abortions, life of the mother was not even listed as a category.<sup>5</sup> It must be remembered that it would be a disease or condition that would cause a life-threatening situation, not the baby.

**STRIKE 2:** In some acute medical emergencies, such as a tubal (ectopic) pregnancy or a cancerous uterus, a treatment may be required that *indirectly* kills the unborn child. *In such cases the intent is to save the mother, not to kill the baby and no direct attack is made against the baby's life.*

**STRIKE 3:** We must recognize that there are two patients involved – the mother and the child. **Every possible effort must be made to save them both.** Many times, a pregnancy can be brought to the point where the baby can survive outside the womb.



### Sanctuary Light Memorials



Would you like the Sanctuary Light to burn in either the Church or the Chapel...

- in memory of a loved one
- in thanksgiving
- or to honor a special birthday or anniversary or occasion in your family

The Sanctuary Light offering, in either the Church or Chapel, is available for one week in memory/honor of a loved one.

Please complete the form and return it to the Church Office with your contribution of \$10 per week.

(Please check one)

- Church Sanctuary Light
- Chapel Sanctuary Light

Week starting, Monday \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

This offering is in memory / honor of:  
(Please circle one)

**Saint Pope John Paul II called Saint Faustina "the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time."**



On Divine Mercy Sunday, 2000, Saint Pope John Paul II canonized Saint Faustina. He approved of the message of Divine Mercy and declared that the Catholic Church would celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter as "Divine Mercy Sunday." During his homily, he said, "By this act of canonization of Saint Faustina, I intend today to pass this message on to the third millennium. I pass it on to all people, so that they will learn to know ever better the true face of God and the true face of their neighbor. In fact, love of God and love of one's neighbor are inseparable."