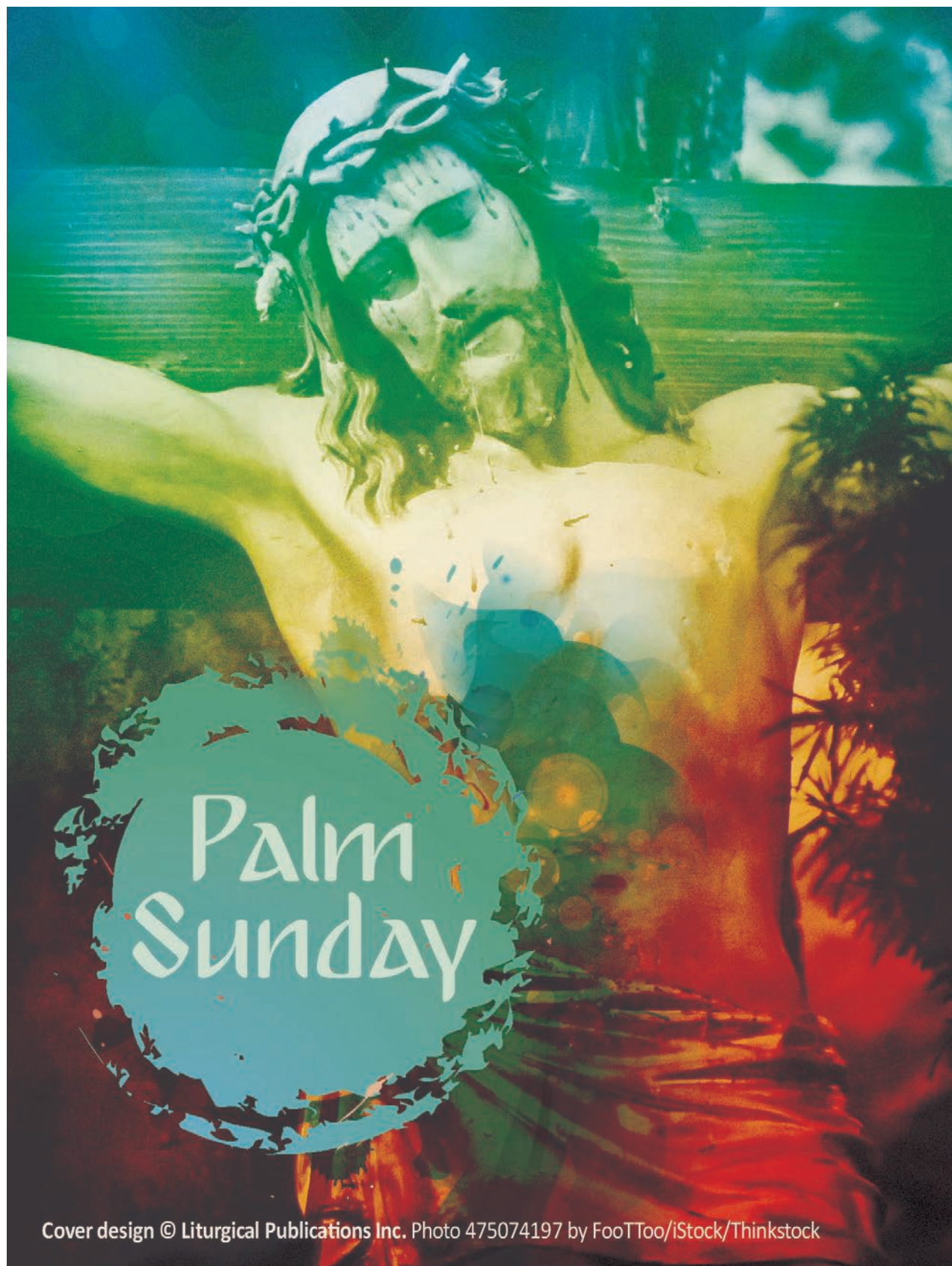


Church of St. Peter
1405 Highway 13 PO Box 50679 Mendota MN 55150-0679
March 29, 2015



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Reflections from our Community Life Coordinator

Why is there suffering in this world? The answer to this is much more complicated than most of us can comprehend, let alone answer in a weekly bulletin article. But we definitely all have known suffering, in some way. It is a reality for every person, day in and day out, through big problems and small trials.

I have a hard time suffering well. While I know I should be offering the suffering up so that God may bring good out of it, I don't often do so. Even very simple trials, like getting up in the middle of the night to help my children, or dusting the multitude of shelves in my home (on the rare occasion it happens), I can't seem to get through without complaining or feeling sorry for myself. If I can't be strong for these small trials, how can I have faith through the big ones?

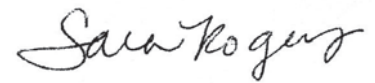
I don't know about you, but while I've had some larger hardships to face, most of my day-to-day suffering doesn't come close to the kind that Jesus or his followers went through. There is so much suffering in this weekend's readings. It's not a very bright and cheery Liturgy of the Word, and rightly so, I suppose, as we prepare for the death of our King. In the first reading, Isaiah says, "I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who tore out my beard; My face I did not hide from insults and spitting" (Is 50:6). In the psalm we hear of "many dogs" and "a pack of evildoers" surrounding David and piercing his body (Ps 22:17-18), and as a congregation we repeat the words of both David and Jesus, "My God, why have you abandoned me?" (Ps 22:2)

And it continues... in the second reading and the Gospel, we hear of Jesus' last days. Can you imagine going through those? Your friends betray you. You experience physical torture through scourging and crucifixion, not to mention the associated humiliation. And finally: death. Our King, our God, chose to come to earth and die for us.

Jesus did not need to suffer through any of this; he freely chose to become weak in our human form and to take on the same trials that we face. He is a shepherd who will lay down his life for the sake of his sheep. Fr. Robert Barron pointed out in a Lenten reflection last week that it really doesn't make sense for a shepherd to lose his own life just for a flock of sheep, yet Jesus does exactly that for us. In Fr. Barron's words, "Imagine the difference between humans and sheep and now multiply that difference

infinitely. That would give you some idea of the difference between God and humanity. And yet God is willing to lay down his life for the likes of us."

As we travel through the story of Jesus' suffering and death this week, we are also reminded of the hope that is coming, and is now not very far off. Our Lord's suffering had a purpose, and a very important one: to open up the way to eternal life for us. Like His, our suffering also has purpose, whether we recognize it or not. In light of the difference between the suffering Jesus chose for himself and the trials I face, I will try to offer up my own small hardships in a more positive way, connecting mine to His, knowing that it can lead me to a deeper trust and faith. I hope you are able to do this as you prepare for the Resurrection, too. May you have a spiritually fruitful Holy Week!



Sara Rogers
Community Life Coordinator

Holy Week Liturgy Schedule

All Liturgies are in the Main Church

Individual Confessions:

Saturdays, 4-4:45 p.m.

(no Confessions on Holy Saturday)

Wednesday, April 1, 6-8 p.m.

Holy Thursday, April 2

No 9 a.m. Mass

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 p.m.

With Procession of the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday, April 3

No 9 a.m. Mass

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 7 p.m.

Easter Vigil, April 4

No 5 p.m. Mass

The Easter Vigil will begin at 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 5

Mass celebrated at 9 and 11 a.m.

Parish Office Hours

The parish will close at 12 noon on Good Friday, April 3, and will be closed all day Monday, April 6.



Religious Education/ Faith Formation (RE/FF)

Elementary and Middle School Religious Education Programs

Please note that we **do not** have classes for grades 1-8 on **Wednesday, April 1**, due to many of the schools being on spring break. Classes will resume on April 8.

Workcamp Adult Leaders Needed

Have you ever wondered what Workcamp was like? Well, here is your chance to find out! We are in need of additional adult leaders for our trip this July to Hastings, Michigan. If you are 21 or older, and can take a week off at the end of July, that could be you! If you would be interested in attending Workcamp as an adult leader (at no cost), please contact Ed Overell at 651-905-4312 or coverell@stpetersmendota.org.

Website

Volunteers Needed

St. Peter's Technology Committee is looking for additional volunteers to help maintain and produce content for our website. We are looking for:

- Writers to help compose articles about the parish for the website
- Photographers to take pictures at various parish events
- Someone who already works with and understands WordPress, to help maintain and update sections of the website

If you would be interested in filling any of these roles, please contact Sara Rogers, srogers@stpetersmendota.org or Ed Overell, coverell@stpetersmendota.org.

Council of Catholic Women Fashion Show and Luncheon



The Council of Catholic Women are taking reservations for their annual spring fashion show and luncheon which will be held on Saturday, April 11, in Heritage Center. The cost for the luncheon and fashion show is \$20. Call

Marge Sullivan at 651-451-6690 for more information or to make reservations.



**Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend**

Feed My Starving Children

You are invited to join members of the Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) ministry team and many of our First Communion families as we participate in a meal packing event on Thursday, April 9, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan. FMSC is located at 990 Lone Oak Road, Eagan (just east of Lexington).

Space is limited, so if you are interested in joining us in this, or future food packing events, please contact Paul or Peggy Hirsch at 651-431-1832 or at phirsch651@aol.com. Last time, the FMSC Ministry members and St Peter's volunteers came together with others in the community to assemble 12,312 meals, enough to **feed 34 kids for an entire year!** Please join us for this fun and rewarding event!

A "Beary" Special Thank You Note

In last week's bulletin, we made a mistake when we noted that 507 pounds of food had been delivered so far this month. We had delivered that amount just that week. The total was 1,355 pounds. We apologize for any confusion! This week 792 pounds of food was delivered.



As of this week, we have now delivered 2,147 pounds of food to Neighbors, Inc. for the month of March. We hope to get over 3,000 pounds by the end of March. Thank you for your donations so far!



**An Interdenominational Coalition
of South Suburban Churches
presents the first
in a five-week series:**

Growing Through Loss
with

Marian Eisenmann, M.Div
Retired Lutheran Pastor and Former Nurse
Marian will speak on **"What is this thing
called Grief?"**

Tuesday, April 7

Church of St. Joseph, 13900 Biscayne Avenue,
Rosemount

Registration, 6:30 p.m.; Speaker, 7 p.m.;
Support Groups (facilitated by trained leaders),
8 p.m. Freewill offering.

For additional information call 952-890-0045 or email growingthroughloss@gmail.com.

St. Peter's Community News

Annual Giving

Weekly Contribution Summary:

Budget for period of Mar. 16-Mar. 22, 2015	\$20,553
Actual for period of Mar. 16-Mar. 22, 2015	\$16,741
Year to Date Budget	\$629,824
Year to Date Actual	\$646,440

Parents' Night Out

Want a nice dinner out, some relaxing time at home, or some time to work on a few house projects? Bring your kids (ages 6 weeks to 11 years) to St. Peter's Parents' Night Out!

On Saturday, April 11, from 5 to 8 p.m., you are welcome to drop off your children in our Ravoux Room (up by the offices) and have a few hours to yourself. This event is FREE, although we will accept free-will offerings and the profit will go directly to St. Peter's. Supper will include pizza, carrots, apple slices, and milk or water. (You are welcome to bring a different dinner for your child if they won't or can't eat ours.)

We hope you can take advantage of this event! RSVPs are **strongly encouraged**. For more information or to RSVP, contact Sara Rogers at srogers@stpetersmendota.org or 651-905-4308.

Help Support Young Families at St. Peter's!

We are looking for people to help us care for kids during our Parents' Night Out event on Saturday, April 11. **We could really use your help!** All volunteers will need to have Virtus training as well as a background check. Please contact Sara Rogers at the information above if you are interested, and thank you!

Volunteer Appreciation

St. Peter's annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is **Saturday, April 18**, starting at 6 p.m. in Heritage Center. You don't want to miss out! If you plan on attending, please fill out the form in the Gathering Space and turn it in to the collection basket or parish office. You can also leave a message at 651-452-4550 or email mjubenville@stpetersmendota.org. **Please respond by Sunday, April 12**, if attending. We hope to see you there!



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

Easter Egg Hunt



The Faithful Shepherd Knights of Columbus will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at St. Peter's on Saturday, April 4, at 10 a.m. This event will be held either indoors or outside depending on the weather. Please arrive with your children in the church's Gathering Space between 9:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Have your children bring Easter baskets or plastic bags will be provided. Come and enjoy a fun and exciting way to celebrate Easter with your children (ages 10 and under).

Hosted by your local Knights of Columbus.

Holy Land Collection on Good Friday

As Holy Week nears, we are reminded of all the special places in the Holy Land that were significant in the life of Jesus. On Good Friday, a special Holy Land collection is taken up in all Catholic parishes to support the sacred sites and activities supporting them. As Pope Paul VI stated, this collection is *"not only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities."* This effort enables those visiting and living in the Holy Land to experience their spiritual "birthplace" and enhance their faith. You can join this effort by providing a gift of support on Good Friday to this special collection.

Fall Festival Committee Meeting

Our Fall Festival Committee is looking for new members to help our festival continue to grow! We will be having our first meeting of the year on



Wednesday, April 8, at 7 pm in Conference Room 1. This is a great way to get involved in the parish and meet new people. If you are interested in joining the committee or have any questions, please contact Gail Barta at 651-454-9552 or algailbarta@q.com.

**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT
www.stpetersmendota.org**

The Week of March 30

Monday, March 30

- 9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
6 pm St. Paul Civic Symphony
7 pm Boy Scouts, Ravoux Room

Tuesday, March 31

- 9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
Adoration Before Blessed Sacrament
After the 9 am Mass Until 6 pm

Wednesday, April 1

- 9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room
6-8 pm Confessions, Main Church
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Thursday, April 2—Holy Thursday

NO 9 am Mass

- 7 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper,
Main Church
7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Room 5
7 pm Al-Anon, Room 7
7 pm Teen Al-Anon, Room 6

Friday, April 3—Good Friday

NO 9 am Mass

Parish Office Closes at 12 Noon

- 7 pm Passion of the Lord, Main Church

Saturday, April 4—Holy Saturday

NO 5 pm Mass

- 9 and 10:30 am Alcoholics Anonymous, Rooms 2, 4
10 am Easter Egg Hunt
8 pm Easter Vigil, Main Church

Sunday, April 5—Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

- 8:30 & 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 & 11am Mass, Main Church

Mass Intentions

The following are the intentions remembered by the priest at Mass:

Monday, March 30 - †Arlean Mertensotto

Tuesday, March 31 - †Jack McCauley

Wednesday, April 1 - †Perry Koeppen

Thursday, April 2 - Mass For the People

Saturday, April 3 - Mass For the People

Sunday, April 4 - 9 a.m. - †Arlean Mertensotto

11 a.m. - †Dick & †Br. Michael Gaworski

Parish Pastoral Council

Sarah Larsen, Chair 612-384-1474
 Lance Miller, Vice-Chair..... 952-432-6957
 Alice Sheeler, Secretary..... 651-457-8119
 Mary Pat Ferraro..... 651-454-1091
 Anne Hallgren..... 651-702-6465
 Paul Hirsch..... 651-431-1832
 Maria Schwartz..... 651-452-1796
 Nancy Stanton..... 651-686-9009
 Joseph Towle 651-683-9250
 Parish Pastoral Council Voice Mailbox:
 651-905-4309

Parish Pastoral Council Email:

ParishPastoralCouncil@stpetersmendota.org

Trustees:

Jim Oricchio..... 651-452-3587
 Helen Wilkie..... 651-365-1334

Readings for the Week of March 29

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/
 Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1--15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: **Chrism Mass:** Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/
 Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
 Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/
 Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13--53:12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/
 Jn 18:1--19:42

Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1--2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/
 Gn 22:1-18
 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/
 Ex 14:15--15:1/Is
 54:5-14/Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32--4:4/
 Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/
 Mk 16:1-7

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or
 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or
 Lk 24:13-35

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Minute Memo from Ms. Shimshock

Spring has officially sprung, and along with that comes thoughts of spring cleaning. During the spring cleaning of our house or garage, we get rid of the things that we don't need or are no longer of use to us. Why can't the same philosophy be applied to our souls? If we consciously work to get rid of the things inside that take up that negative space, think of the positive energy that we could use to fill the void—those traits that bring us closer to God's great love. With the end of Lent drawing near and the great feast of Easter soon to follow, it may be time to do a little spring cleaning for the soul without having to grab a bucket and mop.

*Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.*

~Psalm 51:12

While the month of March may have come in like a lamb, at Faithful Shepherd we have been as busy as a pride of lions learning, growing and building great friendships. It is hard to believe that we have finished two trimesters of school and that the end of the school year is quickly approaching. Yikes!

Blessings,
Ms. Shimshock

Clergy and Religious Appreciation Night

Come join Bishop Piché who will be the speaker at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 22120 Denmark Avenue, Farmington on Thursday, April 9. Dinner begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person and payment in advance is required. For reservations call Frank O'Connor 651-423-3080 or e-mail frankandsophie@gmail.com. The deadline is Saturday, April 4, and seats are limited.

~Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
4th Degree Assembly

Spring

PASTOR:

Fr. Steven Hoffman 651-905-4305

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Lisa Amos 651-905-4304

BUSINESS MANAGER:

Mary Jubenville 651-905-4307

Heritage Center Rental Information

Mary Jubenville, staff contact..... 651-905-4307

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAITH FORMATION:

Kathy Raible, Director 651-905-4311

Ed Overell, Youth Coordinator 651-905-4312

Beth Halbert, Sunday School Coordinator... 651-905-4313

Religious Education Information Line 651-905-4314

MUSIC/LITURGY:

David Dunst, Director 651-905-4323

COMMUNITY LIFE COORDINATOR:

Sara Rogers 651-905-4308

OFFICE STAFF:

Darlene Olson, Communications Coord. 651-905-4302

Carolyn Rynders, Receptionist 651-452-4550

MAINTENANCE:

Tom Deshler..... 651-905-4322

John Raible 651-452-4550

Parish Office 651-452-4550

Office Hours..... 8 am-4 pm Monday through Friday

Fax 651-456-0646

E-mail:..... church@stpetersmendota.org

Parish School: Faithful Shepherd

651-406-4747

3355 Columbia Drive

Eagan, MN 55121



SUNDAY MASSES

(all in the Main Church)

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9 am and 11 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

(all in the Historic Church)

9 am Monday-Friday

HOLY DAYS As announced.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fridays 8 to 8:45 am, Saturdays 4 to 4:45 pm and also by appointment.

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Mary LeClair E-mail: maryleclair62@gmail.com

or call the parish office at 651-452-4550.

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Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday, April 12, 2015

Please join us for this special observance in honor of the Feast of Divine Mercy



*Holy God, Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One,
Have Mercy on Us,*

Jesus said to Saint M. Faustina Kowalska:

*"I desire that there be a Feast of Mercy.
On this day the very depths of My tender
mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean
of graces upon those souls who approach
the fount of my Mercy.
And this is why the first Sunday after Easter
is to be the Feast of Mercy,
and on that day, priests are to tell everyone
about my great and unfathomable mercy."*

Observances on Divine Mercy Sunday

- 2:30 p.m. Confessions
- 3:00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and
Service: Chaplet of Divine Mercy with
readings from the writings of St. Faustina
- 4:00 p.m. Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament and
Dismissal



Divine Mercy Novena 2015...

*Is a wonderful way to prepare to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday.
A novena is 9 days of prayer in honor of God's Divine Mercy.
It begins on Good Friday, April 3, and ends on Saturday, April 11, the eve of the Feast.*

The different souls prayed for each day of the Novena are:

- Day 1 – All mankind, especially sinners
- Day 2 – The souls of priests and religious
- Day 3 – All devout and faithful souls
- Day 4 – Those who do not believe in Jesus and those who do not yet know Him
- Day 5 – The souls of the departed brethren
- Day 6 – The meek and humble souls and the souls of children
- Day 7 – The souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus' mercy
- Day 8 – The souls who are detained in purgatory
- Day 9 – The souls who have become lukewarm

You are encouraged to receive sacramental Confession and Eucharistic Communion either on April 12 or on one of "several days preceding or following" Divine Mercy Sunday (see norm 23-3, [Handbook of Indulgence](#), 1991)

Church of St. Peter

1405 Highway 13, PO Box 50679
Mendota, Minnesota
651.452.4550