

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) April 12, 2026

Intentions:

April 12 - for the parishioners of St. Gabriel & St. Michael parishes.
Mass Intentions: \$15.00

Offertory Collection:

March 22 - \$ 440.50 Dev. & Peace \$80.00

March 29 - \$ 870.00 Holy Land \$165.00

April 05 - \$ 1170.00

Thank You.

April 17



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha: The first North American indigenous woman to be canonized, Kateri is often called the Lily of the Mohawks.

Tekakwitha was born in 1656, on the southern bank of the Mohawk River at Osserneon (Auriesville, NY). Her mother was a Christian Algonquin from Trois-Rivières, Quebec, and her father was a non-Christian Mohawk Turtle chief. When she was four years old, a smallpox epidemic killed her parents and her brother, and left her with seriously impaired eyesight and a disfigured face.

Inspired by Jesuit missionaries from an early age, Tekakwitha was baptized on Easter Sunday 1676 and assumed the name Kateri, likely in honour of Saint Catherine of Siena. The following year, due to persecution in her community, Kateri escaped to Kahnawake on the Saint Lawrence River opposite Tiohtiake (Montreal). She had a strong devotion to the Eucharist and a deep concern for others. She died on April 17 1680 and was canonized in 2012. Kateri is a patron saint of ecology, those who have lost their parents, and World Youth Day.

“My Jesus, I must risk everything with You.”

~ Saint Kateri Tekakwitha: ~



Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for the sick among our families and friends, especially for Roy Campbell, Linda Cassidy, Patricia Cassidy, Suzanne Lafontaine, Priscilla Rowley and Lorraine Stafford. *The names will remain on the list until we are otherwise advised.*

Pope’s Intentions for the Month of April: For priests in crisis: Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Reflection: The disciples were gathered behind locked doors because of fear, then the Risen Jesus stands in their midst and they are then filled with joy as Jesus speaks words of peace and forgiveness. Peace and forgiveness open up the spaciousness of salvation, shattering the confines of locked doors and doubt. But Thomas does not believe the witness of the other disciples; he wants tangible evidence. When Jesus offers his hands and side, Thomas rather than touching only utters a profound profession of faith. (*Living Liturgy, p.118*)



Vincentian Meditation:“... the poor we see with the eyes of flesh; they are there and we can put finger and hand in their wounds and the scars of the crown of thorns are visible on their foreheads; and at this point incredulity no longer has place and we should fall at their feet and say with the Apostle, *Tu est Dominus et Deus meus (You are my Lord and my God!)*. You are our masters, and we will be your servants. You are for us the sacred images of that God whom we do not see, and not knowing how to love Him otherwise shall we not love Him in your person? (Ramson, Praying with Frederic, p.98)



Administrator's Corner

Divine Mercy: A Precious Gift of God to Us

Last week, we unveiled the crucifix, celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. If Jesus has resurrected, why do we still leave Him hanging on the cross in our churches? Couldn't we have set the cross aside, at least for this Easter Octave?

Again, why did Jesus choose to resurrect with the marks of His wounds still visible? Couldn't He, who has the power to subdue death, also heal Himself of the wounds of crucifixion? The simple truth is that the Crucifix still hanging in our churches and the visible marks of Christ's wounds, also inscribed on our Paschal candles, are a constant reminder of the great mercy of God.

Imagine the agony and ignominy Christ underwent during His passion. Imagine the triple denial from Peter, the rejection He faced from the people He fed, healed, and preached to. Amidst all this, Christ prayed for their forgiveness while still hanging on the cross. This is what Pope St. John Paul II describes as Dives in Misericordia (Rich in Mercy), echoing St. Paul's words in Ephesians 2:4.

In this weekend's gospel reading, Jesus appears to His disciples, who were locked up in a room for fear of the Jews. I'm sure they felt shame and expected reprimand for deserting Him. Instead, Jesus offered them peace and the faculty to forgive sins which some theologians have described as the weakness of God (although in an anthropological sense). The devil calls us by our sins but Jesus calls us by name what a magnanimity gift of God. It actually pointed to His great love and mercy.

As we mark the feast of Divine Mercy this weekend, we're reminded of God's love and mercy, which reached its apex on the cross of Calvary. Pope St. John Paul II wrote, "Christ's Messianic program, the program of mercy, becomes the program of His people, the program of the Church. At its very center is the cross, for it is in the cross that the revelation of merciful love attains its culmination" (Dives in Misericordia no. 8).

St. Augustine emphasized that the cross is not just an instrument of suffering but the means by which divine mercy bridges the gap between sinful humanity and a holy God. God's mercy is limitless and renewed constantly. The book of Lamentations (3:22-23) says, "The steadfastness of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning."

Similarly, the Psalmist sang, "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever." According to Pope St. John Paul II, "Jesus' Sacred Heart has given us everything: redemption, salvation, and sanctification."

St. Faustina Kowalska saw coming from this heart that was overflowing with generous love, two rays of light which illuminated the world. 'The two rays,' according to what Jesus himself told her, 'represent the blood and the water' (*Diary*, p. 132). The blood recalls the sacrifice of Golgotha and the mystery of the Eucharist; the water, according to the rich symbolism of the Evangelist John, makes us think of Baptism and the gift of the Holy Spirit (John 3: 5; 4: 14). Through the mystery of this wounded heart, the restorative tide of God's merciful love continues to spread over the men and women of our time. Here alone can those who long for true and lasting happiness find its secret.

In addition John Paul noted that Christ has taught us that 'man not only receives and experiences the mercy of God, but is also called' to practice mercy toward others: 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy' (Matthew 5: 7). He also showed us the many paths of mercy, which not only forgives sins but reaches out to all human needs.

May we be inspired by God's endless mercy and love, and strive to share that with others.

Pastoral Directory

Baptisms:	Father Anthony Nwaohiri	623-3419
Financial Council Chair:	Janne Campbell	832-4290
Pastoral Council Chair:	Martine Messier	808-4573
Mass Intentions & Bulletin:	Marilyn Deslauriers	222-3762
Pastoral Care:	Father Anthony Nwaohiri	623-3419
Advertising Ministry:	Lorraine Brisson	832-3351

EMERGENCY: anwaohiri@gmail.com For emergencies, email this address with EMERGENCY in the subject or call the church office at 613-623-3419.

Lost and Found: Periodically, please check the lost and found basket at the church entrance for articles you may have left behind.

Sts Michael and Gabriel helpinghand ministry: Her objective is to serve needy families periodically in a timely and confidential manner. More details will be announced soon. The administrators can be reached at stmichaelshelpinghands@gmail.com or (613) 623-3419.

West Carleton Food Access Centre: (WCFAC) Please remember our local Food Bank each week by donating items to St. Gabriel's grocery cart. Cash donations of \$20.00 and over will receive a tax receipt. Please include your name and address on the envelope. See Suzanne Lee if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.



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Weekly Eucharist

St. Gabriel's (Constance Bay) **St. Michael's** (Fitzroy Harbour)

Sunday 11:00 am Mass

Saturday 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday 9:00 am Mass

live streaming link on YouTube St. Michael's Mass at 9 am Sunday
StMStG-Live

Confessions and Sacrament Of the Sick are also available by request.
Please contact Fr. Anthony directly to book an appointment.

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