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**PARISH OF ST GEORGE**

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**SUNDAY 24th April 2022**

**2ⁿᵈ Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy), Year C**

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Description automatically generatedGOSPEL*** *John 20:19–31*

St. Faustina of Poland is the well-known apostle of Divine Mercy. During her short life, the Lord Jesus assigned to her three basic tasks: 1. to pray for souls, entrusting them to God’s incomprehensible Mercy; 2. to tell the world about God’s generous Mercy; 3. to start a new movement in the Church focusing on God’s Mercy.

The Picture of Divine Mercy, a painting of Jesus based on the vision given to St. Faustina, shows Jesus raising his right hand in a gesture of blessing, with His left hand on his heart from which gush forth two rays, one red and one white. The picture contains the message, “Jesus, I trust in You!”. The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red for the [Blood](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Precious_blood&action=edit) of [Jesus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus), which is the life of souls and white for the Baptismal water which justifies souls. The whole image is symbolic of the mercy, forgiveness, and love of God.

Today’s Gospel recalls Jesus’ institution of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Sacrament of Divine Mercy. The Risen Lord gave his apostles and their successors the power to forgive sins with the words, “Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained” (Jn 20:19-23). Presenting the doubting Thomas’ famous profession of Faith, “My Lord and my God,” the Gospel illustrates how Jesus showed his mercy to the doubting apostle and emphasizes the importance of Faith.

Life message:  We need to accept God’s invitation to celebrate and practice mercy in our Christian lives: One way the Church celebrates God’s mercy throughout the year is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. But it is mainly through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that we practice mercy in our daily lives.

Oh, how great is the goodness of God, greater than we can understand. There are moments and there are mysteries of the divine mercy over which the heavens are astounded. Let our judgment of souls cease, for God's mercy upon them is extraordinary.

[**Mary Faustina Kowalska**](https://www.azquotes.com/author/20521-Mary_Faustina_Kowalska)

***Announcement***: The Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated this Sunday - 24th April. The same day we shall celebrate the feast of St George which is traditionally on the 23rd of April. We shall celebrate it on Sunday with the Divine Mercy. The Mass starts by 3pm but the veneration of Divine Mercy Image and Confession starts by 2pm. All are expected to come to 3pm mass and after that we are going to have a party at the Bargate Hall - (St Alkmund) to celebrate Divine Mercy and St George our patron Saint. We shall have 9:30am for those who for some reasons may not attend 3pm mass.

***Confessions*** on request either in the Church or the presbytery at any time you prefer.

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| ***Readers*** | *Sat 6:30* | *Sun 09:30* | *Sun 11:00* |
| Hugh Strickland | Gerard Dolan | Katie Turner |

If you wish to join the Reader’s Rota, please complete the form in the porch.

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| Sat 23 Apr | 6:30 PM | **2ⁿᵈ Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)** | Tony Jones |
| Sun 24 Apr | 9:30 AM | Camilla Churton Kelly |
| 3:00 PM | Reparation & Conversion |
| Mon 25 Apr | 10:00 AM | [Saint George, martyr](http://www.gcatholic.org/saints/data/saints-GE.htm#69135) | Parishioners |
| Tue 26 Apr | 10:00 AM | Tuesday in the 2ⁿᵈ Week of Easter | Peace in the World. |
| Wed 27 Apr | Sacristy | Wednesday in the 2ⁿᵈ Week of Easter | Private Intentions |
| Thu 28 Apr | 10:00 AM | Thursday in the 2ⁿᵈ Week of Easter | Peace in the World |
| [Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, priest](http://www.gcatholic.org/saints/data/saints-LI.htm#25810) |
| [Saint Peter Chanel, priest and martyr](http://www.gcatholic.org/saints/data/saints-PI.htm#68101) |
| Fri 29 Apr | 6:00 PM | [Saint Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the Church](http://www.gcatholic.org/saints/data/saints-CAS.htm#67020) | Parishioners |
| Holy Hour |
| Sat 30 Apr | 6:30 PM | **3ʳᵈ Sunday of Easter** | Vocations |
| Sun 01 May | 9:30 AM | Peace in the World. |
| 11:00 AM | Parishioners |

***Weekly Collection*** We wish to thank you all for your ongoing generosity in the upkeep of the parish.

Sunday 17 April - £342.41

Weekly Standing Orders - £109.50

It would help greatly with paying in and processing at the bank if any cheques to the church are made payable to: “**St George Whitchurch”** which is the correct name for the parish account. If anyone would like to contribute by the weekly envelope, please contact Richard after Church or telephone him

Our parish safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke.

***Foodbank*** The Foodbank is continuing to help people who are suffering from food poverty and are experiencing crisis in their lives. We are also anticipating having to support people who will experience fuel poverty in the near future.  We are grateful for you continued support and any help you can provide.

***Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality*** The next meeting of the Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality will be on the 27th April 2022 at 7.30pm. This meeting will take the form of a zoom meeting. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83155265809?pwd=K2VHbVVUMXJZdHFqYmg3T2pKcWJCZz09>

Meeting ID: 831 5526 5809 you can also call in if you don’t have access to zoom: +44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom If you could please register your attendance and make any requests for the password, apologies or items for the agenda to [secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk](mailto:secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk) or text/call 07451 249267

***COVID REMINDERS*** When in church, it is now voluntary to wear a mask.

Our parish safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke.