

PASTOR'S NOTES

Dear Friends,

On the ninth and lowest circle of Hell, the medieval poet Dante places those whom he thought had committed the greatest sin: the betrayal of someone who loved them. The greatest traitor to love, of course, was Satan. In today's Gospel, Jesus confronts those who had betrayed and denied him: his disciples. In the upper room nearly a week and a half after the Last Supper, the disciples sit with the doors locked fearful they would share Jesus' fate.

Jesus suddenly appears before them, and instead of taking revenge, of chewing them up and spitting them out, Jesus replies to their denial and deception with a single word: Peace.

Peace. Shalom, in Hebrew. It conveys a sense of completeness, of the well-being of the one to whom it is wished, and of debts forgiven.

Eighteen years ago, Pope St. John Paul II instituted the Sunday after Easter, today, as Divine Mercy Sunday. Based on the visions and locutions of Jesus received by St. Faustina Kowalska, devotion to the Divine Mercy emphasizes what we see Jesus doing in the scriptures today: forgiving and extending completeness.

To promote devotion to Divine Mercy, the Church extends a plenary indulgence, the complete remission of time in purgatory you've accumulated so far, by doing the following:

1. Sacramental Confession within 8 days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday.
2. Eucharistic Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the vigil Mass).
3. Participate in the prayers and devotions at church or in a chapel celebrating Divine Mercy or recite the Our Father, the Apostles' Creed, and a prayer such as "Jesus, I trust in You".

With gratitude and joy for the days ahead!

Fr. Seth

Thank you to all who made the Easter liturgies a success. Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, the holiest day on the Church's calendar, require more from musicians, lectors, and volunteers than the typical Sunday liturgy. For their preparation and generosity, I'm sincerely grateful.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

THE WEEK OF 4/1/18

St. Mary's \$2197	Budget (\$1,900) +\$297
Sacred Heart \$1318	Budget (\$900) +\$418
Visitation \$465	Budget (\$400) +\$65
St. Sebastian \$563	Budget (\$400) +\$163

SECOND COLLECTION - Holy Land/Good Friday

St. Mary's \$180	Sacred Heart \$195
Visitation BVM \$120	St. Sebastian \$88

SECOND COLLECTION - Seminarians

St. Mary's \$463	Sacred Heart \$551
Visitation BVM \$178	St. Sebastian \$98

LONGITUDE

2018 Apr 12 Thurs:

6:00-8:00pm, Eucharistic Adoration & Confession, St. Sebastian, Waverly.

2018 Apr 19 Thurs:

6:00-8:00pm, Eucharistic Adoration & Confession, Sacred Heart, Franklin.

2018 Apr 22 SUN:

10:00am, First Communion, St. Mary's, New Berlin.

2018 Apr 29 SUN:

Second Collection: Catholic Home Missions.

2018 May 6 SUN:

Confirmation Retreat, 11:00am-3:00pm, New Berlin.

2018 May 16 Wed:

7:00pm, Confirmation, Sacred Heart, Franklin. Dinner at 5:15pm. Bishop Thomas Paprocki will be presiding.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lisa Richardson, Judy Byer, Mary Hemberger, Jack Glisson, David Hermes, Charles & Alice Walk, Nancy Flach, Cecelia Peters, Roseanne Hartley, Calyssa Richie, Dale Fitzpatrick, Mary McCray, Carl Bertolotti, Heather Boudreau, Don & Margaret Laughery, Jane Ryan, Jean Knight, Tina Green, Sy & Judy Haber, Donna Reichart, Presley Kerber, Joyce Henn, Olivia Loving, George Eck, Opal Sutera, Theresa Yates.