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Online Mass Offering:
tinyurl.com/SFXMassOfferings



Church Donation/ Mass Offering: UEN: T08CC4033J

Disciples Making Disciples

Divine Gems

Divine Mercy Sunday
27 Apr 2025

Acts 5:12-16
Rev 1:9-13,17-19
Jn 20:19-31

Pope St. John Paul II likens Mercy to "love's second name" (*Dives In Misericordia*, 7). It's a love that helps and consoles us amidst our suffering and sin.

Divine Mercy Sunday is such an expression of God's love. It comes with a divine gem — a complete pardon of all sins and punishment.

To unlock this gift, Jesus says we just need to "go to Confession and receive Holy Communion" to "obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (Diary, 699). What an awesome spiritual reset! It's like a "second baptism" — we go straight to heaven if we happen to die right after receiving this grace. Theologians say it suffices to go to confession sometime during Lent, remain in a state of grace, and receive Holy Communion to obtain the promised grace.

Why this astounding generosity? St. Paul says that "where sin increased, grace abounded all the more" (Rom 5:20). God is never outdone by evil. He gives extraordinary grace to combat unparalleled evil and sin in our time. Pope St. John Paul II says that contemporary society is marked by unprecedented evil. The same advances in modern technology which make life convenient, have also given evil a reach and power like never before (cf. 2002 World Day of Peace Message). He dedicates the Second

Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday because Jesus asked for it through St. Faustina, a mystic Polish nun (cf. Diary, 699).

While this spiritual gem happens once a year, other gems like the Divine Mercy Image, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Novena to The Divine Mercy (cf. Diary, 327, 687, 1209), are devotions offered to us to unlock grace for the conversion of souls, as and when required.

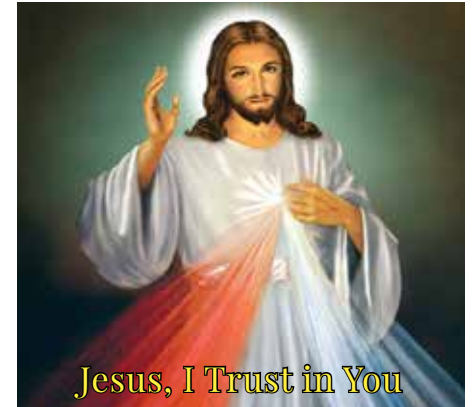
Can we afford to be indifferent to God's generous outpouring of mercy? Jesus anticipates our response: "Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the fount of my mercy" (Diary, 699).

Through possessions and fleeting experiences, the world lures us with a false sense of happiness and fulfilment with no true respite from misery and despair. Divine Mercy restores the truth that real peace and joy come from a right relationship with God and our fellowmen.

In the Gospel, Jesus 'walks the talk'. He appears to his disciples on the same evening of the day of his resurrection. Though a victim, there is no rebuke, only mercy and forgiveness that transform his disciples' fears and anxieties into peace and joy (cf. Jn 20:19-20). Through mercy, the past is released, the present is relished, and the future resounds with hope. Be like the Lord, fast and first to forgive — it doesn't matter if we're right or wrong, victim or perpetrator.

God's mercy is far richer than mere forgiveness. Jesus instructs St. Faustina: "You are to show mercy to your neighbours ... by deed ... by word ... by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy" (Diary, 742).

These lofty demands also apply to us. Having received mercy, we are



Jesus, I Trust in You

*"Through mercy,
the past is released,
the present is relished,
and the future
resounds with hope."*

obliged to show mercy in everything we do.

The crux of Divine Mercy lies in seeing a troubled world through the lens of God's mercy. To allow God to use us like prisms to melt hardened hearts and spread the message that there is no sin God can't forgive. We are to trust in God and recognise Jesus as our Saviour. The early Church epitomises Divine Mercy. In the First Reading, the Good News, supercharged with miraculous works of mercy, converts sinners and saves souls in the name of Jesus (cf. Acts 5:14-16).

While Easter celebrates the resurrection and new life, Divine Mercy Sunday reinforces God's love and reminds us to be merciful in all things — interpersonal, evangelical, charitable. Jesus makes it easy to access abundant grace for our spiritual battles.

In the context of salvation history, it is not through divine pity but love and mercy that God adopts us into his divine family. The gems are beautiful and worth wearing. Jesus, we trust in you.

Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to mmm@sfxchurch.sg by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs



**SCAN QR CODE
FOR MASS HYMNS**
www.sfxchurch.sg/mass

FAULTY CHURCH PEWS?

Spot any faulty or damaged pews in church? Scan the QR code to share with us at tinyurl.com/SFXFacilityReport.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on **Thu 1 May**. Please note that there will be one Mass at 9am only.

ST. GABRIEL'S FOUNDATION: CALLED TO LOVE & MISSION

All donations will go towards supporting the seven Montfortian Gabrielite Education Institutions' programmes and activities for students and staff, as well as towards our logistical and operational cost. PayNow to **UEN 200105928G**.

Note: Donation of \$100 and above will be eligible for 250% of tax deduction. Kindly indicate the following where possible: NRIC(space)HP No.(space)SFX

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The Infant Baptism Ministry will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JPll Hall. Do drop by for some food and fellowship.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting is on **Mon 28 Apr, 8pm at Auditorium**. There will be Praise & Worship followed by Holy Mass celebrated by Fr Benedict Chng. All are welcome!

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Join us on **Mon 28 Apr, 8pm** at the **Mount Tabor Adoration Room**, where we will pray together in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Submit your prayer requests at www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessory-prayer. All prayer requests will be kept confidential.

CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE: BORED OF THE GAME?

Does dating feel like an endless roll of the dice? CALLING ALL SINGLES! Join us for a meaningful discussion on modern dating, relationships, and faith. Explore expectations, pressures, and how God's wisdom shapes our approach to love.

Date & Time: Fri 9 May, 7.30pm - 10.00pm
Venue: CAEC, St Gabriel Hall/Canteen (Building next to IHM)
Fee: \$20/pax (Includes dinner)
Register: bit.ly/CFLBOTG



CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE: BEYOND 'BECAUSE I SAID SO' @ CATHEDRAL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Are you finding yourself caught in power struggles, tantrums, and other challenges with your children? Do punishment, nagging, or giving in seem like your only options when faced with such situations? If so, join us for this experiential workshop that invites you to step into the child's world and understand which discipline methods work for your children, and which do not. You will leave with Positive Discipline tools that you can apply right away so that you may be better equipped to handle your day-to-day parenting challenges AND build a relationship with your children that is based on mutual respect and connection.

We will cover important topics such as:

- Introduction to Positive Discipline and its distinctions from other programme
- Awareness of why children misbehave
- Communication approach that invites more cooperation
- 5 essential questions to ask yourself before you discipline your child

Date & Time: Sat 10 May, 10am - 12.30pm
Venue: Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, Annex Building, Level 3
Cost: \$20/pax, \$35/couple
Register: bit.ly/CFL_PD



CARITAS: REVIEW OF LIFE WORKSHOP - APPLYING THE SEE JUDGE ACT METHOD

How do we allow the Gospel to fill our lives and actions? Join us at **CANA** on **10 May, 9.30am - 1.30pm** for a guided and facilitated discussion of personal and social issues using the See-Judge-Act method. Used by the Holy Father and many Catholic organisations, the method helps us to apply our faith as a family or community to our situations and also the wider society. Every participant will contribute to enrich the discussions! For enquiries, please email Caritas Singapore at formation.cst@caritas-singapore.org. Sign up now at bit.ly/rol25reg



HUMANITARIAN FORUM AND FAIR 2025

"Here I am, Lord! God does not call the qualified, God qualifies the called."

Be part of something meaningful at the Humanitarian Forum & Fair 2025! Join us for a day of inspiring talks, interactive experiences, and vibrant booths by CHARIS Member Organisations. Whether you're exploring, learning, or looking for opportunities to get involved, the event invites us to reflect on how we can serve with our Heart, Head, and Hands. Come connect, be moved, and discover how your actions – big or small – can create real-world impact. Together, we can do more. For more information, visit <https://charis-singapore.org/hff2025/>

Date: Sat 14 Jun
Time: 9am - 6.30pm
Venue: St. Joseph's Institution (Junior)



The Life and Legacy of POPE FRANCIS 1936 — 2025



Early Life and Priesthood

Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now known as Pope Francis, was born on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and was ordained as a priest on December 13, 1969. Pope Francis' priestly ministry was marked by his commitment to serving the poor and marginalized.



Jorge Mario Bergoglio
as a young boy.



Bergoglio as a young
seminarian.

Photos credit: Jesuit General Curia

Pontificate

On March 13, 2013, Bergoglio was elected as the 266th Pope of the Catholic Church, taking the papal name Francis in honour of Saint Francis of Assisi. As Pope, Francis has emphasized the importance of mercy, compassion, and care for the environment.



Witness to Life and Hope

Despite health challenges, including mobility issues and respiratory problems, Pope Francis continues to inspire millions worldwide with his message of hope and love. His illnesses have not deterred him from fulfilling his papal duties, and he remains a powerful symbol of resilience and devotion.

Key Themes of His Pontificate

1. **Mercy and Compassion:** Pope Francis has emphasized the importance of showing mercy and compassion to all, especially the poor and vulnerable.
2. **Care for the Environment:** His encyclical *Laudato Si'* highlights the need for environmental stewardship and sustainability.
3. **Reform and Renewal:** Pope Francis has initiated various reforms within the Church, focusing on transparency, accountability, and inclusivity.



Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love ... The death and resurrection of Jesus is the heart of our faith and the basis of our hope.



POPE FRANCIS, *Spes Non Confundit*

Legacy and Impact

Pope Francis' witness to life and hope, even in the face of illness, inspires people worldwide. His commitment to serving the marginalized and promoting environmental care has left a lasting impact on the Church and the world.

Pope Francis' life and legacy serve as a testament to the power of faith, hope, and love. Despite challenges, he continues to inspire and guide the Catholic Church, leaving a lasting impact on the world.

Remembering Pope Francis

Submit your tributes and messages for Pope Francis online at catholic.sg/remembering-pope-francis/#message

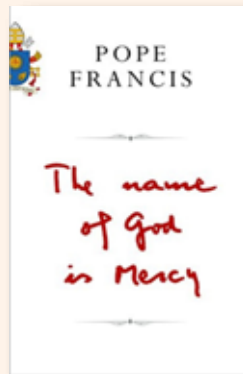




Looking for more Information?
visit www.sfxchurch.sg!

A Tribute to Pope Francis by St Jerome Library

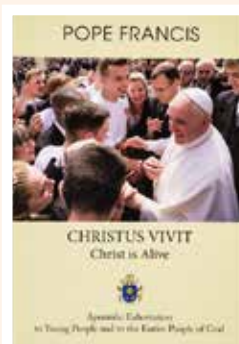
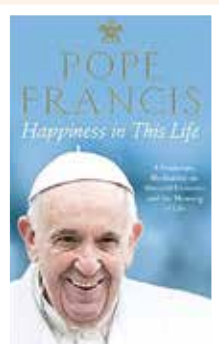
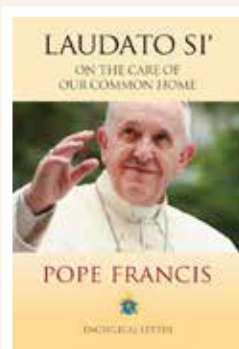
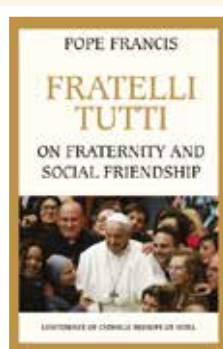
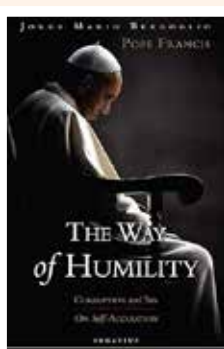
"The Name of God is Mercy" was Pope Francis' first book in his pontificate. It was published in 2016 in the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which began on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and concluded on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (8 December 2015 - 20 November 2016). In just 95 pages, Pope Francis shared his insights on God's mercy as fully revealed in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross (p40). He encouraged the faithful as Church, not to perceive of God's mercy in an abstract way (p19) but truly experience divine mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession (p95).



As we mourn the passing of Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, let us also remember his paternal and pastoral exhortations to us to be merciful to others as God has been merciful to us in the death of his only Son, Jesus, on the cross for us.

St Jerome Library has a modest collection of Pope Francis' writings on divine mercy (*The Name of God is Mercy* 2016), humility (*The Way of Humility* 2005), human fraternity (*Fratelli Tutti* 2020), integral ecology (*Laudato Si'* 2015), human happiness (*Happiness in This Life* 2018), our Blessed Mother (*Ave Maria* 2018) and Christ's continuing presence among us (*Christus Vivit Christ is Alive* 2019) reflecting themes close to Our Holy Father's heart and which he wished to also impress on our hearts.

Come by St Jerome Library for one of these and other books by Our Holy Father and spend these nine-days of mourning (*Novendiales*) prayerfully reflecting on God's messages to us in the pontificate of Pope Francis.



Mass Times

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon - Thu:
6.30pm

Tue - Sat:
6.30am

Fri:
8pm

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat: 5.30pm

Sun: 7am, 9am,
11am, 5.30pm
(There is currently no
Confession before Mass)

MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

9am

CONFESSION

Contact Parish Office to
make an appointment.

Fri:
4pm - 6pm

Sat:
10am - 12pm

Opening Hours

MAIN GATE

Mon - Sun:

5am - 11pm

Closed on Public Holidays
after 9am Mass

BACK GATE

Mon - Sun:

5am - 12am

Closed on Public Holidays
after 9am Mass

PARISH OFFICE

Mon - Sat:

9.30am - 6.30pm

Sun: 8.30am - 1pm
Closed on Public Holidays

ADORATION ROOM

Mon - Sun:

7am - 11pm

Closed on Public Holidays

LIBRARY

Sat: 4.20pm - 5.20pm

Sun: 8am - 1pm

COLUMBARIUM

Mon - Fri:

10am - 7.30pm

Sat - Sun:

8.30am - 7.30pm

Closed on Public Holidays

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The sacrament can be administered to any Catholic awaiting serious surgery, suffering from serious illness or weakened by old age. Anointing may be given before admission for the anticipated medical procedure. Contact the Parish Office to request for a priest. In emergencies, priests of the church nearest to the hospital can be contacted.



INFANT BAPTISM

Spiritual preparation is held on the last Friday of every odd month. Baptism is held on the first/second Sunday of the following month. For registration, please refer to our website.



FUNERAL

Please check with the Parish Office for priest availability and Mass timing before confirming the timing at the crematorium. For prayers at the wake, please contact the Parish Office.



MARRIAGE

Contact the Parish Office 12 months before your intended date to book the church premises and ensure that your presiding priest is able to make that date.



MASS OFFERING

Mass offering envelopes are available outside the Parish Office and outside JP11 Hall. Submit your envelopes at least two weeks in advance of your intended date. Please write the names clearly, and in block letters.



VOLUNTEER & SHARE YOUR GIFTS!

If you're interested in content curation and design layout, contact mmm@sfxchurch.sg