



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, REDDITCH

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The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Parish Clergy: Fr Anthony Rohan, Fr Jason Mahoney

Permanent Deacons: Revds Des Chilton & Peter Griffiths

NEWSLETTER 1912 **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** 19TH APRIL 2020 YEAR A

Readings Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 117 1 Peter 1:3-9 Gospel John 20:19-31

Reflection for Divine Mercy Sunday



This weekend we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. This designation was given by the late Saint Pope John Paul II. He popularised this devotion which was based on the revelations made to Sister Faustina (1905-1938), a Polish nun.

In his address at the canonisation of Saint Faustina in April 2000, John Paul II said, "Jesus told her that humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to the Divine Mercy."

Humanity must allow itself to be touched and pervaded by the Spirit, which was given to it by the Risen Christ. It is the Spirit who heals the wounds of the heart and who pulls down the barriers that separate us from God and that divide us from one another. At the same time, it is the Spirit that restores the joy of the Father's love and of fraternal unity. The love of God and love of neighbour are inseparable.

The Divine Mercy vision is depicted in a painting and described by Saint Faustina in her diary on 22nd February 1931. She says, "I saw Jesus dressed in a white garment. He held one hand raised in blessing and the other hand was touching his garment at the breast. From the garment came rays of light, one red and the other pale."

The rays represent the blood and water which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus: the pale ray symbolises the water which cleanses and purifies the soul, the red ray represents the blood which gives it new life.

This Sunday, Mass and devotions will be celebrated at 3pm here at Mount Carmel to commemorate this vision with the chaplet.

We may recall that this devotion is closely related to devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is the modern version of the ancient conception of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Its popularity in its present form dates from the revelations given to St Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1673-1675. A feast in honour of the Sacred Heart is observed on the First Friday after the Octave of Corpus Christi throughout the Western Church.

The first petition addressed to the Holy See came from Queen Mary, the consort of King James II of England. It may be also noted that Thomas Goodwin, the Congregationalist chaplain to Oliver Cromwell wrote a book entitled "The Heart of Christ in Heaven towards sinners on earth" which echoes the message of our Lord's love for us expressed in devotions to the Sacred Heart.

In this difficult time for the world, let us take to heart the eternal love of Jesus for us and continue to pray for our loved ones who are suffering and for those who have gone from this world in the peace of Christ.

Fr Tony & Fr Jason

Daily Rosary Prayer

Don't forget to join the Fathers spiritually in their prayers each evening at 6pm til 7pm when they pray the Rosary for the Parish, its people, living and dead, and its needs, remembering particularly those causes we support, especially the *40 Days for Life*, and also the charitable organisations active in the parish, such as *Aid to the Church in Need*, the *Legion of Mary* and not least, the *SVP*, amongst others.

Mass Intentions

This week are for: **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** People of the Parish, Deacon Peter Reeves, Liam Boyd, Christopher Bentley, Christine McNamara **Monday** Bridget Joseph, Jimmy Evans **Tuesday** Kath Coombes, Marie O'Neill, Christine McNamara **Wednesday** Fr Bob Wright, Holy Souls **Thursday** Paul Galloghey **Friday** Saji & Sheeba & family (Wedding Anniversary) **Saturday** Frank Curry, Margaret McGilloway, People of the Parish

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER Kevin Smyth, Gerard Porter (a), Holy Souls, Paul Galloghey, Violet Nolan

Lamp at the Shrine of Our Lady

This week the lamp burns for the **PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**

Next week for the repose of the soul of **JIMMY EVANS**

Lamp at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart

This week the lamp burns for the repose of the soul of **MARGARET DALY**...

Next week for the repose of the soul of **BETTY HERLIHY**



For the dead ...

Your prayers are asked for **EILEEN GAVIN** Funeral 3.30pm Wednesday 29th April at the Abbey Chapel, **JOHN WILLIS** Funeral Wednesday 22nd April at 1.15pm at the Abbey Chapel, **BETTY HERLIHY** Funeral details not yet known, **CHARLES OLDERSHAW** Funeral 10.15am Friday 24th April at the Abbey Chapel, **MARTIN TWOMEY** Funeral details not yet known, **JIMMY EVANS, BETTY NUGENT, JOHN STACK** in Ireland. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

For the Sick ... Your prayers are asked for **GERRY BREE, CAROLINE HOLLAND AND FAMILY, DOROTHY ADAMS, ANITA** in hospital in Poland, 9 month old daughter of Monika

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL—FREEDOM FROM ADDICTION

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied

Saints for the Week ...

Tuesday

Saint Anslem, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

(1033-1109) St Anslem was born in Aosta and died in England, He was in the Benedictine monastery of Le Bec in Normandy for around thirty years. In 1093, he became the Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of England. He is called the Father of Scholastic Theology. In his defence of the Church, he suffered much, including exile. His doctrinal works are among the most noteworthy examples of theology and medieval Mysticism.

Thursday

Solemnity of Saint George, Martyr, Patron of England

Popular tradition present St George as the knight who killed the dragon, making him a symbol of triumph of faith against the forces of evil He was the son of an illustrious family of Cappadocia and at a young age was raised to the ministry during the Emperor Diocletian's reign. When the Emperor promulgated an edict against the Christians, St George professed his faith publicly, for which he was martyred. During the crusades Richard Coeur de Lion impressed by the cult of St George, so popular in the east, made St George the Protector of England, His tomb is in Lod, near Tel Aviv, Israel.

Friday

Saint Adalbert, Bishop, Martyr or of Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest, Martyr

(c956-997) St Adalbert belonged to a noble Bohemian family and was appointed Bishop of Prague while still young. Twice he retired to Rome due to oppression and he eventually turned his attentions to missionary work in Poland, Hungary and Pomerania. He was killed by the pagan Prussians in 997.

(1578-1622) St Fidelis was born in Germany. He belonged to the Capuchin Order, and led a life of deep contemplation. As an evangelist and catechist, he was known as the advocate of the poor. Considered the apostle of Switzerland, he was martyred in that country.

Saturday

Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist

He was the son of Mary in whose house Peter sought refuge after being freed from jail. He aided St Paul and St Barnabas in the evangelisation of Cyprus. Later, St Mark became the companion and secretary of St Peter in Rome. He wrote the second Gospel which emphasises the miraculous power of the Saviour.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament: body, blood, soul and divinity.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, please spiritually enter more deeply into my heart and mind. I embrace You, trusting in your answer to my prayer, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

This Act of Spiritual Communion can also be used at other times during your prayers, to join with Christ spiritually as we normally would physically and spiritually each Sunday.

An Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

Offertory Collections

The diocese have asked to let parishioners know that there is a donate button (top right) on the home page of the diocesan website – www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk - from which your donations, which can also be gift aided, can be made to the parish via credit or debit card. Funds will initially be passed to the diocese but they will have reports available to allow them to pass them on to each parish, the diocese will work the process out over the next week or 2 and much will depend on how much it is used. There are transaction charges levied by the card processing company which amount to 20p + 1.9% of the value of the donation – so for a £10 donation this will amount to £0.39 which will be deducted from the amount they receive.

Please do note, therefore, that standing order remains the most cost effective way for parishioners to donate.



The Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Mrs Jane Craig & Mrs Linda Gordon
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