



Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.

April 19, 2020 - Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 2:42-47 and John 20:19-31 with 1 Peter 1:3-9

“Consumerism can prove our downfall ... unless we ... cultivate a certain simplicity of life, resisting the feverish demands of a consumer society, which leaves us impoverished and unsatisfied, anxious to have it all now.” Pope Francis – Rejoice & Be Glad, p. 108

Today we celebrate forgiving all sin through the wounds of Jesus the Resurrected Christ. Did we experience the Personal Forgiving touch of Jesus as the Apostles did? Did we let God gaze on us during this time of “stay safe?” Open my life to be forgiven and to forgive.

The novena of Divine Mercy began on Good Friday. It ends on the 8th day after the resurrection. Jesus was raised. He is the Christ, the anointed One, the priest of Melchizedek. His Resurrected Body, given the form of Bread and Wine is the Eucharistic Heart bleeding for us.

The first reading and the gospel have a common message. In Acts, miracles came among the first followers. In John, the miracle of Jesus’ wounds radiates forgiving to all who believe. Why did Thomas doubt? His fellow disciples fear. Their fear created his doubt. It always will.

What is the message? Forgiving is the heart and soul of our Church. We are sent to forgive as Jesus was sent to forgive. Only F.E.A.R. (False Expectation Appears Real) stops our doing what the Apostles did. Have no doubt. “Proclaim His love!” Let the Pandemic be a grace.

This truth is what sets others free. We are chosen to be messengers of the freedom we receive. The second reading is meant for us. Jesus’ great mercy is our living hope. We will be tested by fire. We will persevere to show our hope is genuine. What a joy to radiate His Joy!

I invite us to see our “safe place” as our “Upper Room.” I encourage us to see this time as Mary’s way to put us on pause. We’re grounded till Pentecost, May 31. Let’s be good stewards of our time, deepen our awareness of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

We are called to be joyful missionary disciples with the vision of Eucharistic people strengthening communities to change the world. 28 parishioners from 11 parishes are surveying at least 5 people among 4 audiences. We want to develop a practical way to respond to all four!

Those of us who come to the Eucharist – how to engage others with our hope. Those who left the Eucharist – how to understand their journey without the Eucharist on purpose. Those who go to other communions with God – how they are sent to give to others what they receive. Those who go nowhere – what’s their deepest longing – and how can we accompany them?

Response to Coronavirus

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, all public Masses in the Archdiocese of Detroit, as well as in-person faith formation programs and other parish events and meetings, are suspended indefinitely.

If you have a private need, such as to arrange for a baptism, marriage, anointing of the sick, funeral or individual confession, please contact the Parish Office.

The “live” Parish Calendar, along with other information, are available on the parish website at [sppccdetroit.org](https://www.sppccdetroit.org).

Let’s continue to pray for one another!

Virtual Mass

While you are unable to attend Mass in person, you can benefit by participating in Masses offered on TV or online. Check your TV listing for Masses offered on CTND, or go to <https://www.aod.org/livemasses>, or go to our website at [sppccdetroit.org](https://www.sppccdetroit.org).

Father John celebrates Eucharist each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. from the chapel of St. Paul’s Retreat Center via Zoom Video Conference. To join in the celebration, go to the parish website.

If you have any questions, call Ed Shea at (248) 633-4476.

Zoom MiniSeries: Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World

This 7-part mini-series continues via Zoom conferencing on Thursdays. Two time slots are available, 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The links to join will be on our parish website.

Take part in the mini-series to learn how the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, along with our Gifts of the Holy Spirit can be strengthened to bring Eucharistic healing into the communities to change the world.

A Verse a Day For You to Pray

Today: 1 Peter 1:8-9: Although you have not seen him you love him; even though you do not see him now yet believe in him, you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Monday: Psalms 16:1-2a: Jesus answered and said to Nicodemus, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless one is born from above, he cannot see the Kingdom of God."

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-33: The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the Apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all.

Wednesday: John 3:16-17: God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Thursday: Psalms 34:2,9: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Taste and see how good the LORD is; blessed the man who takes refuge in him.

Friday: Psalms 27:1: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

Saturday: 1 Peter 5:5b-7: Beloved: Clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for: *God opposes the proud but bestows favor on the humble.* So humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you.

Note: All verses are taken from the Mass readings for the day.

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Aalls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren & Marcella Bridges, Donald & Barbara Carter, Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Endlein, Ara Grier, Sandra Griffin, Karen Hickman, Myrtis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Augusta Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Charles Nelson, Joan S. Noland, Nancy Oberhausen, Grady & Celestine Parker, Fred & Villa Ray, Romaine Redd, Flossie Ryles, Jeanne Schuldt, Irene Scott, Gussie Seay, Augusta Starks, Mary Tyler, Christine Versele, Helen Wajda, Anna Washington, Lillie Washington, Wayne Weamer, Carmel Weems, Leonard & Ona Wilson

Please Pray for Them as They Pray for Us!!

Also, Please Remember in Prayer:

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

Ministers Schedule April 26, 2020

No Mass Scheduled Due to Coronavirus.
Check your television listings for Masses on EWTN or CTND, or go to our website at spcccdetroit.org.

Meetings/Events This Week

Wednesday	1:00 pm	Lectio Divina via Zoom Video Conference
	2:00 pm	Ministry Commission via Zoom Video Conference
Thursday	1:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
	7:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
Saturday	9:30 am	Vicariate Planning Meeting via Zoom Video Conference
Sunday	10:30 am	Mass via Zoom Video Conference

Collection Results

During these difficult times, we rely on your support. Weekly donations can be sent to the Parish Office. Or this is an excellent time to consider online giving. It's convenient, secure, and totally in your control!



Give Online at spcccdetroit.org

St. Peter Claver Catholic Community

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

Church: Marygrove College - Sacred Heart Chapel
8425 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48221

email: parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org

website: www.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 or By Appointment

**Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday,
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Reverend John Phelps, C.Ss.R., Pastor

Edward Shea, Administrative Manager/Bulletin Editor
Cell: (248) 633-4476

Jennie Sinatra, Formation Director

Stephanie Flounory, Youth & Young Adult Minister

Mary Chavez-Thedford, Administrative Assistant

Ronald Galletero, Facilities Manager

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair