

God Family Friends



God Family Friends

Dear Parents,

Alleluia, Alleluia, He is Risen! - He is Risen Indeed!

What wonderful life changing truth this is. We have completed our Lenten journey of forty days, the journey of Triduum, and we are on the other side. Amazingly this journey of Lent parallels what we all have been living these past many weeks. We must remember that the same God who was with the first disciples from the crucifixion to the joy of the resurrection, is the same God who is here with us now in our journey - share this with your kids.

The first Sunday after Easter is known as Divine Mercy Sunday. On this day we are reminded of our call to share the divine love and mercy of Jesus Christ with everyone we meet. Use the the sections that follow to invite Jesus into your hearts and into your home. We encourage you to draw your family more deeply into relationship with: God, with one another, and with friends. Make time this Sunday to strengthen these foundational relationships.

These 50 Days

We celebrate the Easter Season from now through Pentecost on May 31st. In the upcoming weekly readings at Mass, the Church will remember how the early Christians lived, loved and worshiped .

We invite you to live this in a special way within your families - remembering in faith that Jesus' death on the cross for our salvation **changes everything**. Help your family to focus on hope and to trust in the promise that nothing can separate us from the love of God - neither death nor life nor viral pandemic!

This is an opportunity for you to show your children that the Christian life is rooted in hope, love, mercy and service, seeing to the needs of others as we trust God to provide for our own.



www.olmercy.com

 630.851.3444

It's Divine Mercy Sunday!

While we look forward to always being in prayer with you at the 9am Live streamed Mass, we hope you join us at the 3pm prayer service of the Divine Mercy Feast Day with our seminarians, Andrew Bogusz and Ricky Pipala. During the service there will be a virtual blessing of Divine Mercy sacramentals, be ready to position them when the moment comes.

The message of Divine Mercy is a powerful and moving way for each of us to come closer to Christ for we need God's mercy so much. So as we celebrate the resurrection, let us pray for an increased hope in our own resurrection in Jesus. Let's pray that we can endure the troubles and pains we sometimes go through for the sake of the resurrection of a family more closely rooted to Christ.

Christ Has Risen, Alleluia!
Fr Don and Fr Mark



OFFERING GOD GLORY
AND THANKSGIVING

Magnify
AN
ADORATION
PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENT
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 22 @ 7PM

Streamed live
ON FACEBOOK AND AT
WWW.OLMERCY.COM/MAGNIFY

On Facebook search for
Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church Aurora/Illinois

Livestream Details

- All Masses are closed to the public.
- You can access the live stream on our [website](#) or [Facebook](#). Please note you do not need a Facebook account to view it on Facebook.
- A recording will be posted after the Live Stream on our website.

Don't forget to Share your Sunday

Share a picture of your Sunday experience on [Facebook](#), we post all pictures on our [website](#), be on the lookout for yours.

Stay Connected

Look for "[Stay Connected](#)" on the homepage.



3PM SUNDAY 4/19TH

DIVINE MERCY FEAST DAY

Hosted by our Seminarians
Andrew Bogusz & Ricky Pipala
with Father Mark Bernhard

ON FACEBOOK LIVE OR WWW.OLMERCY.COM

LAY YOUR HEAD ON MY SHOULDER.
REST AND REGAIN YOUR STRENGTH.
I am always with you.
JESUS TO ST. FAUSTINA. DIARY 498

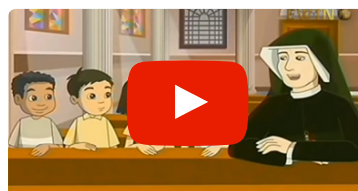
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This Weekend

We encourage you to prepare your family for Mass this "Divine Mercy Sunday" but you can also prepare them for the message of Divine Mercy. We have included a good video for kids that you can watch any time before you celebrate Mass on Sunday.

We encourage you to also [learn how to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy](#) as a family. The second video is a beautifully sung version of the chaplet that your family can use as you pray together. However, this song can also be put to great use during nap time! Let your children fall asleep to this calming prayer. You may also enjoy using this [music playlist](#).

Good for Kids:



Divine Mercy Sunday

Plan to participate in a live-streamed Mass as family. [View this page](#) for live-streamed Masses across the diocese, or visit your parish website for the most up-to-date parish information.

If your parish does not have a live-streamed Mass, we recommend a kid's Mass with Fr. Andy Davy on Saturday, or Sunday morning Mass with Bishop Pates. Even if you do not catch Mass live, you are able to pull up a recording of that Mass at a convenient time soon after the Mass has ended.



The Gospel Story for Kids



LIVE

STREAM



4:00 PM

Saturday 4/19
with Fr. Andy



10:00 AM

Sunday 4/19 with
Bishop Pates

[Daily Readings](#)

God Family Friends

Gospel Reading - John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. - Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now, Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." - Jn 20:29

Spiritual Communion:

(After the celebrant receives communion, mute your livestream and lead your family in making a spiritual communion)

Parent

Repeat after me: **My Jesus...**
I believe that You are truly present...
in the Holy Eucharist.
I love You above all things...
and I want to be with you.
Since I am unable to receive you at Mass...
please Jesus, come into my heart.
Be with me now...
and never let me be separated from you. Amen.

God Family Friends


Free Family Fun

Setting up the Game

(See image on the next page)

- Cut each cardboard tube lengthwise into halves.
- Line up in teams
- On 'GO' the person in the front of the line will carefully pass the jelly bean to the next person without dropping it.
- You must start over if you drop the jelly bean.
- The first team to pass their jelly bean and get it into the bowl is the winner!

Good for the Whole Family!

- 
- Paper towel or TP Roll
 - Jelly Beans
 - Bowl
 - Stop Watch

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Take it to the NEXT LEVEL!

CHALLENGE #1

Try it again, but this time set the clock. See who has the fastest time! Try to beat your best time.

CHALLENGE #2

Now try passing the jelly bean between your knees. On your mark... Get set... GO!

Unpack It

- As you played this game what techniques did you discover that helped you get better?
- What was your biggest obstacle?
- Think about what it took to succeed at the game - what did each person bring to your success?
- What parallels do you see between learning the strength of each person and what the apostles had to learn about each other after Jesus's death?



oyf@dioceseofjoliet.org

Email us photos of
the winner*

*By emailing your photos you consent to and give permission to use these images in parish and Diocesan communications / publications.

God Family Friends

Family Meal

Take a moment and to imagine...

Just a few days ago you gathered here in the upper room to celebrate Passover - which you now know was the Last Supper - with Jesus and the other Apostles. Now you are all locked in that same upper room. What do you think their dinner conversation was like?

BONUS

Where do we say
"Peace be with you"?



In which gospel do
we find those words?

Dinner Conversation Tonight

As we read about the Apostles waiting locked away in the upper room after Jesus Resurrection use some of these questions for discussion during your family meal. Ask for each person to share an answer before moving to the next family member.

Our family has been together more during the "stay in place" mandate.

- How have our dinner conversations been?
- In what ways are they the same? In what ways have they been different?
- How has our time together helped us to experience God's presence in a new way?

"Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (Jn 20:22-23)

- Do you call upon the Holy Spirit to help you forgive ask for forgiveness? Why or why not?
- Who do we need to reach out to to ask forgiveness or give forgiveness?
- How can we as a family better live the love and mercy of God from one another?

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Let's reconcile our differences and offer Christ's peace as we say "Peace be with you!" to one another.

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Family Who Forgives

Take a moment and to imagine...

In our families, we are blessed by our God who continues to extend forgiveness to us and bless us with His infinite grace in our daily lives. When we forgive one another and give and share the resources that we have through corporal and spiritual works of mercy, we extend God's mercy out to one another, we glorify God, and we begin to heal what has been broken within ourselves and our families.

Family Conversation

How can we as a family better practice forgiveness with one another?

- *Name/Acknowledge the hurt or offense*
- *Share how you feel about what happened*
- *Pray to God: Ask God to help you heal and extend His loving mercy and forgiveness to others and to yourself*



“One cannot live without seeking forgiveness, or at least, one cannot live at peace, especially in the family. We wrong one another every day. We must take into account these mistakes, due to our frailty and our selfishness. However, what we are asked to do is to promptly heal the wounds that we cause, to immediately reweave the bonds that break within the family.”

Pope Francis



1

More Family Fun

Dress your kids as St. Faustina and/or Divine Mercy Jesus, then surprise-call family & friends!

Check out A) Catholic Mom Pandemic Games, B) Divine Mercy Family Activities, and coloring pages 1-3.

A

2

B

3

God Family Friends



Press Play

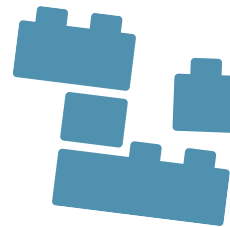
- [Virtual Tour - National Parks](#)
- [Chicago Art Museum](#)
- [Shedd Aquarium](#)
- [Netflix Party](#) - Watch movies with your friends

Just for Fun

FACE-TIME TEA PARTY for younger kids and their friends. Set the table, grab the dolls and teddy bears, invite a friend to do the same and set up a video-chat.

FACE-TIME LEGO CHALLENGE

For all kids. Get your Legos and call your friends. Set the table and build together. Or do a challenge and have fun! Who can build the tallest, the fastest, etc. Grab your tablets and Go!



Friend to Friend

Jesus teaches, in the account of Thomas that people deserve a second chances. We sometimes call this act of giving second chances "showing mercy". We as Catholics have many ways that we practice being merciful or giving second chances. Here are some ways we can practice second chances:

- [Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy - What are they?](#)
- [The 7 Corporal Works of Mercy: Kid Catholic](#)
- [7 Spiritual Works of Mercy - Kid Catholic](#)

Asking for a Friend

Pray the chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 each day, using a rosary ([see instructions](#)) Pick a friend or a family member you do not live with as your prayer intention – ask that God have mercy on them and keep them safe. Later, call or video chat with that person and tell them how much you miss them and that you have prayed for them. Ask them to pray for you too.

Shout it Out!

Recreate this Divine Mercy work of art and find a way to display your creation(s):

Put them in the window and tell your neighbors and the world that OUR family trusts in Jesus!



Make Divine Mercy "Sundaes"

Check out [this great idea from Catholic Icing](#). Get the groceries you need and consider doing this at the same time with another family from your parish.

"Scoop ice cream into a bowl, and create the rays with 2 long squirts of whipped cream. Embelish them with red and blue toppings of your choice. [Sprinkle] whipped cream with red and blue kool-aid powder, but you could also use strawberries and blueberries, or... you could just buy red white and blue sprinkles."

Check in with your parish

Your parish family has been unable to host you for Mass or any other event - know that your family is missed.

Visit the parish website or call. We look forward to welcoming your family back soon!

