

Dear Parishioners,

+JMJ

I have wanted since my arrival to communicate something about Communion services. Before my arrival, Communion services were a regular occurrence in our parish. After I arrived they stopped. Why not Communion services?

In the post-Vatican II years, with the decline in the number of priests, but moreso – by my observation in parishes I have experienced – because of a desire to get lay people and sisters to do more clerical things, Communion services became the answer to almost any desire parishioners had to have an occasion of prayer. Instead of having just a liturgy of the Word of some sort, distribution of Communion was added. Communion services certainly became common as a way to fill in for the lack of a Mass on a day the pastor would be away. In many parishes, for example, a Monday Communion service became the norm, since pastors often take Monday off at the end of always-busy weekends. Or if the pastor would be gone during the weekdays for his canonical five-day retreat, the parish would schedule Communion services.

The Church guidelines allowing Communion services was really meant to meet the need of those places where access to Communion otherwise would be very rare. Regularly scheduled Sunday Masses are not even available in some places. In a situation like ours, with four Sunday Masses each weekend, and then four more – at least – during the week, there really is no argument for a Communion service. Weekday Masses are not an obligation (although it is a fine practice to attend Mass on weekdays if you are able.) Imagine missionary situations, for example, where the priest is not able to visit a village for six months; so a catechist gets trained to teach doctrine and lead weekend or monthly Communion services with consecrated Hosts carried from the nearest city. Or there might be the rare Sunday where a priest suddenly gets sick, and no substitute can be found in time. If there are Hosts in the tabernacle, a deacon or layperson could lead a Communion service, since the whole parish arrived to fulfill their Sunday obligation.

To treat the reserved Hosts so casually, however, that we plan regularly scheduled Communion services, when people have weekend Masses in abundance available to them, is perhaps not to appreciate fully enough the Mass. The Mass is where the miracle of Transubstantiation happens. No Communion service can compare to this awesome wonder!

Also, I wonder if making the Hosts in the tabernacle so casually available outside of Mass masks a necessary spiritual suffering in our times – allowing ourselves to feel the pain from the lack of priestly vocations. We ought to experience a longing for more priests as part of our longing for the Eucharist. I have a hunch that ready access to Hosts in the tabernacle for casual Communion services over the last number of decades has led some people to think “we can get by without so many priests”. In fact, I have heard this explicitly stated. On the contrary, however, we ought to feel the discomfort of not having the Eucharist available to us at every turn, since the reality is that we do not have enough priests. Are we on our knees enough about our need for priestly vocations? Are we raising our sons seriously to ask the Lord if priesthood is their call? Are we cultivating a holy family culture that will lead a young man to ask about priesthood? How much do we really believe in the world's need for the Eucharist?

When I realized the parish was used to Communion services, I spoke with Monsignor Charles Singler, leader of the Diocesan Worship Office, who sent me the attached article he wrote on Communion services. He told me I could publish it in my bulletin. I hope it is enlightening.

Have a blessed week!

In cordibus Iesu et Marie,
Fr. Poggemeyer

Differences Exist between Mass and Holy Communion Services

About 20 years ago, I remember one of the members of the parish where I was serving at the time make the observation that she had attended one of those “new Masses”. I was not exactly sure what she meant by “new Mass,” so I asked the obvious question, “Which Mass did you mean?”

The response came back, “You know, Father, that short version of Mass when a lay person can play the part of the priest and do everything except change the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ.” She went on, “I really like that type of Mass because it is short and we don’t have to listen to all those prayers.”

It immediately dawned on me that this woman was referring to a Communion service.

Clearly, there are some points to consider regarding Communion services. First, they are not intended to take the place of Mass, nor are they intended to parallel, in any way, the action and purpose of the Mass. While there has been an increase in their usage over the past 25 years, we need to consider the fact that there is something to be said about the gift of the Eucharist and the opportunity the Catholic faithful have in celebrating the Mass.

First and foremost, the Mass is our premier expression of public worship and prayer in the Catholic Church. This tradition has been held from the time of the apostles and remains so to this very day. It is the reason why we gather on the Lord’s Day and provides the gathering point for the people of God to offer prayer and praise to the Father of all creation.

The celebration of Communion services has a specific purpose and aid: to provide spiritual nourishment for those who would otherwise not be able to participate at Mass for a long time and, in particular, on Sunday, the “weekly Easter”.

Communion services are not a “stop-gap measure” for the convenience of the people of God, nor are they arranged because they might add a little more solemnity to a prayer service. Furthermore, they are not celebrated because of a personal whim or desire on the part of the one who ministers, but must emerge out of genuine pastoral necessity.

The permission granted in promoting the use of this prayer comes from a serious pastoral need when the faithful are not able to attend Mass due to the absence of a priest. So serious is this permission that it is left to the diocesan bishop to regulate when and where such services can be celebrated in the diocese.

In recent time, conversations regarding Communion services, nationally and internationally, have cautioned the Catholic faithful to appreciate the gift of the holy Eucharist and to understand that the baptized members of the church have a right to the celebration of Mass. While there may be legitimate places and circumstances where the proper pastoral response might be to schedule a Communion service, we need to hold close to heart and soul the mystery of God’s sacrificial love for us in Jesus Christ. Each time we celebrate the Mass, this reality is offered to us. No other prayer does that so clearly and succinctly.

Reverend Monsignor Charles Singler
Director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Catholic Diocese of Toledo in America.

Weekly Schedule of Services

March 21 – 29, 2015
St. Maximilian Kolbe Deanery
“The Pastor’s Daily Scripture Inspirations
on Twitter: @frdivinemercy”

SATURDAY, March 21

4PM Mass in Payne – Frank Wetli and
Dan & Rita Kaufman
5:30PM Mass in Paulding – Karl & Garland Werling and
The Gary & Janice Lipp Family

SUNDAY, March 22 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:30AM Mass in Antwerp – For the parish
10:30AM Mass in Paulding – Sharon Ashbaugh and
Deceased Members of the Paul Joahnnns Family

MONDAY, March 23 – St. Turibius of Magrovejo
No Services Today

TUESDAY, March 24

8AM Mass in Antwerp – Dale Bowers

WEDNESDAY, March 25 – The Annunciation of the Lord

8AM Mass in Paulding – Ted & Nellie Wilhelm

THURSDAY, March 26

8AM Mass in Payne – Dave Bakle

FRIDAY, March 27

9AM Mass in Payne – Fred Black

SATURDAY, March 28

Second Collection for Seminarians
4PM Mass in Payne – Maxine Reinhart and
Mr. & Mrs. John P.
Baumle
5:30PM Mass in Paulding – Ann Free and Harry Phlipot

SUNDAY, March 29 – Palm Sunday

Second Collection for Seminarians
8:30AM Mass in Antwerp - Elizabeth Hedrick and
The Intentions of Gary Knuckles
10:30AM Mass in Paulding – For the Parish

COMMUNION TO SICK & SHUT-INS OF THE PARISH

Due to illness and other various reasons, we are not always able to attend weekend Mass. Divine Mercy has a network of dedicated volunteers who will bring communion to you. If you or a loved one would like to receive communion, please call Deacon Bob Nighswander at 419-258-2408 in Antwerp, Rita Diaz, our Parish Nurse, at 419-399-5476 in Paulding and Deacon Dave Jordan at 419-786-9788 in Payne. They will be happy to set up a time for someone to visit you.

Saints on the Eucharist

“To speak of the Blessed Sacrament is to speak of what is most sacred. How often, when we are in a state of distress, those to whom we look for help leave us; or what is worse, add to our affliction by heaping fresh troubles upon us. He is ever there waiting to help us.”

St. Euphrasia Pelletier,
Foundress of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

PRE-SCHOOL REGISTRATIONS

Mrs. Lopshire is taking applications for the 2015-2016 Pre-School. Sessions are from 9-11:30AM, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Please call her at 419-263-2841 for information or to register your child. Pre-school is located at Divine Mercy Catholic School.

WHAT IS THE “DIVINE MERCY IMAGE”? WHY DO WE VENERATE IT?

Sister Faustina, now Saint Faustina, back in the 1930s had the Lord appear to her in a vision. She saw Jesus clothed in a white garment with His right hand raised in blessing. His left hand was touching His garment in the area of the Heart, from where two large rays came forth, one red and the other pale. Jesus said to her: *“Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I Trust in You. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over (its) enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory.* (Diary, 47, 48) *I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I Trust in You.* (Diary, 327) *I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and (then) throughout the world.* (Diary, 47)

The two rays denote Blood and Water. 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 depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him. (Diary, 299) By means of this image I shall grant many graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy, because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works. (Diary, 742)

EASTER CHOIR AT PAYNE

8:30AM Mass on Easter Sunday morning will be held at the Payne location. We are in need of a choir. If you would like to sing with us, we will be having practice from 7-8PM on Tuesday evenings, March 24 and 31.

RETREAT REUNION

The retreat reunion potluck will be held on Sunday, March 29 at 12:30 at the Antwerp Center. Bring a covered dish to share with the group. RSVP to Sonyaherber@gmail.com. Looking forward to seeing you.

Divine Mercy Parish Offerings

2014-2015 budget per week = \$ 9,540.00

March 15, 2015 offertory = \$ 9,253.47

Children collection – 12 envelopes = \$ 13.68

2nd Collection Maintenance Fund = \$ 454.61

Electronic Offertory Contribution is an option to consider. For more information Call Dianne at the Parish Office.

Antwerp

Rosary Leader March 29: Kathy Wilson

Clean Church week of March 22:

Louise Goll, Steve & Marsha Franklin

March Visitors to Shut-in: Dennis Recker

March Communion to Shut-ins: Rose Reinhart

Paulding

Church Cleaners March 16 – 29: Beth & Laura Thornell

Sacristan March 22 – 28: Nancy White

Payne

Rosary Leader March 28: Lorraine Schaefer

March 23 - 28 Church Cleaners: Tim & Sally Baumle

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign the sheet in the back of church at Payne and in the Narthex at Paulding to help clean the church. In Paulding you do **NOT** have to clean bathrooms, the basement or Narthex, just the church. For questions regarding the Payne location call Jeanette at 419-263-2655. Sign up for this “clean & shiny” ministry.

WEEKDAY MASS - WEATHER POLICY

For Fr. Poggemeyer’s safety and the safety of those who attend daily Mass, it has been decided when a weekday Mass is scheduled in a school district that has delayed or cancelled due to inclement weather, the Mass will be cancelled. For Wednesday Mass and Adoration in Paulding, we **will** have Mass and Adoration when there is a delay, but **not** when Paulding school has cancelled due to extreme weather, such as snow and ice. With foggy or snowy mornings, please don’t take unnecessary chances, make wise and safe decisions.

MYSTERIUM CHRISTI SESSION

Father Poggemeyer is presenting a diocesan Mysterium Christi program on *Morality*, Saturday, May 2, 9AM-2:30PM at the Educational Center in Paulding. Please join us as we learn about the foundational Truths of the Catholic Faith. The program is free to anyone who wishes to attend, so mark your calendar for this upcoming educational program.

THANK YOU

This bulletin is furnished without charge due to the generosity of the advertisers that appear on the back cover. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their generosity.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, March 21

Jr. High Youth Group returns from Notre Dame

Sunday, March 22

Monday, March 23

All items for the April calendar are due by noon today !!!

Items for the bulletin are due by noon on Monday !!!

Noon Stations of the Cross in Paulding

4PM Totus Tuus Prayer Group in Pldg.

7PM RCIA in Paulding

7PM Medjugorje Prayer Group in Payne

Tuesday, March 24

Wednesday, March 25

Divine Mercy hosts the noon Ecumenical Lenten Lunch

8AM - 7PM Adoration in Paulding

7PM Benediction in Paulding

7:15PM Adult Choir Practice in Paulding

7:30PM Stations of the Cross in Antwerp

PSR Schedule

4PM Gr. K - 5 in Paulding

6:30PM Gr. K – 5 in Antwerp

7PM Gr. 6 – 8 in Paulding

7PM Gr. 7-8 in Payne

7:45PM Gr. 6-8 in Antwerp

Thursday, March 26

Friday, March 27- Dianne is out of the office

11AM-1PM and 4-7PM Paulding K of C

Fish Fry at the Hall on US 127S

1PM Stations of the Cross in Payne

5-7PM Payne K of C Fish Fry

Saturday, March 28

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

12:30PM Retreat Reunion at Antwerp Center

7PM Fr. Poggemeyer talk at Payne Hall

“The Man on Calvary, The Woman on Calvary”

SAVE THE DATE FOR “TEA WITH THEE”

Sunday, May 3rd after the 10:30AM Mass the F.I.A.T. Committee is hosting a ladies “Tea With Thee” in the church basement. Each table will be decorated with a different theme by anyone who wishes to join the fun. Ask your family, prayer group or friends to come up with a clever theme for a table. Call Laura Priest (419-587-3858) for info or to volunteer to share your time & talent for our ladies special “Tea With Thee” event.

ALTAR SERVERS

A trip to a Tin Caps game in Ft. Wayne, IN is being planned on Sunday, May 31 for altar servers and their fathers to show our appreciation for their service. Please call Shawn Dooley at 419-258-2304 or 419-258-5684 or email at dooleyfh2@frontier.com by Friday, March 27th to reserve your tickets.

ROME PILGRIMAGE UPDATE

Anyone who put their name on the list to travel to Rome on February 15 - 26, 2016 with Father Poggemeyer is asked to have their down payment sent to Margaret McDaniel by May 31, 2015. After that date there will be open invitations to fill any empty seats. If you have any questions please call Margie at 419-290-8782.

CRAFT SHOW --- BAKE SALE --- LUNCHEON



Divine Mercy Parish of Paulding County is sponsoring a Spring Craft Show, Saturday, April 4 from 9AM-2PM at the Antwerp Center. **A REMINDER:** please get your craft donations to the Parish Office and turn in your yellow volunteer forms so we are able to get our workers scheduled for this event. For more information call Virginia Kunesch at 419-258-0065 or Rita Brinkman at 419-258-6361.

K OF C ESSAY CONTEST

Payne & Paulding K of C Councils are sponsoring an Essay Contest for all High School Seniors who are members of Divine Mercy Catholic Parish. The following scholarships for continuing education will be awarded: 1st place, \$500 - 2nd place, \$300 - 3rd place, \$200. Contest deadline is April 30th, 2015. Information has been mailed to the senior students. If you have not received this information contact Geoff Hyman at 419-263-3133.

Follow Bishop Thomas on Facebook at Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, on Twitter@BishopDEThomas and on Instagram at BishopDEThomas. The Diocese is on Facebook at Diocese of Toledo, on Twitter @DioceseToledo & Instagram at DioceseToledo.

RYAN ANDERSON: WHAT IS MARRIAGE?

IPFW Newman Catholic Fellowship, Students for Life, and Allen County Right-to-Life invite EVERYONE to an event with Ryan Anderson, a Princeton and Notre Dame graduate and a nationally acclaimed speaker, who will present in defense of traditional marriage at [Indiana-Purdue, Fort Wayne, in the Walb International Ballroom on Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 7:30PM.](#) Anderson is very articulate in voicing a defense of marriage between one man and one woman, addressing the arguments often made to redefine marriage. Contact Patience Doctor with any question at pattijo4@gmail.com.

PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULED FOR JUNE

A pilgrimage to The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help has been scheduled for June 26, 27 & 28, 2015. We have rented a 29 passenger bus for this pilgrimage. The cost of the 3 day bus trip is only \$115, rooms range from \$27.50 - \$51 a night and the cost of 2 meals. This is first come – first served reservations. Call Lorraine at 419-263-2950 to sign-up or for more info.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

**** When You Care Enough** – to have the very best marriage, treat yourselves to a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend is April 10-12, 2015 at Howard Johnson in Lima, OH. November 6-8 at Howard Johnson in Lima, OH and January 15-17, 2016 at Holiday Inn Express in Perrysburg, OH. To register or for information contact Brian & Chris Schroeder at 419-538-7210 or bcschroeder@bright.net.

Project Rachel – “After my abortion, I was broken and desperate for help. I turned to Project Rachel. After the experience, I left feeling like a whole person again. Forgiveness became a reality for me, a feeling I never imagined was possible.” The pain of abortion haunts many women. Project Rachel can help women find hope, healing and reconciliation after abortion. If you or a loved one is suffering from an abortion loss, please contact us at 1-888-456-HOPE. All inquiries are confidential.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel – St. Isadore, Delaware Bend is open from 6PM Sunday through 5PM Friday for Perpetual Adoration. If you have an hour to spend with our Lord, visit the Chapel any time. If you would like to be a substitute or regular adorer, call Steve - 419-439-1429.

Bishop Thomas posts survey questions – In preparation for the upcoming Ordinary Synod of Bishops in Rome this October, the Pope would like wide consultation on the questions in the survey in order to put together an initial working agenda for this Synod, whose topic will be “The Vocation & Mission of the Family”. Consider going online (www.toledodiocese.org) to fill this out. Thank You.

Serenity Retreat for Men in Recovery – Our Lady of Consolation Retreat House in Carey on April 17-19. For more information call 419-396-7970

“Joy-Filled Marriage” Engaged Couples Workshop. If you are engaged to be married, this workshop fulfills the “marriage class” component, which is part of the requirements for marriage in the Catholic Church. Divine Mercy will host a workshop on April 25 & 26, 2015. To register or for information contact Monica Martinez at 419-244-6711, email mmartinez@toledodiocese.org or visit www.jfimotoledo.eventbrite.com.

LENTEN PRESENTATION

by Father Poggemeyer

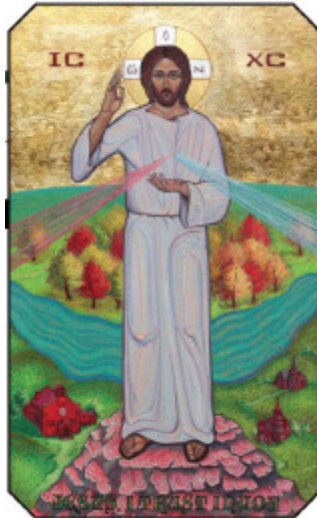
Sunday, March 29, 2015

7PM at the Payne Parish Hall

Come experience the story of

“The Man on Calvary” and “The Woman on Calvary”

Anyone is invited to attend this Lenten Presentation



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 12, 2015

**IN CELEBRATION OF OUR PARISH FEAST DAY,
WE WILL BE HOSTING AN AFTERNOON EVENT AT OUR PAULDING LOCATION.
THE 10:30 MASS AT THE PAULDING LOCATION WILL BE CANCELLED FOR
THAT DAY IN AN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE
TO ATTEND THE 3:00 MASS THAT AFTERNOON.**

SCHEDULE FOR THE AFTERNOON IS:

*1:00 – 2:30PM CONFESSIONS (2 Confessors will be available)
St. Faustina's relic will be available for veneration starting at 1:00PM
3:00PM DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET SUNG
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY MASS*

WE WILL BE HAVING A POTLUCK DINNER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MASS

*THE PARISH WILL FURNISH THE MEAT AND DRINKS FOR THE MEAL,
AND PARISHIONERS ARE ASKED TO BRING THE FOLLOWING:*

*Last Names – **A – G:** Please bring salads and vegetables
Last Names – **H – N:** Please bring hot dish
Last Names – **O – Z:** Please bring dessert*

2015 Easter Flower Offering

Anyone who wishes to donate a spring flower
for the Easter Season in
Honor or Memory of a loved one,
please fill out this form
and return it in the collection basket
or the parish office by
Monday, March 30, 2015.
Suggested donation is \$10 per memorial.

2015 Easter Flower Offering

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

From _____

Phone Number _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

***AT THIS MOST
HOLY SEASON OF THE YEAR,
PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND
SERVICES AS A FAMILY.***

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK:

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

11AM Chrism Mass in Toledo

Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral

Holy Thursday, April 2, 2015

7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper in Paulding

Good Friday, April 3, 2015

1:00PM Services in Antwerp

**Followed by Stations of the Cross
and**

The Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil, April 4, 2015

8PM Vigil Mass in Paulding

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015

8:30AM Mass in Payne

10:30AM Mass in Antwerp