

**Mass Times:** Saturday: 7:00pm, Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am— Tuesday to Friday at 9:00am

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 6:15pm, Sundays 8:15 am or by Appointment.

Pastor: Father Aruldhass Lucas, SAC.

Mailing address: 1088 Gillett Street, V2M 2V3—Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Website: stmaryspg.ca—E-mail: stmarys.parish@shawcable.com

*We acknowledge that St. Mary's Parish rests on the unceded traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh*



THE ROMAN  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF PRINCE GEORGE



Bishop: Most Rev.  
Stephen Jensen

## SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2024



### THE PLANE FINALLY REACHED ITS DESTINATION

A Pastor once travelling in a plane describes a beautiful episode. It was a long fight and there was the sign of a storm, and all were asked to fasten their seat belts. Then, after a while, a calm voice of the Pilot said, "We shall not be serving the beverages at this time as we are expecting a little turbulence. Please be sure your seat belt is fastened." The Pastor looked around the aircraft to see many of the passengers were becoming apprehensive. Later, the voice of the announcer said, "We are so sorry that we are unable to serve the meal at this time. The turbulence is still ahead of us." And then the storm broke. The ominous cracks of thunder could be heard even above the roar of the engines. Lightening lit up the darkening skies, and within moments that great plane was like a cork tossed around on a celestial ocean. One moment the airplane was lifted on terrific currents of air; the next, it dropped as if it were about to crash. The pastor confessed that he shared the discomfort and fear of those around him. As he looked around the plane, he could see that nearly all the passengers were upset and alarmed and some started praying. Then he saw a girl to whom the storm meant nothing. She had tucked her feet beneath her as she sat on her seat and was reading a book. Everything within her small world was calm and orderly. Sometimes she closed her eyes, then she would read again; then she would straighten her legs but worry and fear were not in her world. The plane finally reached its destination, and all the passengers were hurrying to disembark, he lingered to speak to the girl whom he had watched for such a long time. Having commented about the storm and asked her why she had not been afraid. The sweet child replied, "Sir, my dad is the pilot, and he is taking me home."

# Welcome to Our Church!

### I SPOKE TO HIM AS A BROTHER

A TIME magazine issue in 1984 presented a startling cover. It pictured a prison cell where two men sat on metal folding chairs. The young man wore a blue turtleneck sweater, blue jeans and white running shoes. The older man was dressed in a white robe and had a white skullcap on his head. They sat facing one another, up-close and personal. They spoke quietly so as to keep others from hearing the conversation.

The young man was Mehmet Ali Agca, the pope's would-be assassin (he shot and wounded the Pope on May 13, 1981); the other man was Pope St. John Paul II, the intended victim. The Pope held the hand that had held the gun whose bullet had torn into the Pope's body. This was a living icon of mercy. John Paul's forgiveness was deeply Christian. His deed with Ali Agca spoke a thousand words. He embraced his enemy and pardoned him.

At the end of their 20-minute meeting, Ali Agca raised the Pope's hand to his forehead as a sign of respect. John Paul shook Ali Agca's hand tenderly. When the Pope left the cell he said, "What we talked about must remain a secret between us. I spoke to him as a brother whom I have pardoned and who has my complete trust."

This is an example of God's Divine Mercy, the same Divine Mercy whose message St. Faustina witnessed.

### READINGS AND LITURGY

*Acts 4.32-35; Psalm 118.2-4, 16-18, 22-24;  
1 John 5.1-6; Gospel: John 20.19-31.*

*The first reading describes how the early community of believers held everything in common. In the second reading, John writes that to love God is to keep his commandments, and that faith in Jesus conquers the world. In the Gospel, Jesus appears to the disciples in a locked room and breathes on them, giving them the power to forgive sins.*

*Faith Catholic*



# MASS INTENTIONS

Sat	Apr 6	7:00 pm	RIP Maria Camba
Sun	Apr 7	9:00 am 11:00 am	Int for all our Parishioners RIP Bernardine Lefebvre
Tue	Apr 9	9:00 am	RIP Sr. Magdalen
Wed	Apr 10	9:00 am	RIP Joaquim Ramos Pereira
Thu	Apr 11	9:00 am	RIP Michael Quinn
Fri	Apr 12	9:00 am	RIP Margaret Cotman
Sat	Apr 13	7:00 pm	RIP Joseph Ravlic
Sun	Apr 14	9:00 am 11:00 am	Int for all our Parishioners RIP Paul Trong Lam

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the intentions of: Brigitta Betz, Eldon Gauthier, Maria Levar, Beverly Stuart, Rizal Advincula, Grace Noblette, Minnie, Blair, and Korena Peters and family, Garry Kaulbach's daughter, Birdie Froment, Mia Savic and family, Manae Peters, Ruth, Wark family, Jose Ferreira, Peter Dasilva, Ruth Henwood, Rob Hagymasy, and Les Martin.



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy of the Word for all children ages 4-8 will resume again this Sunday, April 7th, on Divine Mercy Sunday, at the 11:00 am Mass.

### MASS AT SIMON FRASER SENIOR HOME

Everyone is welcome to celebrate morning Mass on Saturday, March 9th at Simon Fraser Seniors Home at 10:30 AM.

### CWL EDUCATION GRANT

The St. Mary's CWL is offering a 500 dollar Education grant for the Fall 2024/2025 School Year. This grant can be used in any accredited post secondary institution. Parishioners at any age or level are welcome to apply. This includes current grade 12 students looking to apply to Post Secondary in the fall. Application forms are available at the parish office or by contacting Cortnie Weir at: [cortnie17@gmail.com](mailto:cortnie17@gmail.com). Applications are due by June 28, 2024.

### HOW WONDERFUL EASTER TRIDUUM!

Thank you to all of our volunteers for your dedication and hard work and to all members of our beautiful community for taking part in the Glorious Easter Triduum Celebration!!!



### UPCOMING SMALL GROUP BOOK STUDY!

We will be starting a small group book study on the book: "He Leadeth Me: An Extraordinary Testament of Faith" by Fr. Walter Ciszek and Fr. Daniel L. Flaherty. He Leadeth Me is a book to inspire all Christians to greater faith and trust in God—even in their darkest hour. As the author asks, "What can ultimately trouble the soul that accepts every moment of every day as a gift from the hands of God and strives always to do his will?" If you are interested in participating in the book study, please contact the parish office at 250-564-4097.

The first meeting will be on Friday, April 19th from 5pm-6pm in the parish office basement and we will be meeting every 2 weeks. Everyone is welcome! If that time does not work for you and you would like to lead a book study from your home on a different day and time, please let us know. This small group book study is a wonderful opportunity to develop new friendships, as we support and encourage each other in deepening our faith by drawing closer to God!

### CWL IS HOSTING A COFFEE SOCIAL

The CWL will be hosting a coffee/tea social for the parish at **10am** in the St. Eugene room on **Sunday April 14th**. Please come join us, all are welcome!

Did you know the CWL is not just about providing food and assisting with parish events? There is much more to our organization based on the three tenets of faith, service, and social justice! Members benefit from building relationships, growing spiritually and personally, feeling a sense of community and so much more! Did you know that the CWL even has representatives that meet with the provincial and federal government? If you are interested in learning more or joining our council, please contact Cortnie Weir at [cortnie17@gmail.com](mailto:cortnie17@gmail.com) or 250-981-9184.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RCIA NEOPHYTES!

At the Easter Vigil we welcomed Alex through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist; and our Candidates, Luke, Shane and Alexandra through the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist. What is a Neophyte? The term means “new plant” and refers to a new member of the Catholic Church. This term stays with the new members for their first year of full communion with the Catholic Church.

Please keep our Neophytes in your prayers and help them to feel welcome if you see them at Mass!

We will be continuing our RCIA journey with the period of Mystagogy, from the Greek words meaning “to lead through the mysteries. Our new Catholics will reflect on their experience of conversion, learn more about the Church, and consider how they might get involved in ministry and outreach.



From left to right: Luke Stewart, Alex Ovien, Fr. Aruldas, Shane Sienaert, Alexandra Gilbert, and Claudia Betz.



## DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

Two Dominican Sisters, one Benedictine Monk, our priests, and a group of Catholic young adults – The Diocesan Youth Conference 2024 is going to be beautiful.

Who: For all youth Gr. 7-12

Where: The Pastoral Centre, Prince George

When: May 24-26th

How: Registration Opens April 15th

Email: Lisa Findlay with all your questions: [lfindlay@pgdiocese.bc.ca](mailto:lfindlay@pgdiocese.bc.ca)

## Divine Mercy Sunday

April 7, 2024

at Sacred Heart Cathedral

Veneration of the relic of St. John Paul II after the 11:00 AM Mass until 1:00 PM

1:00 PM	Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
2:00 PM	Confessions
3:00 PM	Divine Mercy Chaplet
3:15 PM	Mass

## OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

ACTS 2:3

TOPIC: Rediscovering the abundant life given to us by Jesus Christ (cf. John 10:10)

YOU MAY BE GOING THROUGH SOME OF THESE LIFE PROBLEMS  
Our world is fallen from an original state of goodness to societal evils such as wars, poverty, riots, racial conflicts, communication gap, and exploitation all because of the effect of Sin on relationships. Individuals suffer from fallen nature as well, through loneliness, isolation, depression, insecurities, meaninglessness and personal relationships characterised by fear, anger, bitterness and mistrust.

THIS IS FOR YOU

Kindly join us at Immaculata Catholic Church, Fridays from 6:30-7:30 on the following days

April 12: God's Love for You

April 19: Salvation - God came to save you

April 26: New life- The Old Life is destroyed by Jesus

May 3: Receiving God's Great Gift that satisfies your soul

May 10: Helping you identify your God-given Gifts

May 17: Praying for God's healing

May 24: Praying for baptism in the Holy Spirit

June 14: Growth in the life of Prayer, community, scripture and sacraments

June 21: Transformation of a strong spiritual identity and sense of mission

COME! THIS IS THE ACCEPTABLE TIME, THE DAY OF YOUR DELIVERANCE!  
GOD BLESS

\*Immaculata Parish, Burns Lake, BC.

## RACHEL VINEYARD RETREATS

Spring retreats for the BC interior. For emotional and Spiritual Healing. Rachel Vineyard weekend retreats offer a supportive and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortion emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal & healing. Registering now. Confidentiality assured.

**Kelowna retreat April 12–14.** Contact Vicki at 250-762-2273 or [www.rachelsvineyarkelowna.com](http://www.rachelsvineyarkelowna.com) / Facebook: Rachels Vineyard Kelowna.

**Merritt retreat April 30–May 2.** Contact Nancy at 250-867-5081 phone or text [rvkamloops@yahoo.ca](mailto:rvkamloops@yahoo.ca).

## WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTERS

The Marriage Encounter experience is a heart haven that helps you listen, share, and connect more deeply. There is no group discussion. It's just about the two of you learning to be the best, most loving and thriving couple you can be.

On April 19 – 21, 2024, with Edmonton based (Mtn Time) Questions? Please contact to Doug & Candice Chappell at 778-479-7900 or [Doug.candice.chappell@wwme.org](mailto:Doug.candice.chappell@wwme.org)  
Apply at – [wwme.org](http://wwme.org)

## Divine Mercy Sunday Reflection by Fr. Dunstan

This Sunday is known as “Divine Mercy” Sunday, as instituted by St. John Paul II, following the revelation of Jesus to Saint Faustina. Who is Saint Faustina? Saint Faustina was a nun in Poland during the 1930s. She received revelations, or messages from Jesus, which she recorded in notebooks. Some messages that Saint Faustina received from Jesus were: - that Jesus loves each and every soul, and would like to attract all the souls to heaven, - that all the souls are not giving the proper respect to Jesus, in the form of Eucharist, because of their sins, and □ that the people do not fully trust that Jesus came to Earth, and died for the sins of the whole world. What is “Divine Mercy?” You’ve probably seen the images of Jesus, where there are two rays, one red and one white, coming out of his heart. This is the image of the Divine Mercy. The red ray represents the Blood of Christ for the life of souls, or the justification for life and the white, or pale ray, represents Water, for the forgiveness for souls. Both of these elements also appear when Jesus is pierced by a soldier at the foot of the cross. Through this revelation, we are taught by Jesus to pray for mercy from our own sins and for the sins of the whole world. We pray for the conversion of sinners, and for every soul, that they may attain heaven and obtain sanctification and holiness. The Prayer: The hour of Divine Mercy is 3:00pm - when Jesus died on the cross. It is also encouraged to say the Divine Mercy at 3:00pm. While there is a Divine Mercy chaplet that uses the rosary, the most important take away is to think and say (hopefully at 3:00pm), “Jesus, I Trust in You. Have mercy on us and on the whole world.” This puts us in the presence of God and allows us to think and participate in the Divine Mercy. If you are able to do the chaplet, a good idea would be to do the chaplet as a Novena. A novena is “a nine day period of private or public prayer to obtain special graces, to implore special favours, or make special petitions.” This is usually said first from Good Friday, all the way to the following Saturday, which culminates to Divine Mercy Sunday. This can then be restarted on the first Friday of every month, for the next nine days, culminating on the following Sunday. Practicing the Divine Mercy enhances the belief that we ourselves will have a peaceful death and the assurances of heavenly birth, when we die. I encourage you to try the Divine Mercy. It will be food, for your soul, and a light for your life. Amen. May God Bless You.

-Source: <https://stjohnsto.archtoronto.org/siteassets/bulletins/st.-johns-parish-bulletin-for-divine-mercy-sunday-april-16-2023.pdf>

### How to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.

2. On the first Our Father bead: Optional opening prayer: “You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.”

Repeat three times: “O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!”

3. On the first three Hail Mary beads: Pray the Our Father, Hail Mary, and the Apostles’ Creed:

4. On the next Our Father bead (or the centerpiece), pray: “Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.”

5. On the ten Hail Mary beads, pray: “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”

6. Repeat 4 and 5 for all five decades.

7. At the conclusion of all five decades, pray: “Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.” (Repeat three times)

Optional closing prayer:

“Eternal God, in Whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion—inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.”

8. Finish with the Sign of the Cross.

