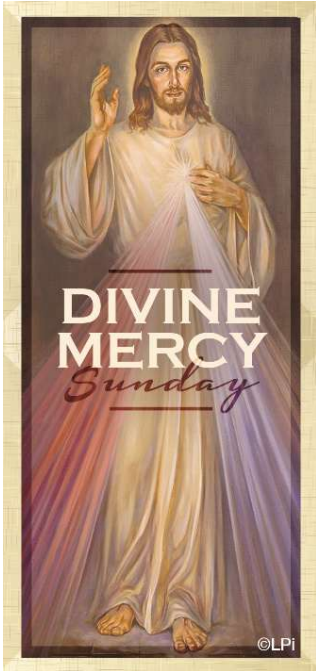


Divine Mercy Sunday 2026

(English)



Dear Parish Family,

“Peace be with you.” These are the first words of the Risen Jesus Christ to His disciples—men who were afraid, hiding, and burdened by failure. They had abandoned Him, denied Him, and lost hope. Yet He came to them not with condemnation, but with mercy.

We recognize that same fear and unrest in our world today. We see it in broken families, in anger that divides communities, in the loss of respect for truth, and in hearts that feel empty despite having so much. Many are searching for peace—but often in places where it cannot be found.

My brothers and sisters, the peace we long for is not something the world can give. It is the peace of Christ—a peace that forgives, heals, and restores the human heart.

The greatest wound in our lives is not outside of us, but within us. Sin robs us of joy, clouds our judgment, and distances us from God and from one another. But today we are reminded of a powerful truth: no sin is greater than the mercy of God.

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we hear again that mercy is not only a gift to receive, but a mission to live.

- Human mercy is the compassion we show—especially when it is difficult: forgiving someone who hurt us, being patient when we are tested, helping those we might otherwise ignore.
- Divine mercy is the forgiveness and grace God pours into our lives—freely, abundantly, and without limit.

If we want peace, we must become people of mercy.

It is easy to ask God for forgiveness. It is harder to forgive someone who has wounded us. It is easy to pray for peace. It is harder to let go of anger, judgment, or pride. Yet this is exactly where Christ meets us.

Remember: our Lord identifies Himself with the least among us. When we feed the hungry, welcome the forgotten, or comfort the suffering, we are serving Christ Himself. And what we give in mercy will never be lost—God returns it in ways far greater than we can imagine.

Today, I invite you to take one concrete step:

Who is one person you need to forgive?

Who is one person you have been avoiding?

What is one act of mercy you can offer this week?

Do not delay. Mercy begins with a decision.

Return to the Lord with trust. Seek His forgiveness. Come to Him in prayer. Receive Him in the Holy Eucharist with a humble and open heart. Let His mercy transform you from within.

“Jesus, I trust in You.”

These are not just words—they are a way of life. When we trust in His mercy, fear begins to fade, hope is restored, and true peace takes root in our hearts.

My brothers and sisters, Christ has conquered sin and death. He is alive. He is with us. And He offers us today what He offered His disciples: peace.

Receive that peace. Live that mercy. Share that hope.

God bless you all.

Fr. Vilaire Philius

Pastor