

# St John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Diocese of St Augustine, Interlachen, Florida

"We are a welcoming and embracing community centered on Jesus in the Eucharist."

## April 8, 2018 Sunday of Divine Mercy

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY!

Wow! What a most glorious Easter Season. The Mercy of Jesus is pouring into our hearts. We heard in the Acts of the Apostles that, "The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common."

I pray that we are a community of believers of one heart and mind. Our mission statement sure points in that direction. Throughout the Easter Triduum are hearts were truly focused on the Eucharist and heart of Jesus. God bless St. Monica's and St. John's!

I do pray that Jesus touched all of us this Easter. I pray he continues to barge into the locked doors of our hearts. We have no need to put our finger in neither his nail marks nor our hand into his side. We have come to shout out, "My Lord and my God!"

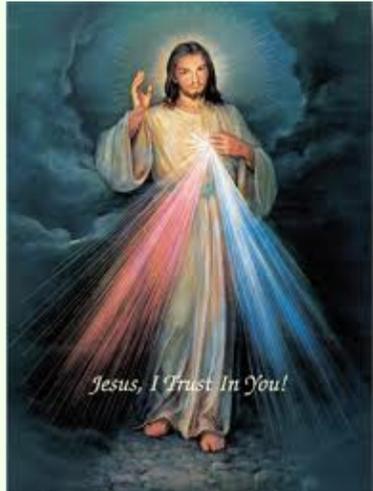
I remember when I returned from Iraq in 2005 on Good Friday. On the Sunday following Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday), I was flying to Haiti for a Spiritual Mission. We heard that Pope John Paul II died on that morning. Mercy, Mercy, Mercy!

Let us wait together for the Holy Spirit to descend upon us anew.

Have a most Blessed and Beautiful Easter season!

Love, joy, peace,

Father Ron Moses +



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Pastoral Administrator: Joe Grasso

### MASSES AND INTENTIONS

#### Sunday, Apr 8 - Sunday of Divine Mercy

11:30 AM - Parishioners of St John  
2:00 PM - Repose of Maria B. Echebarria  
Requested by Laura Ramirez

#### Monday Apr 9 - The Annunciation of the Lord

8:00 AM - Word Service

#### Tuesday Apr 10 - Easter Weekday

8:00 AM - Word Service

#### Wednesday, Apr 11 - St Stanislaus

6:00 PM - Repose of Clare Emanuele

Requested by Joe Emanuele

#### Thursday, Apr 12 - Easter Weekday

8:00 AM - Word Service

#### Friday, Apr 13 - Easter Weekday

8:00 AM - Health and Well Being of Vesper Mikan

Requested by Mary Mikan

**Please note: All 11:30 AM Sunday Mass intentions will be for Parishioners of St John.**

### Third Sunday of Easter - 04/15/2018

Altar Servers - Siena

Readers - Rita - C. J.

EMHC - John - Pegi - Bud - Camille

## The Sanctuary Candle burns this week for Wilma Bernice Cannoe

Requested by Parishioners of St John



Let us pray this week for all families, who are mourning the death of a loved one. May all our departed find rest and peace in the Mercy of God.

### St. Vincent de Paul Food Drop



Friday, April 13, 2018, 9 AM - 11 AM (or until food is gone) — at 111 N Francis St, Interlachen. Please bring containers for food. Also, it is first come, first serve, and you should bring water, food, and a chair if you need them while waiting. To qualify for food, total household income must not be in excess of established income level for appropriate household size. Call 386-684-2797 for further information.

**We would like to give a warm welcome to Veronica Barnowski. We look forward to seeing you and Mass and our Sunday Socials. So happy to have you with us.**

### St. Monica Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

Weekday Mass: 8:30 AM

First Friday Adoration: 9:00 AM

Other Fridays Holy Hour: 9:00 AM

Holy Day Masses: 8:00 AM & 7:00 PM

### A Reminder from Father Ron

Please, if you haven't checked out the FORMED.org, marvelous movies, educational and Sacramental content and so much more await you and your family. Our parish code is R87GP3. If you find something wonderful, please share.

### Yard/Bake Sale

St John the Evangelist will be having their semi-annual sale on April 21st from 7 AM till 3 PM. Vendors are welcome for a donation of \$10.00 per space. No food or baked goods are permitted to be sold by vendors. Special events will be selling food and drinks. Please call Meva (386-684-4333) if you have any questions.

### Your Parish Support

Collections for 04/01/2018

Offertory \$3072.00

Maintenance Fund 100.00

Total \$3172.00

Thank you to all our parishioners for your continued generosity. May God bless and keep us today and always.

### Please Remember in Your Prayers

All members of our parish who are not in perfect health: **Juliette Gioia, Allison Widmeyer, Roger Coutu, Luisa Velazquez, and Barbara Hogue.**

Note: Names on our prayer list are for individuals who are hospitalized, undergoing surgery, in hospice care, or dying. *Please remember Carmen Concepcion who has passed away in your prayers.*



### Upcoming Events

Apr 9 -- 7 PM Knights of Columbus

Apr 11 - 9 AM Faith Sharing

Apr 11 - Father Ron's Bible Study suspended until May 29th.

Apr 21 - 9 AM Semi-Annual Yard/Bake Sale

May 13 - May Crowning

June 24-30 Urban Plunge

## St. Faustina Kowalska - Patron Saint of Mercy



"Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska of the Blessed Sacrament was born as Helena Kowalska, in Glogowiec, Leczyca County, north-west of Łódź in Poland on August 25, 1905. She was the third of 10 children to a poor and religious family. Faustina first felt a calling to the religious life when she was just seven-years-old and attended the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. After finishing her schooling, Faustina wanted to immediately join a convent. However, her parents refused to let her. Instead, at 16-years-old, Faustina became a housekeeper to help her parents and support herself. In 1924, Faustina experienced her first vision of Jesus. While at a dance with her sister, Natalia, Faustina saw a suffering Jesus and then went to a Cathedral. According to Faustina, Jesus instructed her to leave for Warsaw immediately and join a convent. Faustina packed her bags at once and departed the following morning. When she arrived in Warsaw, she entered Saint James Church in Warsaw, the first church she came across, and attended Mass. While in Warsaw, Faustina approached many different convents, but was turned away every time. She was judged on her appearances and sometimes rejected for poverty. Finally, the mother superior for the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy decided to take in Faustina on the condition that she could pay for her own

religious habit. Working as a housekeeper, Faustina began to save her money and make deposits to the Convent. On April 30, 1926, at 20-years-old, she finally received her habit and took the religious name of Sister Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament and in 1928, she took her first religious vows as a nun. On February 22, 1931, Faustina was visited by Jesus, who presented himself as the "King of Divine Mercy" wearing a white garment with red and pale rays coming from his heart. She was asked to become the apostle and secretary of God's mercy, a model of how to be merciful to others, and an instrument for reemphasizing God's plan of mercy for the world.

In her diary, Faustina writes: "In the evening, when I was in my cell, I became aware of the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From the opening of the garment at the breast there came forth two large rays, one red and the other pale. In silence I gazed intently at the Lord; my soul was overwhelmed with fear, but also with great joy. After a while Jesus said to me, 'paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the inscription: Jesus, I trust in You.'" Faustina also describes during that same message, Jesus explained he wanted the Divine Mercy image to be "solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy." Faustina, not knowing how to paint, asked around her Plock convent for help but was denied. It wasn't until three years later, in 1934, that the first painting of the image was created by Eugene Kazimierowski.

In 1932, Faustina returned to Warsaw. On May 1, 1933 she took her final vows in Lagiewniki and became a perpetual sister of Our Lady of Mercy. After taking her vows, Faustina was transferred to Vilnius, where she met Father Michael Sopocko, the appointed confessor to the nuns. During her first confession with Sopocko, Faustina told him about her conversations with Jesus and his plan for her. Father Sopocko insisted she be evaluated by a psychiatrist. Faustina passed all the required tests and was determined sane, leading Sopocko to support her religious efforts. Sopocko encouraged her to start keeping a diary and to record all of her conversations with Jesus. Faustina told Sopocko about the Divine Mercy image and it was Sopocko who introduced her to Kazimierowski, the artist of the first Divine Mercy painting.

According to Faustina's diary, on Good Friday, April 19, 1935, Jesus told her he wanted the Divine Mercy image publically honored. On April 26, 1935, Father Sopocko delivered the very first sermon on the Divine Mercy. In September 1935, Faustina wrote about her vision of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, used to obtain mercy, trust in Christ's mercy and to show mercy to others. During the following year, Faustina attempted to set up a new congregation for Divine Mercy, but was reminded that she was perpetually vowed to her current order and sent back to Warsaw. She reported Jesus said to her, "My Daughter, do whatever is within your power to spread devotion to My Divine Mercy, I will make up for what you lack." In July 1937, the first holy cards with the Divine Mercy image were created and Faustina provided instructions for the Novena of Divine Mercy, which she reported was a message from Jesus. Throughout the rest of 1937, the Divine Mercy image continued to be promoted and grow in popularity.

Faustina's health significantly deteriorated by the end of 1937. Her visions intensified and she was said to be looking forward to the end of her life. On October 5, 1938, Faustina passed away. She was buried on October 7 and currently rests at the Basilica of Divine Mercy in Krakow, Poland.

Her entire life, in imitation of Christ's, was to be a sacrifice - a life lived for others. At the Divine Lord's request, she willingly offered her personal sufferings in union with Him to atone for the sins of others. In her daily life she was to become a doer of mercy, bringing joy and peace to others, and by writing about God's mercy, she was to encourage others to trust in Him and thus prepare the world for His coming again. Her special devotion to Mary Immaculate and to the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation gave her the strength to bear all her sufferings as an offering to God on behalf of the Church and those in special need, especially great sinners and the dying.

In 1965, Archbishop of Krakow, Karol Wojtyla, who would later become Pope John Paul II, opened up the first investigations into Faustina's life and virtues. He submitted a number of documents on her life to the Vatican and requested the official beatification process to start. One of his documents noted the case of Maureen Digan of Massachusetts. In March 1981, Digan reported she was healed from Lymphedema after praying at Faustina's tomb. She explained, while there, she heard a voice saying "ask for my help and I will help you," and her pain stopped. After returning to the United States, five different doctors all reported she was healed with no medical explanation. In 1992, the Vatican declared Digan's case miraculous. St. Faustina Kowalska was beatified on April 18, 1993 and canonized on April 30, 2000, both by Pope St. John Paul II. Her feast day is celebrated on October 5 and she is the patron saint of Mercy."

Taken from Catholic Online Angels and Saints

### What People are Saying about the 2018 Eucharistic Congress

If the maxed-out parking lots and auditorium were any indication, the 2018 Florida Eucharistic Congress was a major success. Congress organizers on Saturday, March 17, conservatively estimated attendance of at least 5,000. Some of those in attendance agreed to share what motivated them to attend an event that getting national and international exposure every year. *Father Bernard* said he has attended Eucharistic congresses in Africa. In Florida, as in Africa, the messages from speakers provide him with ways to better instruct parishioners – the faithful. "The Eucharistic Congress is all about Jesus. Jesus is the Eucharist and the Church and the Word, and it's how he invites us into that Eucharist with him," he said. "The whole idea of our entire Catholic family gathering for one mass celebration is something I come back for," she said.

### Father Ron's Book "Tear In the Desert"

Father Ron has copies of his book for sale for only \$20.00 per copy. Great reading.

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