

Mercy Sunday: Telling the Story of God's Mercy and Love

It has been said that human beings are the story of God – the story of God among us. The story becomes real in the life of Jesus – as the “sacrament” of God’s Love. When we experience the unconditional love of God, we experience the power and possibilities for the future that God intends for us. St. Ignatius of Antioch said, “The Glory of God is the human person fully alive.” In God’s vision, mutual respect and love, justice and compassion, and reconciliation become tangible signs that humanity is fully alive.

Jesus is true to God’s project in the world and in the resurrection of Jesus the promise of the future lives, forgiveness lives, mercy lives, and self-giving love lives. And so the Resurrection is a rather dramatic statement as to the reliability of God promise and the ultimate meaning and destiny of human life.

When we gather to celebrate the Eucharist – the Mass - the community remembers and proclaims the Word of God concerning the possibilities for the future. When we come together on Sundays, we stand as individuals in community - as symbols of human love and dignity, in contrast to what should not be in our world. In the Celebration of the Eucharist we affirm our solidarity with all of God’s Beloved, and we also are reminded that we need to recognize and do something concrete about the contrast that exists in our community and the world - people and creation touched by violence, injustice, tragedy – a wounded humanity and a wounded creation.

At Mass we continue to tell the story of human love, helping us to remember that we are God’s image and are called by God to intensify the story as a Catholic Christian community. We are sent at the end of Mass to do what it takes to heal, serve, make holy, and love; extending the mercy of God to our “neighbor.”

This week is Mercy Sunday – a reminder that we need to keep telling the story of God’s future - with and for us. As theologian Edward Schillebeeckx reminds us – “we are the guardians of creation and humanity, but we can so easily become the betrayers.” LGaetano



Social Concerns

“As servants of Christ, we will strive to be the presence of Christ to our parish and the wider community, providing counsel, assistance, and hope as we live the Gospel of God through our practice of the Corporal Works of Mercy. We offer our gifts with kindness and respect, enhancing opportunities for fellowship and mutual support, led by Christ’s example of hospitality, diversity and inclusiveness.” Social Concerns Pastoral Secretary: John Cihon jchon@mpwservices.com or Teresa Golden McClelland teresa-efg@sbcglobal.net

A very big thank you to PJ Chavez and the students at Central Catholic High School. They collected 651 lbs of food for our Homeless Outreach and Hunger Ministry. We will divide that between Catholic Charities and Hope Outreach. Both of them are so happy with this unexpected gift. Thank you PJ and everyone at Central Catholic for their support and generosity.

Homeless Outreach and Hunger Ministry Team

A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who has made a commitment to the 2021 Annual Bishop's Appeal.

To date 220 households have responded with a commitment of **\$64,898.37** However, we need the support of all members of our parish if we are to be successful in reaching our parish goal of **79,400.00**.



If You Don't Love Me...Who Will?



"...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me..."

"... just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Liturgy

“As Servants of Christ, through the various Liturgical Ministries, we offer our gifts to one another with the mutual kindness and respect, providing and enhancing opportunities for prayerful worship and celebration.” **Liturgy Pastoral Secretary:** PJ Chavez pchavez@walsh.edu or Mike Reed mreed@christtheservantparish.org

25th, 40th, 50th and over Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Diocese of Youngstown is sponsoring a **Wedding Anniversary Celebration** on **Sunday, June 13, 2:00 p.m. at St. Columba Cathedral in Youngstown**, honoring couples observing their 25th, 40th, 50th *and over* wedding anniversaries in 2021.

The Wedding Anniversary Celebration will include Mass with Bishop David J. Bonnar, renewal of marriage vows and a personalized certificate for each couple. Couples may opt to attend the Wedding Anniversary Celebration Mass in person at St. Columba Cathedral or they may participate remotely via livestreaming on the diocesan website at www.doy.org. Limited spaces are available for couples at the cathedral. You must make reservations in advance for this event by contacting your parish office before **May 13**.

Mass Intentions**Tuesday April 13**

9 AM-Doug Koontz by Margaret Gracia

Wednesday April 14

****SCHOOL MASS- STUDENTS ONLY****

10:00 AM-Students, Staff and Families of OLOP

Thursday April 15

9:00AM- Dee Mennett by Cynthia Schiltz

Friday April 16

9:00 AM- Living and Deceased members of Christ the Servant Parish

Saturday April 17

4:30 PM Irene Alessandrini by Beatrice Collado
Joseph Abbonizio by Dolly Hussar

Sunday April 18

9AM -Agnese Mascioli by Family
Marge Fete by Margaret Gracia

11 AM-Edward MCGraw by Kathy Moore

Parish Life

Parish Life Pastoral Area Mission Statement

As servants of Christ, through the various Parish Life ministries, we offer our gifts to one another with mutual kindness and respect, providing and enhancing diverse opportunities for fellowship, mutual support and ministry to our Parish community, led by Christ's example of hospitality and inclusiveness.” Parish Life Pastoral Secretary: rkingsbury@christtheservantparish.org.

There is no sin including abortion, which is greater than the Divine Mercy of Jesus. There is Hope and Healing available. For CONFIDENTIAL help text or call Project Rachel of Northeast Ohio at 330.360.0430 or go to <https://hopeafterabortion.com/>

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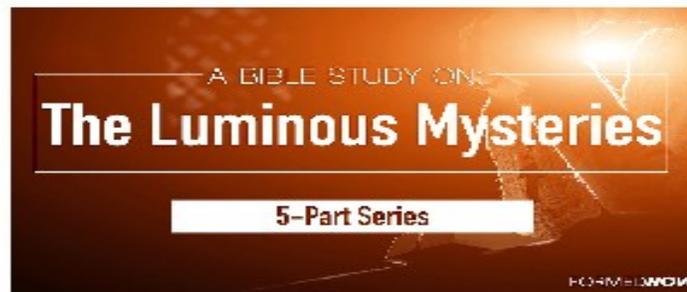
PICK OF THE WEEK

April 11, 2021

WATCH

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE RENEWAL

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday this week, join the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in praying the chaplet, and asking God to shower his mercy upon us. This video features breathtaking footage that sheds light on the beauty and breadth of the Catholic Church.



A BIBLE STUDY ON THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

In 2002, St. John Paul II introduced the Luminous Mysteries to the Rosary. In unique ways, each of these mysteries reveal that Christ is the 'light of the world' (Jn 8:20). To more fruitfully ponder these mysteries, join us in this Bible study with the Augustine Institute faculty.

LEARN

LISTEN

THE NECESSITY OF DIVINE MERCY BY FR. CHRIS ALAR

Fr. Chris Alar, MIC, reveals the urgency to live and share the powerful message of Divine Mercy. He explains the basics of the Divine Mercy feast, image, novena, chaplet, and hour of mercy, and how to incorporate them into your spiritual life. Discover God's transformative message of Divine Mercy through this work.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Easter Collection \$23,936.63

For stewardship or any other donations to the parish or school, please make checks payable to Christ the Servant Parish— Thank you

St. Luke Lutheran Community