

St. Boniface

Catholic Church

stboniface.net

230 1st St. NW - Lidgerwood, ND 58053

Also Serving St. Martin of Tours, Geneseo and Sts. Peter & Paul, Cayuga

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saint Boniface
Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 a.m.

Saint Martin of Tours - Geneseo
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.

Saints Peter & Paul - Cayuga
Sunday - 12:00 p.m. (noon)

April 27, 2025 - Divine Mercy Sunday

Wonder, Don't Wander

My daughter recently asked me if it's okay to "wonder if all the Jesus stuff is true."

I wasn't surprised by her question. I've expected it, in fact. If you're raising a child to be a critical thinker, you don't want them to accept everything you tell them simply because it comes from your lips. I have promised my children that I will always give them the truth about God. But that's all I can do — give it to them. Whether or not they accept it, ultimately, is their own choice.

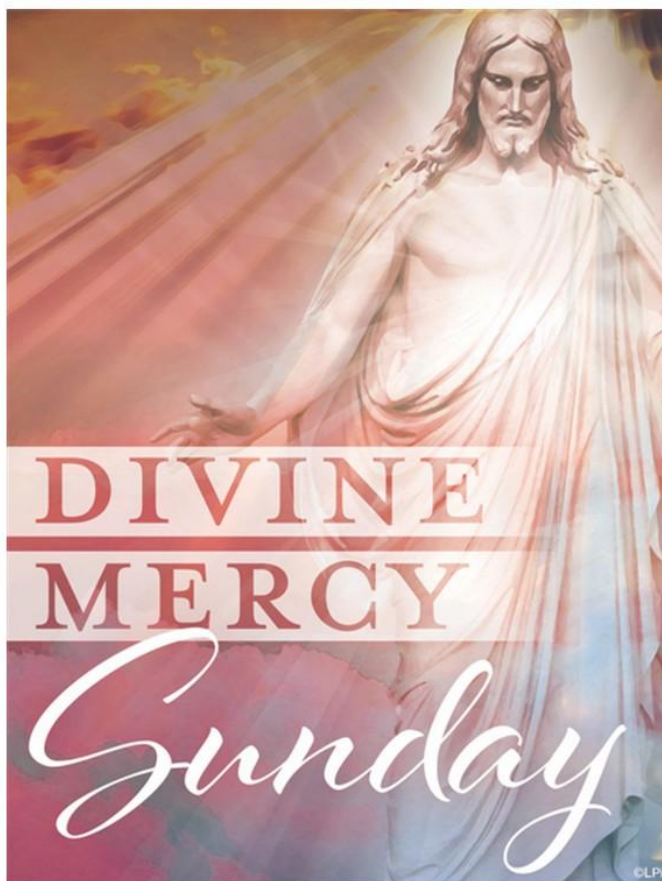
"I know it's true," she told me. "But sometimes it just all sounds so...unbelievable."

She's not wrong. It *does* sound unbelievable that an all-powerful God could create us for no reason other than sheer love, that He could be generous enough to give us free will to accept that love, that he could be merciful enough not to destroy us when we reject that love, and finally that he could be faithful enough in that love to become flesh and die in order to save us from the consequences of our own poor choices.

But lots of things are unbelievable. That doesn't mean they're not true.

When Jesus says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed," he isn't calling Thomas a fool for questioning something that sounds a little outrageous. He's just highlighting the fact that Thomas is afforded a luxury that none of the Christians born after him, my daughter included, will have: he gets to see proof with his own eyes.

I told my daughter it's fine to wonder — just don't wander. Take Thomas' example. Stay close to the people you trust. Return to the warmth of the upper room. Be willing to recognize Jesus when he's in front of you. Never be afraid to believe.



Act of the Apostles 5:12-16
Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19
John 20:19-31

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Weekly Mass Schedule



Sunday Liturgies		
Saturday, Apr. 26	5:00 pm (St. B.)	Lawrence Heley
Sunday, Apr. 27	8:30 am (St. B.)	† Elaine Oster
	10:30 am (St. M.)	Pro Popula
	12:00 pm (Sts. P&P)	Spec. Int. - Fr. Anderl
Weekday Liturgies		
Monday, Apr. 28	NO MASS	
Tuesday, Apr. 29	NO MASS	
Wed., Apr. 30	10:00 am (Dak. Estates)	† Henry Biewer
Thursday, May 1	10:00 am (St. B.)	† Gerald Baker
Friday, May 2	NO MASS	
Sunday Liturgies		
Saturday, May 3	5:00 pm (St. B.)	† Margaret Maczkowicz
Sunday, May 4	8:30 am (St. B.)	Hank & Karen Weber
	10:30 am (St. M.)	Pro Popula
	7:00 pm (Sts. P&P)	Special Intention

Reconciliation Schedule

St. Boniface: Saturday & Sunday – Before/after Mass
Thursday – after Mass

St. Martin: Sunday – Before and after Mass

Sts. Peter & Paul – Before and after Mass

Prayer Requests

Please keep the following people in your prayers:
 Dan Schmit - Tony Schouviller - Joan Moerke
 Shelby Northrop - Peggy Harles - Nick Podliska
 Rick Kane - Dan Frolek - Shirley Ahrens - Barb Perry
 If you have any imminent prayer requests, please call or text Cindy at 701-640-1401.

All Parishes

Eucharistic Adoration –Please come and spend time with Jesus on Thursdays in adoration, anytime from 5am – midnight. We need a regular for the 5-6 pm slot and still need someone to share the 9-10 am, 2-3 pm, and 3-4 pm adoration slots. Please contact Sharon at 612-790-1211 or 538-7010 if you are able to help.

CCD/CYO – There will be class this week.

3rd Grade Confirmandi - Congratulations to our 3rd graders who received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist on Saturday, April 26: Cody Heley, Scarlett Kackman, Parker Lyon, Hallie Milbrandt, Kolby Oster, and Greta Podliska. Please keep them in your

prayers. Also, join us for a parish celebration in their honor on Sunday, May 4 following the 8:30 am Mass at St. Boniface.

KC Highway Cleanup – Meet at the KC Hall at 1pm on Sunday, April 27. Lunch to follow.

St. Martin Brotherly Help Society and Cemetery Association will meet Sunday, April 27 at 5 pm.

Divine Mercy in Seven Minutes

Jesus came, ultimately, not just to live for 33 years in one region. He came to live forever, everywhere. This Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter, Sunday of Divine Mercy, the Church emphasizes that Jesus Christ is still alive — and why.

The cross was at the center of Jesus’ life — before and after the crucifixion.

We know from John 3:16 why Jesus came: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” Thus, when Jesus stood before the High Priests and Pilate and was accused of crimes that deserve death, he did not defend himself. He *could* not defend himself, because he was guilty. He made himself guilty of our sins.

As St. Francis of Assisi put it: “It is you who have crucified him and crucify him still, when you delight in your vices and sins.” Think of how horrifying that is. God gave us everything we have, and we gave it to the devil for cheap thrills. Jesus responded by taking on the crushing burden of our betrayal, and sacrificing himself so that we would not have to suffer the consequences of our actions after squandering his gifts.

Thomas knew that Divine Mercy doesn’t mean God shrugs off evil and gives sin a pass. Divine Mercy means Jesus stood in our place and died for us. So Thomas said, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

Once he saw that this was the same Jesus who gave everything for him on the cross, Thomas saw who he truly is and said, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus died to save us, then rose to show us where we can find that salvation.

Jesus must have said then to Thomas what he had said a week earlier to the other apostles.

He breathed on them and told them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” Jesus instituted each of the sacraments before his Passion and death — for instance, Baptism in the Jordan River, marriage at Cana, and the Eucharist and priesthood at the Last Supper. But he saved one sacrament for after he rose: The sacrament of Reconciliation, which is the sacrament of Confession

or Penance.

That means his whole life led to this moment when he gives his priests the power to dispense the forgiveness he came to earth to offer to each of us. And then something astonishing happens.

The one who died in our place for our sins decided that we would *live* in his place for our glory.

In the Second Reading for Sunday, Jesus says to John, “Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever.” His very identity is “the one who lives.” He lives in his Church.

In the First Reading, we see the first Christians continuing the work that Jesus did, healing the sick. Thus began 2,000 years of Christian Works of Mercy. If you accept his death in your place, you need to live his life in his place: Giving food, drink, clothing and homes *from him* to those who need them, and giving *his* comfort to those who are sick, imprisoned and mourning. He wants us to address the doubts and deficiencies of each other’s faith *for him*, to both admonish and forgive sinners *with him*, comfort others while accepting discomfort *from him*, and bring the living and the dead through prayer *to him*.

He gave us everything though we didn’t deserve it, and he wants us to give it all away to those who don’t deserve it.

Jesus doesn’t just forgive us, he fixes us. And he doesn’t just save us, he sends us.

Holy Week taught us that Jesus understands our pain and our sorrow. He took all the hateful, hurtful things we do or suffer onto himself.

Easter Week teaches us that Jesus offers us more than pain and sorrow. He burns all of that suffering in the furnace of his love and, on Divine Mercy Sunday, offers us his sacraments in its place.

When we face the cruelties of life, we ask, “Where is Jesus Christ in all of this pain?” On Holy Week, he answers, “On the cross,” and on Easter Week, he answers: “In my Christians.”

At the beginning of today’s Gospel passage, Jesus says, “Peace be with you,” and “When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.” In his sacraments and in each of us, Jesus is still reaching out his wounded hand, offering peace.

Divine Mercy image on the front door a reminder of God’s protection

As the Israelites sealed their doorposts, so many faithful are placing on their doors an affirmation of their trust in Jesus. The Marian Fathers are promoting a simple sign of faith in these trying times: Placing an image of Divine Mercy on the front door.

Father Chris Alar, MIC, notes how Jesus told St. Faustina of the many graces He could give to those who honor Him through the image, including “victory over [our] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death.”

Inspired by the promises to St. Faustina as well as Scripture, the #sealthedoorposts initiative arose.

We pray at a Mass, “Let us seal the doorposts of our inner thoughts with the protective Word of God ...”

This is a reference to Exodus 12, where God commanded the Israelites to “seal the doorposts” with the blood of the lamb so that the angel of death may pass over those houses that have been marked.

Here’s why you should post an Image of the Divine Mercy on your door.

Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb of God. By offering Himself as atonement for our sins and those of the whole world, by the outpouring of His Blood and Water, He freed us from eternal death and sealed us for eternal life.

So please, I urge you to put the Image of the Divine Mercy with the inscription “Jesus, I trust in You” upon your doors, as many have done in times of calamity.

While this act of faith may not guarantee your family won’t be physical safety, it will guarantee that, by your trust in Jesus, you will obtain His promises of love and mercy, which will surround you and remain in you forever.

