

POPE FRANCIS: TOUCHING THE WOUNDS OF MERCY

St. John tells us that on the evening after Jesus rose from the dead, he came and stood among the disciples. He said to them, **"Peace be with you!"** Showing them his hands and his side, he also showed them his wounds. They knew it was truly him, the Lord, and they were filled with joy. Eight days later, Jesus came once again into the Upper Room and showed his wounds to Thomas, so that he could touch them also, and so believe and become himself a witness to the Resurrection.

To us also, on this Sunday dedicated by St. John Paul II to Divine Mercy, the Lord shows us his wounds. **They are wounds of mercy.** Jesus invites us to behold these wounds, to touch them as Thomas did, to heal our lack of belief. Above all, he invites us to enter into the mystery of these wounds, the mystery of God's merciful love. Through these wounds, we can see the entire mystery of Christ: his Passion; his earthly life and ministry, filled with compassion for the weak and the sick; his incarnation in Mary's womb. And we can retrace the whole history of salvation: the prophecies, the liberation from Egypt, the patriarchs, all the way back to Abel, whose blood cried out from the earth. All of this we can see in the wounds of Jesus, crucified and risen.

Faced with the tragic events of human history we can feel crushed at times, asking ourselves, **"Why?"** Humanity's evil appears in the world like an abyss, a great void: empty of love, of goodness, of life. And so we ask: how can we fill this abyss? For us it is impossible; only God can fill this emptiness that evil brings to our hearts and to human history. It is Jesus, who died on the Cross, who rose again, who fills the abyss of sin with the depth of his mercy.

Brothers and sisters, behold the way which God has opened for us to finally go out from our slavery to sin and death, and thus enter into the land of life and peace. The risen Christ is the way and his wounds are full of mercy. Keeping our gaze on the wounds of the Risen Jesus, we can sing with the Church: **"His mercy endures forever!"** With these words impressed on our hearts, let us go forth, led by the hand of our Lord and Saviour, wounded and glorified, our life and our hope.

YES WE CAN!



Starting this weekend, April 2-3, our Confirmation kids will be collecting **cans and plastic bottles** in support of our Food Pantry until May 15th. Please bring in your empty cans and bottles and place them in our collection bags at the front entrance and at the east sidedoors of the church.

DONATE TO ST. MONICA'S PARISH ON-LINE AT: WWW.STMONICA.CA

We are grateful for your support of St. Monica's Parish. Online Giving allows you to make contributions to our church without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. This site communicates directly with CanadaHelps and lets you create monthly recurring contributions. You may also make one-time donations to special causes. The St. Monica's web site does not store either your personal or credit card information. CanadaHelps takes care of it all. Take a look over [here](#) for more details about CanadaHelps.

If you would like to modify your contribution amount or change the timing of your gift, sign-in to your CanadaHelps account and then head over to the *Your Monthly Donations* tab. You can review your donation history and print your receipts as well from the *Your Donations & Receipts* page.

Thank you again for your support.

PALM CROSS FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's palm cross fundraiser in support of The Jason Fund. Special thanks to Elena Patuli and her crew of young and old for organizing our Palm Cross Fundraiser. Through your generosity \$725.55 was raised.



MASS INTENTIONS APRIL 2 TO 17, 2016

Saturday, April 2: Easter Octave

4:00 Rinaldo Caucci By Allesandrina Caucci
Desolina & Giambattista By Ida Onesi Family
Leonardo Ricciardi Maria Carmela Ricciardi

Sunday, April 3: 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

8:30 In Loving Memory: Giulio Salvati, Victor Weiss, and
Pietro Di Meglio
11:00 Deceased members of the By Argisa Coccia
Sacchetti Family

Monday, April 4: The Annunciation of the Lord

8:00 Mariano Santini By Olga Santini Matta

Tuesday, April 5: St. Vincent Ferrer

8:00 Giovanni Polcini By Magi Family

Wednesday, April 6: Weekday Mass

8:00 Giuseppe Fiori By his Wife & Family

Thursday, April 7: St. John Baptist de La Salle

8:00 Italo & Anna Mariani and By Luisa & Angelo Falcone
Italo Falcone

Friday, April 8: Weekday Mass

8:00 Lucia Ciampini By her Son & Daughter

Saturday, April 9: Our Lady's Saturday

4:00 Antonietta & Marianna La Posta By Concetta La Posta
Giacomo Fiori By wife Berardina & Family
Luigi & Ascenzia Fiori By daughter Berardina &
Family

Sunday, April 10: Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 Antonio Cavallaro By the Cavallaro Family
Ermando Giuseppie Nudo By wife Elvira Nudo
11:00 In Loving Memory: Deceased members of the Cullen Family,
Beatrice Gagnon.

Monday, April 11: St. Stanislaus

8:00 Aniello D'Addio By Franca & Family

Tuesday, April 12: Weekday Mass

8:00 Julia Paredes de Trevino By the Family

Wednesday, April 13: St. Martin I

8:00 Adamo Francescangeli By Filipo Pantoni & Family

Thursday, April 14: Weekday Mass

8:00 Ignazio Ciampini By wife Ernesta Ciampini & Family

Friday, April 15: Weekday Mass

8:00 Giacomo & Lucia Palucci By Maria Palucci

Saturday, April 16: Our Lady's Saturday

4:00 In Loving Memory: Angelo Caucci, Alessandro Palladini,
Leonard & Terry Winslade, Deceased members of Charles J.
McDonald Family, Pietro Di Meglio, May Clarke.

Sunday, April 17: Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:30 Agnese & Guglielmo By Vivian & Joseph
11:00 Joseph & Brian Murphy By Thelma Murphy & Family
Leonardo Ricciardi By Maria Carmel Ricciardi

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish... Collections of Easter weekend and April 2/3 & 9/10, 2016 will be recorded in the bulletin of April 17, 2016.

Adult Faith Enrichment Upcoming Events

Video Divina

Fr. Raymond's movie series, "Movies with a Mission", continues with the movie **Saint of 9/11** this coming **Friday, April 8 at 7 p.m.**, in the parish rectory. Free admission and popcorn, stimulating discussion to follow! All are welcome.

Bible Study

Join us this coming **Wednesday, April 13th**, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the **parish hall**, for the second session of **The Holy Spirit and the Life Worth Living: The Acts of the Apostles Bible Study**, with **Robert Assaly**. This is a unique opportunity for us to experience how the Holy Spirit is calling us forth, showing us the way to the abundance of life! All are welcome!

Coffee and Conversation

In our last session of the season, we will view the **NOOMA** film, **"Whirlwind – What do we do when there aren't nice, neat answers?"** Join us on **Sunday, April 17, from 9:50 to 10:50 am**, in the rectory dining room. Free babysitting is available for pre-school aged children if arranged with Anna by Friday, April 15. All are welcome.

Please refer to our website and posters at Church entrances for additional info. If registration is required, kindly use the sign-up sheets at the main church entrance or contact Anna at the office.

The **BULLETIN** of April 2/3 and April 9/10 are combined. Regular printing will begin again with the weekend of April 16/17. **Note:** Parish secretary will be away on holidays March 28 to April 1. **However, the office will remain opened.**