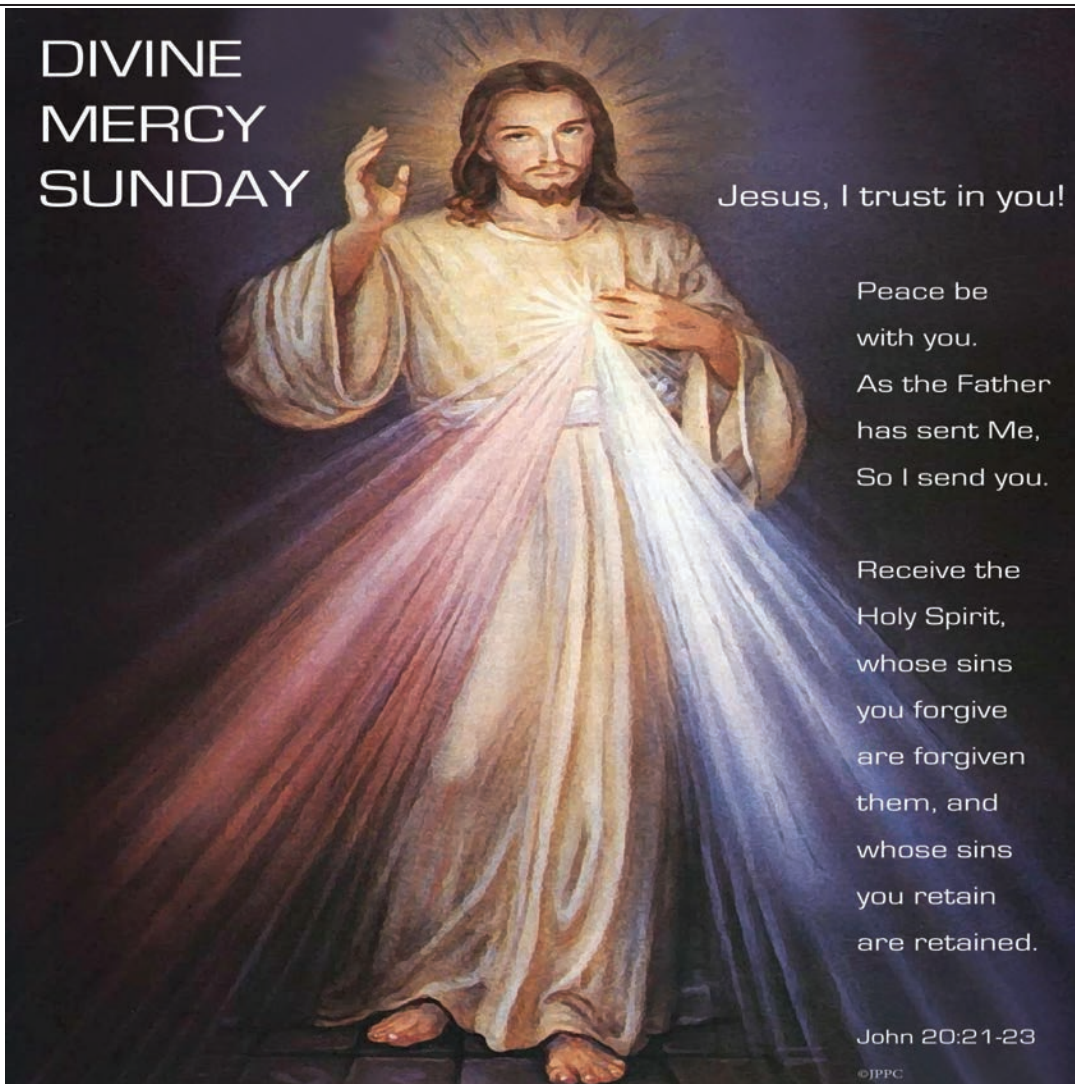


Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405
(610) 275-1750

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Jesus, I trust in you!

Peace be
with you.
As the Father
has sent Me,
So I send you.

Receive the
Holy Spirit,
whose sins
you forgive
are forgiven
them, and
whose sins
you retain
are retained.

John 20:21-23

©JPPC

Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. James J. Shea, Sch. P.

Weekend Ministry

Sr. MaryAnne Bolger, IHM

Parish Services Director

srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Sacramental Schedule

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Saturday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Each Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Wednesdays:

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

or by request

Valerie DiFilippo

*Parish Bookkeeper/
Cemetery Manager*

Joanne D'Alessandro

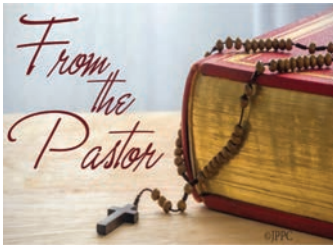
Parish Office Manager

jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Joe & Jeff Houseal

*Directors of Parish
& Cemetery Facilities*

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022 ~ DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



In the year 2000 Saint John Paul II designated the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. He did this at the canonization Mass of Sister Faustina

Kowalska, a Polish mystic whose mission it was to proclaim God's mercy toward mankind. St. John Paul II said: "How much the world is in need of the mercy of God today!" He and St. Faustina help remind us that "Mercy is present in our many brothers and sisters who today endure sufferings like His own... Jesus is in each of them, and, with marred features and broken voice, He asks to be looked in the eye, to be acknowledged, to be loved." Christ is the very incarnation of God's Mercy. In Christ, God embodied Mercy as He went about forgiving sins, healing the sick, siding with the outcast. By these very actions, our Lord affirmed that God's Mercy is present and alive NOW in the world, even and most especially in those places where His mercy seems lacking.

Most of us have probably seen the tender image of Our Lord associated with the Divine Mercy devotion. It is a reminder of how His Sacred Heart has given us everything: redemption, salvation, and sanctification. Saint Faustina Kowalska saw emanating from His Heart two rays of light which illuminates the world. The two rays, denote blood and water (Diary, 299). The blood recalls the sacrifice of Golgotha and the mystery of the Eucharist; the water, according to the rich symbolism of the Evangelist John, makes us think of Baptism and the Gift of the Holy Spirit (See Jn 3:5; 4:14). Through the mystery of His wounded and Sacred Heart, the restorative tide of God's merciful love continues to spread over the men and women of our time.

Here alone can those who long for true and lasting happiness find any hope. May the words of St. Faustina echo in our hearts during these 50 days of Easter: "Jesus, I trust in You!"



Save the Date

Our parish's Feast Day falls on Friday, June 24th.



The celebration will culminate with a catered dinner by PTG Restaurant and Caterers at the Swedesburg Fire House.

Music will be provided by Fasano Entertainment.

Please watch for further details.



"Ask and it shall be given to you."

~Matthew 7:7

The people of Sacred Heart's Parish heard this call. This month donations to CFF totaled **\$405.00** which will be sent to Caring for Friends to help defray their cost for **the snack bags and gas.**

Over **300** snack bags were assembled in less than an hour, and **331 Home Made Soups** were scooped. We are a well-oiled machine!

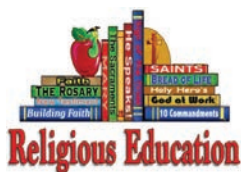
Additional collections are as followed: (2 ordered shipped directly to me from Walmart! Easy Peasy)

- ✦ Shampoo - 45 bottles
- ✦ Diapers - 133*
- ✦ Feminine Hygiene Products - 1,764*
- ✦ Body Wash - 60
- ✦ Adult Diapers - 20*
- ✦ Boost - 12*
- ✦ Toothpaste - 15
- ✦ Tooth brushes - 15
- ✦ Baby Diapers 133*
- ✦ Baby Food Pouches - 24
- ✦ Canned Soups - 18

It was good to see familiar faces and also NEW FACES!!!

Mark your calendars for our next Caring for Friends gathering on Wednesday, May 11.

Consider giving one hour a month that could change a life and chances are it will be yours!



Our PREP (religious education program for children) will be held beginning Monday, June 20th and concluding on Friday, June 24th. The program will begin each day at 9 am and

finish at 2:00 pm.

Additionally, a summer camp under the direction of the Sister, Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, will be held from June 27th until July 1st.

The program will begin each day at 9:30 and conclude at 2:00 p.m. It is for children grades K through 8 and will be comprised of instruction, crafts, and games.



Registration forms are now available at the back of church or visit our parish website at:

unitedinthesacredheart.com

Sign-up Today!

MARTHA'S CHOICE MARKETPLACE & COMMUNITY FARM PRESENTS:

THE FANTASTIC FARM SHOWCASE

A SPRING FAIR & WALKING PATH EXTRAVAGANZA!



SATURDAY, MAY 14 FROM 11 - 3 PM
MARTHA'S COMMUNITY FARM / 1350 PAWLINGS RD. AUDUBON PA

Come on out to Martha's Community Farm and celebrate Spring!

Enjoy fun family games, arts & crafts, delicious food, live music, explore our Food Power Walking Path, meet our partners, and learn about all the ways that Martha's is growing good food for our Montgomery County neighbors.

COME HAVE A GREAT DAY!

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Notre Dame Division 1, Montgomery County

2022 BLUE MASS

Sunday, May 15 - Mass begins at 10:15 am

A Blue Mass is a Mass celebrated annually throughout the United States in the Catholic Church for those employed in the "public safety field" (i.e. police officers, firefighters, correctional officers, 911 operators and EMS personnel).

09:45 Wreath laying ceremony to honor Public Safety Workers we have lost.

AOH Hall, 342 Jefferson Street, Bridgeport, PA. 19405

Directly following the ceremony, we will walk 2 blocks down the street to the church led by Irish Thunder Pipes & Drums.

10:15 Blue Mass at Sacred Heart Church, 120 Jefferson Street, PA. 19405

Directly after mass, Public Safety Employees and families are invited back to the AOH Hall for food and beverages. All courtesy of AOH Notre Dame Div. 1, Montgomery County. [Please RSVP, if attending at \(610\) 420-6970.](#)



In our motto: Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity



All Proceeds go to:



Date: Sunday, May 15, 2022
Registration: 11:30 am
Game time: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Location: Sacred Heart Church Parish Hall
633 East 4th Street
Bridgeport, PA 19405

- Hall / parking lot around backside of building

Registration Fee: \$25.00 (Cash at event)

Food / Raffle Prizes / 50/50
15 Games chance to win \$25.00
4 Games chance to win \$40.00
1 Game chance to win \$300.00

GRAND PRIZE \$300.00

Sponsored by:



Holy Family Council #3327, Bridgeport, PA

Questions Please call Jake at
858-337-1953
(Please pay with Cash only)

**ETERNAL REST,
GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD!**

*In your kindness,
please pray for the happy repose of the soul of*

Natalina Teresina Corapi
Who was called from this life on April 15, 2022

Girolamo Addalli
Who was called from this life on April 19, 2022

*"May Their souls and all the souls of the
faithful departed Rest in peace."*

*This week the bread and
wine for the celebration
of the Holy Sacrifice of
the Mass is in loving
memory of*



Mary Beth Palonicola

7th Anniversary Remembrance

at the Request of her husband, John

*This week the Sanctuary Lamp
in the Church burns*

In Memory of David Cabrey

at the Request of his Mom



*We are grateful for donations
received in Memory of*

Armando N. Delmoro

On behalf of:

*William & Catherine Hyczka,
Anthony Peroni*

The Sacred Heart Pro Life Holy Hour

*Please join us at 12:00 pm noon each
Wednesday to gather in prayer to ask for
God's help on issues affecting
our nation and families.*

All are Welcome!





Saturday, April 23

4:00pm For the People of Our Parish

Sunday, April 24

8:00am William & Dorcas Barrett
Requested by Joe & Kathy Gasko

10:15am Steve & Laura Barainyak
Requested by The Family

Monday, April 25

8:00am Virgilio D'Amore & Josephine Stepaniak
Requested by Wife & Daughter, Barbara

Tuesday, April 26

8:00am Robert Degnan

Wednesday, April 27

8:00am Philomena Kurcik
Requested by Peter & Linda Korpel

Thursday, April 28

8:00am Leslie Zadroga
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Dad & Mom and Family

Friday, April 29

8:00am Catherine Sandor
Requested by Tony Valerio

Saturday, April 30

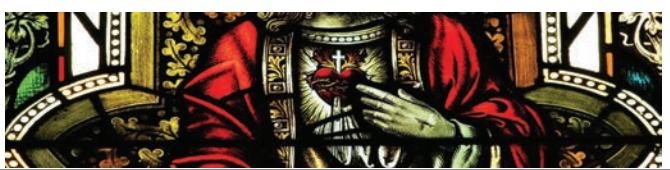
8:00am Pelagia Babicz
Requested by Son & Daughter

4:00pm For the People of Our Parish

Sunday, May 1

8:00am For the Intentions of the Members of the Marian Society
Requested by Sacred Heart Marian Society

10:15am Anne O'Meara
Requested by The Janoski & Dewees Families



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, April 30:

4:00pm
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:
Barbara JanFrancisco
Lectors: Walt Fromm, Jr.

Sunday morning, May 1:

8:00am
Lector: Michelle Efthimiadou
10:15am
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:
Joan Koeck
Lector: Eileen Bralski

Celebrant's Mass Schedule

Saturday evening, April 30:

7:00pm - Father DiMaria

Sunday morning, May 1:

8:00am - Father Shea
10:15am—Father DiMaria



Weekly Report

Palm Sunday Offering
April 9 & 10, 2022
\$7,190.79

Easter Flower Offering
\$1,939.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish !



Sisters of Life Thank You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to the Sisters of Life, which becomes a channel of Christ's redeeming love—seen powerfully in our mission of Hope and Healing after abortion. One woman, who I'll call Suzanne, offered to share her journey of grace:



Suzanne fell away from her Catholic faith in college and tried finding the love and meaning she searched for in a relationship. After suffering two abortions, she broke up with her boyfriend, realizing this was not love. An aching loneliness and need for God steadily increased in her heart. She dabbled in various spiritualities, and to her surprise, one day Jesus came to her, right into her meditation. He leaned down towards her, extending His hand and gently saying, "Consider Me again." Suzanne began her journey back to the Catholic Church and recounts with grateful tears the healing power of Christ's mercy in her first confession after thirty years.

We each have the opportunity this lent to *consider Christ's invitation again* and to receive His total, tender love and restoring mercy.

We are holding you and all of your intentions in our daily Eucharistic prayers.

Mother Agnes

Mother Agnes Mary, S.V.
For all the Sisters of Life



Please Pray For All Who Protect Our Country, especially...

Matthew D. Baxter (Staff Sergeant, U.S. Air Force), grandson of Peg Palmer; **John F. K. Benedict** (Major, USAF ANG), son of Christine & Vince Benedict; **Anthony C. Brandt** (CW3 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserves), son of Eileen & Nesbur Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (Sergeant U.S. Army), grandson of Eileen & Nesbur Brandt; **LCDR Matthew J. Capaldo** (U.S. Navy) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Darius A. Garey** (E3, U.S. Navy), great-grandson of Peg Palmer; **Michael Gutkowski** (Lieutenant, U.S. Navy), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Noel Irizarry** (Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (Sergeant US Marines), grandson of Fran Toth; **Gregory Kantz** (Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Stephen Kantz** (Commander, U.S. Navy), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant Officer 3 U.S.M.C.), son of Irene McNulty; **Michael McSweeney** (Commander, U.S. Navy); **Rick McVoy** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy) son of Rich McVoy; **Jonathan D. Palmer** (Sergeant, U.S. National Guard), grandson of Peg Palmer; **Greg Philips** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy); **Jessica Prostack** (CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jeffrey Seamans** (Captain, U.S. Army), son-in-law of Dolores Burton.



The Marian Society will lead the Rosary during the Adoration period following the 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, May 1



Saturday, May 14, Races start at 7pm

Doors open at 6pm

At the AOH Hall 342 Jefferson St.
\$10 per Horse \$20 for draft Beer,
Food and Soda

Info: Contact 610 420 6970

In Your Charity, Please Pray For Our Sick



Barbara A. Burkert (Daughter of Dora & Armando Delmoro); Cody Taylor (Nephew of Michael & Eileen Bralski); Melonie Mitchell; John Smoczylo; Teddy Swede (Brother of Gloria Swede); Laurie Ronan (Niece of Gloria Swede); David Degulis (Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr. & Kathy Smith); Edward Keszczyk; Terry Stephenson (Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr. & Kathy Smith); Michael Dulaney (Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr. & Kathy Smith); Kerry Link (Daughter of Irene McNulty); Ayden Boone (Great Great-Grandson of Armando Delmoro); Mary Stephenson (Niece of John Puzio, Jr. & Kathy Smith); Lorraine Farrell; Gary Gutkowski; Mary Ann Krajnik; Rose Coscia; Francis Coscia; Gregory Zugay; Margaret Halas; Ronald Halas; Michael Martin (Friend of Ronald & Margaret Halas); Edith Barbone; Catherine Bankowski; Michael Myers and Melissa (Myers) Sillah (Grandchildren of Dora & Armando Delmoro); Anne Jakielaszek; Dolores Pasquarello; Joseph Saboe; Butch Rodenbaugh; Denise Kavanagh; Nick "Chief" Rotondo; Evelyn Horning.

Divine Mercy Sunday April 24, 2022 - Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson



You remember those days in your high school English class. You had to distinguish between a noun as a thing and a verb, which is always some kind of an action. "Divine Mercy" strikes me as both. It is the good Lord's prerogative as a loving God, but also His bestowal of it on those who seek Him in their daily lives.

I must admit that the whole devotion of the Divine Mercy and Sister Faustina's vision came upon me years ago quite by surprise. A lady came up to me at the parish where I resided quite upset wondering why there were no confessions being heard on Divine Mercy Sunday, I told her that I didn't know what she was talking about. Reflecting on that long ago incident, it occurred to me that my ignorance might well have sprung from

the fact that I was immersed in academe, unaware of this relatively new phenomenon. Now I am well aware of how confession is an integral part of the annual Divine Mercy celebration.

Praying the Divine Mercy chaplet has become part of my daily life now, and I try my best to pray it at 3:00 each afternoon. I imagine its Polish roots easily led Pope St. John Paul II to urge the devotion be kept by the whole Church on this second Sunday of Easter. Certainly both the secular world and the Church need mercy. We can devise so many ways to damage our relationship with God. Just think of these contemporary movements: "Cancel" and "Woke."

Now that we're in the third year of Covid, I believe we can derive at least some good from what this killer virus has collectively caused as well as individually. I for one believe Covid has brought me a renewed awareness of how dependent I am on God for everything. Yes, we can be grateful that science came up with vaccines. But science implies scientists. But where did they get their intelligence and analytical powers to do this service? No doubt from a watchful and merciful God.

We're given a beautiful example of divine mercy today in the Gospel story of St. Thomas. After Our Lord encouraged "the Doubter" to probe His sacred scars, He never strongly remonstrated or belittled Thomas or demand an apology from him. Instead, He prompts a beautiful act of faith from Thomas. His words encompass everything the New Testament seeks to proclaim about Jesus' identity. In a prayer that is short and simple but profound and adoring: "My Lord and my God." That same mercy Thomas received is offered to us, especially if we pray for it.

I close with a lighter take on the whole subject of justice and mercy with this story: Once upon a time a young lady who occasionally walked through the park after work stopped to have her picture taken by a photographer on a particular day. She was very excited about the whole idea. As she walked out of the park, she looked at her picture in total amazement. Then she turned and headed back to the cameraman. When she got to him she raised her voice and said angrily: "This is not right! This is not right! You have done me no justice!"

The photographer looked at the picture and then looked at her and said, "Miss, you don't need justice. What you need is mercy."

God love you and give you His peace.

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