
St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church

THE VIGIL

Sunday, April 12, 2026 (Year A)

Divine Mercy Sunday

**DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY**

APRIL 12, 2026



Sunday Food for Your Soul

Divine Mercy Sunday Year A celebrates God's mercy and invites us to trust in His love and forgiveness. The readings remind us of Jesus' peace, forgiveness, and the importance of faith, even in times of doubt. They also highlight the need for community and the strength found in sharing our faith journey with others. These reflections help us understand and live out the message of mercy and hope.

Peace and Forgiveness

In the gospel for Divine Mercy Sunday Year A, the disciples are hiding in fear after Jesus' crucifixion. They are scared and uncertain about their future. When Jesus appears to them, His first words are "Peace be with you." This is more than a greeting. It is a message of comfort and reassurance. Jesus offers them peace to calm their fears and remind them that He is with them. Jesus then shows them His wounds. These wounds are proof of His suffering, but they are also a sign of forgiveness. Despite being abandoned by His closest friends during His crucifixion, Jesus does not hold their fear or doubt against them. He forgives them and gives them peace. This shows that His mercy is greater than their failures.

Divine Mercy Sunday Year A reminds us that Jesus offers us the same peace and forgiveness. No matter what mistakes we have made, Jesus is ready to forgive us. He invites us to come to Him with our fears, doubts, and sins. We don't need to be perfect to receive His mercy. We are also called to share this peace and forgiveness with others. Just as Jesus forgave His disciples, we are asked to forgive those who have hurt us. By doing this, we bring His peace into our relationships and our world. Divine Mercy Sunday Year A challenges us to be instruments of peace and mercy.

Doubting Thomas

Thomas was not with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared. When they told him that they had seen the Lord, he doubted their words. Thomas wanted proof. He said he would not believe until he saw and touched Jesus' wounds. This moment of doubt is not about weakness but about honest questioning. Thomas wanted to be sure that it was truly Jesus.

When Jesus appears again, He invites Thomas to see and touch His wounds. This act of love and patience helps Thomas move from doubt to faith. Thomas then makes a bold declaration of faith, calling Jesus his Lord and God. His doubt leads him to a deeper and stronger belief.

Divine Mercy Sunday Year A shows that doubt is part of the journey of faith. Jesus does not reject Thomas for his doubts. Instead, He meets him where he is and helps him believe. This teaches us that questioning and seeking are normal in our faith journey. Jesus is patient with our struggles and invites us to come closer to Him.

Jesus also blesses those who believe without seeing. This blessing is for all of us who have not seen Jesus in person but still believe in Him. Divine Mercy Sunday Year A encourages us to trust in Jesus' presence and love, even when we don't have physical proof.

The Scars Remain

When Jesus appears to His disciples after His resurrection, He still has the scars from His crucifixion. These scars are a reminder of His suffering and sacrifice. But they are also a sign of victory because they show that He has overcome death. Jesus carries His scars with Him, even in His risen body.

This teaches us that resurrection does not erase suffering. Jesus is alive, but the marks of His pain remain. He does not hide them but shows them to His disciples. By doing this, He invites them to see His love and sacrifice. He also shows them that suffering is part of the path to new life.

Divine Mercy Sunday Year A reminds us that we, too, carry our own scars. These scars may come from physical pain, emotional wounds, or struggles in life. Following Jesus does not mean our pain is erased. But it does mean that our suffering can lead to new life and hope.

Jesus understands our pain because He went through it Himself. He invites us to bring our wounds to Him and find healing. Our scars become a part of our story of faith. Divine Mercy Sunday Year A encourages us to trust that Jesus can bring good even from our deepest wounds.

The Importance of Community

The first reading and the gospel for Divine Mercy Sunday Year A both highlight the importance of community. The early Christians devoted themselves to the apostles' teachings, fellowship, and prayer. They shared their resources and took care of each other's needs. This strong sense of community helped them grow in faith and in number.

In the gospel, the disciples are gathered together in fear and uncertainty. Jesus appears to them as they are united in one place. His presence brings them peace, courage, and purpose. Thomas misses the first encounter because he is not with them. But when he joins the community, he experiences the risen Lord and moves from doubt to faith.

This shows that faith is not meant to be lived alone. Divine Mercy Sunday Year A teaches us that community is essential for growing in faith. We support each other, learn from each other, and share our joys and struggles. Being in community helps us encounter Jesus in new ways.

We are called to build and strengthen our faith communities. This means being present for one another, praying together, and sharing what we have. Divine Mercy Sunday Year A invites us to create communities of mercy, love, and hope, just as the early Christians did.

Divine Mercy Sunday Year A calls us to embrace God's mercy and extend it to others. It encourages us to carry our scars with faith, trust in Jesus' presence, and support one another in community. May we grow in faith and love, sharing God's mercy with the world.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING PRESENCE

Jean-Marie Allion
Anderson and Miller Family
Paul Andreovich
Kathy Ayoub
Mary Canaday
Jane Colombo
Kyle Duker
Jim Dutkiewicz
Doris Franklin
Anna Grabowski
Mary Anne Ghesquiere
Nancy Hayes
Jim Howard
Bertha Jackson-Hyde
Michelle Koss
Steve Lamendola
Maureen Lange
Michael Martin
Jacqueline Morant
Gloria Parham
Ronald Parham
Vertis Park, Sr.
Earlene Park-Williams
Orlando Richardson
Aaron Scott
Cherise Sweeney
Karen Seyboldt
Jonathan Taylor
Tommy Traylor
Sr. Nancyann Turner
Anna Tyler
Guillerma Villanueva
Eldora White

MASS INTENTIONS

April 12, 2026
Cindi Palotas
Evelyn Hughes
Mary L. Leverette

April 19, 2026
Kathy Kapa
Thom Mann

April 26, 2026
George Zigas
George Taylor I
Thomas Nance II
Roy King
Tony Gilbert
Roger Sinclair

May 3, 2026
Wanda Preuss
Evelyn Hughes
Mary Leverette
Daniel

May 10, 2026
All Mothers, Grandmothers,
Aunts, and Those Who Stood in
For Mothers

May 17, 2026
Robert Davison, Sr.
Deceased Members of the Kelly
Family
Dan Williams, Jr.

May 24, 2026
Sidney Davis
Patty Pulis
Deceased Members of the Ayoub
Family

May 31, 2026
Olivia Sims-Brown
Daniel Jarrett

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 2: 42-47
(True Christian Fellowship)

Psalms 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24
(The Lord's Goodness)

First Peter 1: 3-9
(Love in Practice)

John 20: 29
(Blind Faith)

John 20: 19-31
(Living Faith)

**The Holy Father's Intentions
for the Month of
April 2026**

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., April 13: Acts 4: 23-31; Psalm 2: 1-3, 4-6, 7-9; Colossians 3: 1; John 3: 1-8

Tues., April 14: Acts 4: 32-37; Psalm 93: 1ab, 1cd-2, 5; John 3: 14-15; John 3: 7b-15

Wed., April 15: Acts 5: 17-26; Psalm 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; John 3: 16; John 3: 16-21

Thurs., April 16: Acts 5: 27-33; Psalm 34: 2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; John 20: 29; John 3: 31-36

Fri., April 17: Acts 5: 34-42; Psalm 27: 1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 4: 4b; John 6: 1-15

Sat., April 18: Acts 6: 1-7; Psalm 33: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19; John 6: 16-21

Sun., April 19: Acts 2: 14, 22-33; Psalm 16: 1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; First Peter 1: 17-21; Luke 24: 32; Luke 24:13-35

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

Stewards Welcome

"Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'" JOHN 20:19

Are you a good steward by making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, like a new neighbor, a new work colleague or a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home? When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded. We are made for relationships – with God and each other. When you see yourself as a beloved son or daughter of God, you tend to see others the same way, too – just as God, Our Father, sees us.

**COLLECTION INFO
04/05/26**

Check Here Next Week
Please!

Continuing our Spiritual Journey After Lent

What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

In the 1930s, Jesus appeared to a Polish nun named St. Faustina Kowalska. He appeared to her the way we see Him in the image: one hand raised, the other hand opening his garment, and two rays of light emanating from his breast.

Amazingly, Jesus didn't just reveal the image, he explained its symbolism.

Here are three aspects of the image to contemplate, in Jesus' own words to St. Faustina. Use them to deepen your devotion to Divine Mercy. The numbers at the end of each quote refer to the paragraph in St. Faustina's diary.

The rays of light

One instantly recognizes the Divine Mercy image with its two rays of light, one white and one red. They have a Biblical foundation. Jesus told St. Faustina:

“The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls... These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross.”

You can read about this moment in John 19:31-37, when blood and water gushed forth from the side of Jesus. In his words to St. Faustina, Jesus reveals that the lance went all the way into His heart. It was a profound “mercy moment.” God shows us mercy but not from afar — it comes right from the heart.

The face of Jesus

Jesus also told St. Faustina about His face in the image:

“My gaze from this image is like My gaze from the cross (326)”

Let that sink in.

When you look at this image, the face of Christ looks back at you as from the cross.

As you gaze prayerfully at the face of Jesus in this image, you practice a form of Catholic prayer called “visio divina.” Similar to “lectio divina” (praying with Scripture), “visio divina” means you contemplate the Faith by looking at an image or icon. It's a great way to use your senses to draw closer to God. Gaze upon Jesus and rest in His mercy.

The wounds

Look closely at Jesus' hands and feet in the image and you'll notice the nail marks. (You can see them more clearly on some versions of the image than others.)

They're part of the Divine Mercy too. Jesus told St. Faustina:

“My heart is sorrowful... because even chosen souls do not understand the greatness of My mercy... Oh, how much that wounds My Heart! Remember My Passion, and if you do not believe My words, at least believe My wounds.”

We humans like proof. The more of a thing we can see, the more we'll believe it's real. Jesus knows this human tendency perfectly. He knows how easily we forget the depths of His mercy. So He left a visible sign of it on His own body.

Pray with Divine Mercy

Jesus doesn't just tell us He's merciful, He shows us.

The rays of light. His gaze. His wounds. They're all signs of His mercy. When you struggle to trust God, turn to the Divine Mercy image.

St. John Paul II once said, “Those who sincerely say ‘Jesus, I trust in You’ will find comfort in all their anxieties and fears.” May you too find comfort in our merciful Lord!

Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer

Lord Jesus, on this Divine Mercy Sunday Year A, we thank You for Your mercy and love. Help us to receive Your forgiveness and to forgive others. Give us the courage to trust in You, even when we have doubts. Unite us as a community of faith and love. Amen.

Sunday Community Dinners...As one of our most important ministries to our members and neighbors, we have been blessed, but are in need of more and continued support. If you and your group would like to sponsor a meal, please contact Georgia Kingsley via the rectory.
April 12, 2026: Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary; April 19, 2026: Sister Mary Ellen Howard Reception

Nativity Pantry News: We are so grateful for your continued support of the pantry. **This week, we need Vegetables, peanut butter, regular size jars, still good on bigger jars, and Cereal.** Once again, we thank you for all that you do to help us.

Archdiocese of Detroit Restructuring Process Updates

Learn more about the **Archdiocese of Detroit Restructuring Process:**
<https://restructuring.aod.org/>.

Prayer for Archdiocesan Restructuring

Come, Holy Spirit.
Make your presence known
as we restructure the parishes and ministries
of our archdiocese.

Be our light on the path we walk together.
Help us hear your voice
in the quiet of our own hearts,
in the wisdom of others,
and in the world around us.

We know you are with us
in every step of the process.
Give us clarity, understanding, and direction.
In all things, help us share the light of your love. Amen.

Ste. Anne, pray for us.
Blessed Solanus Casey, pray for us.
Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO CHURCH

Parish Listening Sessions—Coming Soon!

The next step in the Archdiocesan Restructuring process is for every parish in the Archdiocese of Detroit to host two parish listening sessions. At these sessions, we will review potential models and provide feedback. Our parish listening sessions will be in the church social hall on these two dates only:

- April 14, 2026 from 6pm to 9pm
- April 16, 2026 from 6pm to 9pm

You only need to attend ONE of the sessions as the same information will be reviewed at both sessions. Registration is now open. Please plan to attend one of these sessions regarding the future of St. Charles and our entire Detroit Eastside Family of Parishes. These are the only sessions for St. Charles. They will not be livestreamed as each session is tailored for the individual parish.

(www.cognitoforms.com/ArchdioceseOfDetroit2/ParishListeningSessionRegistration) or use the QR code below.



313.331.0253 (phone) 313.331.4834 (fax) stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com
www.stcharlesdetroit.org



In Celebration of Earth - A Living Being

Sunday, April 26, 2026

2:00 PM-4:00 PM

(Doors open at 1:30 PM)

St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center

23333 Schoolcraft

Detroit, MI

Refreshments provided

Visit dominicancenter.org to register

Event is Free ~ Donations appreciated at the Door

Guides are Deacon Steve Morello, Joni Scott, Patty Gillis,

Jonathon Jenkins, Tom Scherf, and Janice Brown, OP

*They will be leading attendees through a process of experiencing
our Earth as a living resilient being!*

Sponsored by

Dominican Center: Spirituality for Mission and

St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center



Father-Son Prayer Breakfast



IRON SHARPENS IRON:

PREPARING EACH OTHER FOR THE JOURNEY AHEAD

Rooted in Proverbs 27:17, this event brings men and youth together to sharpen one another, as protectors, mentors, builders of character, and seekers of truth. It's a call for fathers to lead with love, sons to rise with purpose, and all men to unite to sharpen one another.

Saturday, April 18
8:30 – 11 a.m.

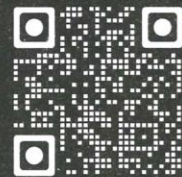
Sacred Heart Activities Building
3451 Rivard St, Detroit, MI 48207

Adults — \$15
Youth — \$10

(18 years and under)

Call **Richard Larkins** at **313-515-2730**

Visit **aod.org/prayer-breakfast**



Scan the QR code



Detroit Eastside Family Parish Information and Mass Times

St Charles Borromeo Detroit
1491 Baldwin
Detroit, MI 48214
313-331-0253

www.stcharlesborromeodetroit.org
stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Sunday: 11:30am
Friday: 11am in rectory
Live Stream & YouTube

Nativity of Our Lord
5900 McClellan
Detroit, MI 48213
313-922-0033

www.nativitydetroit.org
nativityvol@sbcglobal.net

Sunday 9:30am
Thursday: Holy Hour 8am; Mass 9am
Live Stream and YouTube

St Augustine & St Monica
4151 Seminole
Detroit, MI 48214
313-921-4107

www.saintamparish.org
office@saintamparish.org

Sunday: 10am
Wednesday: 9am

St. Jude
15889 Seven Mile E ·
Detroit, MI 48205
313-527-0380

stjudedetroit.org
Sunday: 10:30am
Saturday: 4pm

Sacred Heart
1000 Eliot St.
Detroit, MI 48207
313-831-1356

www.sacredheartdetroit.com
info@sacredheart.com

Sunday: 8am and 10am
Tuesday: 5pm
Saturday: 5pm

St. Elizabeth
5900 McClellan (at Nativity of Our Lord)
Detroit, MI 48213
313-921-9225

www.stelizabethdetroit.org
saintelizabethchurchofdetroit@gmail.com

Sunday: 12:00pm

St. Raymond – Our Lady of Good Council
20103 Joann
Detroit, MI 48205
313-527-0525

www.straymondolgc.org

Sunday: 10:30am
Tuesday: 8:30am
Thursday: 8:30am

Our Lady Queen of Heaven/Good Shepherd
8200 Rolyat St.
Detroit, MI 48234
313-891-4553

ourladyofgoodshepherd.org

Sunday: 9am
Tuesday: 10:30am
Thursday: 10:30am
Friday: 10:30am
Saturday: 4pm

St Charles Borromeo

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214
(313) 331-0253 (Fax 313-331-4834)

St. Charles Office Hours:

Monday, 10am to 3pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am to 4pm
Friday, 9am to 3pm

Pastoral Team

Fr. Francis Asomkase, SSJ, Priest in Solidum and Moderator
Fr. Richard Baumann, S.J., Priest in Solidum
Reverend Charles Nwamadi, SSJ, Priest in Solidum
Fr. David Preuss, OFM, CAP, Priest in Solidum
Deacon Joseph Jones
Edward Cotton – Mission Support Director
Rhonda Gilbert – Pastoral Associate
Joan Jacobs & Angie Kadowaki – Boulevard Ministry Ministers
Mary Catherine Wright – Parish Nurse

Council Members: Naim Edwards (Chairperson), Angela Kadawaki, Dennis Ballard (Vice-Chairperson), Patricia Ballard, Alex Grabowski, Marian Harvey (Secretary), Freddie Henry, Mary Ellen Howard, Bruce McDonald, Mikhail Perkins, Richard Preuss, Linda Simpkins

**AOD Restructuring
St. Charles Parish
Leaders**

Doris Allen
Alex Grabowski
Joan Jacobs
Bruce McDonald
Richard Preuss

**Parish Point Person of
Contact**

Rhonda Gilbert

St. Charles Mission Statement

St. Charles Borromeo, a diverse urban parish of Detroit, is rooted in Christ's Gospel and Catholic tradition. We strive to build a community of faith through education, worship, and evangelization. We are called to carry on Christ's ministry to our brothers and sisters, especially the sick and their families, the elderly, youth, and the disabled. With Mary as our example of unconditional love, we strive to welcome everyone to share joyfully in the peace, love and salvation of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit who calls and empowers us, who strengthens and renews us, and who gives us the will to continue our mission, until Jesus comes.

St Charles Website: www.stcharlesdetroit.org
Email: stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Facebook: St. Charles Borromeo Parish - Detroit MI
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@st.charlesborromeodetroit



Online Giving

Go to the giving site at:
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stcharlesdetroit>

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <i>Holy Thursday</i> <i>Online PGC 6pm</i>	3 <i>Good Friday</i> NO 11am mass! <i>St. Charles Mass 6pm</i>	4 <i>Easter Vigil</i> <u><i>Vigil Mass at St. Austine/St. Monica 8:30pm</i></u>
5 <i>Easter Sunday</i> <u>11:30am Mass</u> <i>NO Community Meal</i> Diabetes Class	6 <i>Office Closed</i>	7 <i>Office Closed</i>	8 <i>Online PGC 6pm</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	9 <i>PGC St. Kieren 6pm</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	10 <i>11am mass</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	11
12 <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i> <u>11:30am Mass</u> <i>Community Meal</i>	13	14 <i>Online PGC 6pm</i>	14	15	17 <i>11am mass</i>	18 <i>In-Person PGC Knights of Columbus Plymouth 9am</i>
19 <u>11:30am Mass</u> <i>Community Meal</i>	20 <i>In-Person PGC Sacred Heart Detroit 6pm</i>	21	22	23	24 <i>11am mass</i>	25 <i>In-Person PGC Our Lady Queen of Apostles Hamtramck 9am</i>
26 <u>11:30am Mass</u> <i>Community Meal</i>	27	28 <i>Online PGC 6pm</i>	29 <i>St. Charles Parish Council Meeting 6pm</i>	30		