



Eternal Father,

*I offer You the Body and Blood,
Soul and Divinity of Your
dearly beloved Son,
Our Lord, Jesus Christ,
in atonement for our sins
and those of the whole world.*

My Dear St. Joseph Parish Family,

Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen! Just as death itself could not contain Jesus Christ, the joy of Easter cannot be contained in a single day. Instead, it is kept as an octave, or eight days of celebration. Each day this past week has been celebrated as if it was Easter Sunday. And, today, as the great and glorious Paschal Alleluia's rise from our lips one last time, the Octave of Easter comes to a close with the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. How truly beautiful it is that our celebration of our Lord's resurrection leads us into this celebration of His mercy.

In our Gospel today, we shall hear of our Lord appearing to the Apostles as they are locked away in fear. Even closed doors could not keep our Lord from them. And, in appearing to them, He offers them His peace. Just as closed doors cannot keep Him out, neither can closed hearts. God's peace and mercy flows into our lives and is there for us if we are willing to accept it. And, just as we have received it, we too are called to share it. This Easter Season, let us use this opportunity to reach out to those that we may be distant from. May we offer the peace of the Lord to those that we have been closed off from. Even as we remain socially distant from one another, our hearts can still be connected. Make that phone call, reach out on social media, or write a letter letting others know that you are thinking of them in this time. Just as St. Mary Magdalene, the first witness to the Lord's resurrection, we are sent out to spread the good news of Jesus Christ when we encounter the Risen Lord in our own lives.

On the back of this bulletin, you'll find a guide to the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This chaplet comes from the visions of our Lord experienced by St. Faustina Kowalska at the beginning of the 20th Century. This has been one of the fastest spread devotions throughout the entire world and is a beautiful prayer focused on our Lord's Passion. This is traditionally prayed daily at 3 PM, recalling the hour when our Lord died upon the Cross (Mark 15:25). During this time especially, I encourage you to become well acquainted with this devotion as we cry out, "Jesus, I trust in you!"

On a personal note, thank you for the many kind messages that so many of you have shared with Dcn. Stephen Felicichia and myself this Easter Season. Let us continue to keep each other in prayer. Though the Octave of Easter ends, the Easter Season is 50 full days of celebration!

Faithfully in the Risen Christ,
Fr. David

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ 1300 N. MAIN, BLUFFTON 46714 ~ (260) 824-1380

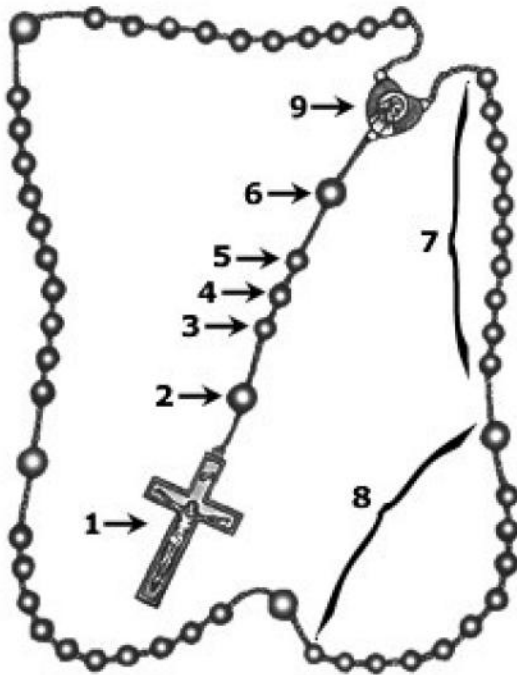
EMAIL: stjosephchurch@adamswell.com ~ WEBSITE: stjosephchurchbluffton.org

PASTOR: Fr. David Violi ~ FR. DAVID'S EMAIL: frdavidvioli@gmail.com

*** SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCY NUMBER: 260-296-0511 ***

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC: Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, CSA ~ ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/DRE: Michelle Paxton

The Divine Mercy Chaplet



1. Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. Optional Opening Prayers

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the heart of Jesus as a fountain of mercy for us, I trust in you!

Repeat three times

3. Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

4. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

5. Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

6. Eternal Father

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your Dearly Beloved Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

7. On the Ten Small Beads of Each Decade

For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

8. Repeat for the Remaining Decades

Say the "Eternal Father" on the "Our Father" bead and then ten "For the sake of his sorrowful Passion" on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

9. Holy God

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Repeat three times

10. Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to your holy will, which is love and mercy itself.

The message of the Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that his mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon him with trust, receive his mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share his joy.