

**Devoted ... Forgive and be Forgiven!**

**Divine Mercy – Ac.2:42-47 & Jn.20:19-31 with 1Pt.1:3-9 – April 16, 2023**

**By Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R. – Priest in Solidum**

Beginning on Good Friday, the day Jesus made good on his promise to forgive in the face of extreme violence, to today the Novena for Divine Mercy has been celebrated. This is the novena to unlock “fear” by forgiving seven times seventy times.

What kept them in fear? They did not want to believe what they saw and heard. Only when Thomas the twin touched His side did they believe. Thomas challenged all of them to “go to Jerusalem and die with him” (John 11:16). Thomas was fearless.

Devoted people are people of faith following in the spirit of Mary, Jesus’ devoted mother. Devoted people know the four interdependent aspects of a life of a Christian that is persevering for the long run. That’s why Tom knew Jesus kept the nail marks.

First, the teaching of the Apostles is “to receive the Holy Spirit” in Confirmation so that whose sins are forgiven are forgiven and those sins are retained are retained. The only sin retained is the sin of not forgiving – this is the sin against the Holy Spirit.

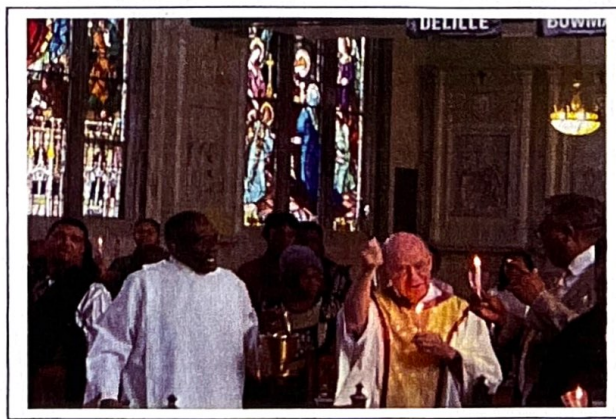
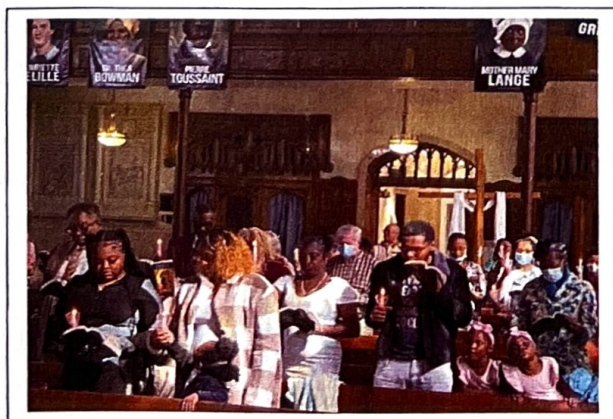
Second, find the common ground. “As the Father sent me, I send you.” Jesus kept His nail marks when He rose from the dead. His resurrected body, as His twin in the spirit knew His wounds, showed the healing power of forgiving as wounded healer.

Third, break bread together day by day. “He showed them His Hands and Side.” To receive His Resurrected Body and Blood is the energy to be sent to heal others by bringing about reconciliation moving the energy of evil to wanting good for all!

Fourth, pray every day. “Peace be with you” is His greeting when He entered the “upper room” the day He rose. He breathes on them the same way this second time as He enters the room to drive out F.E.A.R. – Freedom Excels Advancing Redemption.

These are the four aspects of the journey of a Confirmed Catholic Christian. We do not need to see to love Jesus. We do not need to see to believe in Jesus. We rejoice with “indescribable and glorious joy”, “attaining the goal of our faith.” We attain salvation forgiving and being forgiven, attaining for ourselves and those we forgive day by day.

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE RISEN CHRIST ON EASTER SUNDAY**



Stephanie Flounory would like to thank all those who donated to the candy affair on Easter Sunday!  
Special thanks to Deborah Tidwell !

***Our Mission Statement***

Having reflected on the “four faces of our parish,” **St. Peter Claver Catholic Community**, chosen by the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, and under the guidance of Mary, resolves that: 1) we will provide more opportunities for deepening prayer life and faith life for youth, young adults, and adults; 2) we will initiate efforts to reach out and re-connect with those individuals and families who have disconnected from the Church; 3) we will collaborate with other faith communities and organizations within our parish to offer ecumenical events/activities (e.g., neighborhood clean-ups, prayer meetings, health fairs); and, 4) we will utilize resources within our parish community to advocate for education and to promote social justice issues.



## MEETINGS / EVENTS April 16th to April 23rd



- Sunday** April 16th 10:00 am Mass at MC and via Zoom  
 Celebrant: Fr. John Phelps Priest in Solidum  
 Minister of Service: Pearl Crutcher  
 Lector: Gwen Cook
- Monday** 9:00 am Staff Meeting PH on Grove St.
- Tuesday** 10:00 am St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon  
 14400 Puritan St. Detroit 48227  
 10:00 am Finance Committee Meeting  
 PH and via Zoom
- Wednesday** 11:00 am Lectio Divina via Zoom
- Thursday** 7:00 pm Community Peace Circle (via Zoom)
- Saturday** 10:00 am Mentor Coaching PH
- Sunday** April 23rd 10:00 am Mass at MC and via Zoom  
 Celebrant: Fr. John Phelps Priest in Solidum  
 Minister of Service: Mary Caroline Jonah  
 Lector: Jay Jones

Legend: PH=Parish House; MC=Marygrove College  
 Church refers to the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove

(OSV News) -- **Divine Mercy Sunday** opens the "floodgates of mercy" for all through the sacraments of confession and holy Communion, said a priest renowned for promoting the liturgical feast and its accompanying devotion.

Observed on the second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday was established in 2000 by St. John Paul II during his canonization of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, a 20th-century Polish mystic. As a Sister of Our Lady of Mercy, the unassuming saint shared how she enjoyed numerous visions in which Christ urged her to promote devotion to his mercy through various prayers, an annual feast, and an image featuring rays of blood and water issuing from his heart.

### ***Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team***

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Alls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren Bridges, Donald Carter Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Englein, David Galletero, Tequilla Garrett, Ara Grier, Sandra Griffin, Karen Hickman, Myrnis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Dorrell Moore, Charles Nelson, Joan S. Noland, Nancy Oberhausen, Celestine Parker, Fred & Villa Ray, Alther Redd Romaine Redd, Flossie Ryles, Jeanne Schuldt, Irene Scott, Gussie Seay, Augusta Starks, Christine Versele, Helen Wajda, Anna Washington, Lillie Washington, Carmel Weems, Diana Wicker, Leonard & Ona Wilson

### ***Also, Please Remember in Prayer:***

Wayne Bradley, Olivia Boulden, Christopher Durant, Rochelle Evans, Andre Fox, Kiara Harris, Marley Jonah, Mary Caroline Jonah, Johnetta Mutes, Elke Rittenhouse, Elaine Ryles, Terrence Tidwell, Charles Tilghman, Jon Viado, Vickee Viado, Constance Washington-Daniel, Larry Washington, Wayne Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

### **St. Peter Claver Catholic Community**

Parish Office: 13305 Grove St., Detroit, MI 48235  
 (313) 342-5292

Church Location: Marygrove College-Sacred Heart Chalel  
 8424 W. McNichols Rd. Detroit, MI 48221

Email [parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org](mailto:parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org)

Mass: Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Church  
 (check the bulletin for holy days and special services)

Reconciliation: Before Mass by Appointment

Parish Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 10 am-2 pm  
 After hours please contact the Administrative Coordinator  
 Patricia Woods at (313) 342-5292

**Reverend John Phelps, Priest in Solidum**  
**Chris Kendall, Engagement Coordinator / Music Director**  
**Patricia Woods, Administrative Coordinator**

### **Team Captains:**

Evangelization: Ed Shea

Formation, Mary Radford

Administration, Jeff Flounory

Commission Chairs:

Mission Commission, Tanda Flounory

Ministry Commission, Pearl Crutcher (Interim)

Stewardship, Clarence Watts

Elders Counsel, Larry and Willetta Rhodes