

APR 18-19, 2020

**We will be live-streaming Sunday Mass
at 10am for the foreseeable future.**

Go to youghcatholic.org/stream



To our visitors ... If you are just passing through, we are glad you chose to worship with us. If you are seeking a new church home, please know there is always room in our pews and a place in our hearts for you.

DEVIVO CENTRE

116 South 2nd Street
Connellsville, PA 15425

724.628.6840 (f) 724.628.0838

MON-THU 8:30am-noon / 1-4pm
FRI 8:30am-1pm

BRADY CENTRE

459 Ranch Road
Dunbar, PA 15431

724.277.4236 (f) 724.277.8954

MON, TUE, THU, FRI 9am-3pm

Confession

is currently by appointment.
Please call the DeVivo Centre
at 628-6840.

**We work with the Holy Trinity
Conference of St. Vincent DePaul**
to help our neighbors in need.
Their number is 724.562.3341.

We are grateful for the advertisers
who cover the cost of printing
our bulletins.

Please frequent their businesses
in support of them.

This week's featured advertiser
is Paul G. Fink Funeral Home, Inc.

Our Faith Community consists of the Parish Families
of Immaculate Conception, Connellsville
(1869), Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Dunbar
(1874), Saint John the Evangelist,
Connellsville (1895), and Saint Rita of
Cascia, Connellsville (1915).



We also embrace the former Parish Families of Saint Vincent de Paul,
Leisenring (1888-2008), Sacred Heart, Dawson (1889-2007) Our Lady
of Mount Carmel, Connellsville (1901-1913), Saint Emory, Connellsville
(1903-1970), Holy Trinity, Connellsville (1903-2008), Saint Polycarp,
West Leisenring (1917-1997).

OUR STAFF - WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

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DAVID PANZELLA

Cemetery Care, Connellsville/Dawson

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SAT-SUN, APR 4-5, 2020

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult.....	\$3,539.00
Loose.....	458.00
Maintenance.....	258.00
TOTAL.....	\$4,255.00

Cemetery	\$90.00
Lenten Self-Denial	\$20.00
Easter Flowers	\$205.00
Holy Thursday	\$90.00
Good Friday/Holy Land	\$85.00
Easter	\$870.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult.....	\$2,755.00
Loose.....	10.00
Children/Young Adults	29.00
Parish Improvements.....	120.00
TOTAL	\$2,914.00

Accent.....	\$17.00
Easter Flowers	\$115.00
Holy Thursday	\$80.00
Good Friday/Holy Land	\$50.00
Easter	\$615.00



ST. JOHN

Adult.....	\$1,284.00
Loose Collection	80.00
Maintenance.....	73.00
Total	\$1,437.00

Cemetery	\$40.00
Accent.....	\$5.00
Easter Flowers	\$110.00
Holy Thursday	\$62.00
Good Friday/Holy Land	\$57.00
Easter	\$135.00



ST. RITA

Adult.....	\$3,360.00
Loose.....	290.00
Maintenance.....	82.00
Total	\$3,732.00

Cemetery	\$135.00
Easter Flowers	\$161.00
Holy Thursday	\$40.00
Good Friday/Holy Land	\$50.00
Easter	\$581.00

SAT-SUN, APR 11-12, 2020

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult.....	\$2,703.00
Loose.....	538.00
Maintenance.....	126.00
TOTAL	\$3,367.00

Cemetery.....	\$185.00
Lenten Self-Denial	\$5.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$10.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$319.00
Good Friday/Holy Land.....	\$330.00
Easter.....	\$2,732.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult.....	\$3,340.00
Children/Young Adults.....	4.00
Parish Improvements	40.00
TOTAL	\$3,384.00

Accent	\$13.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$30.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$30.00
Good Friday/Holy Land.....	\$35.00
Easter.....	\$405.00



ST. JOHN

Adult.....	\$1,337.00
Loose Collection	200.00
Maintenance.....	100.00
Total.....	\$1,637.00

Cemetery	\$150.00
Holy Trinity.....	\$25.00
Lenten Self Denial.....	\$45.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$35.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$146.00
Good Friday/Holy Land.....	\$57.00
Easter.....	\$835.00



ST. RITA

Adult.....	\$3,109.00
Loose.....	320.00
Maintenance	108.00
Total.....	\$3,537.00

Cemetery.....	\$294.00
Lenten Self Denial.....	\$10.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$107.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$281.00
Good Friday/Holy Land.....	\$251.00
Easter.....	\$1,845.00



ACTS 2:42-47 TEAM SPIRIT

Some teams have a life of their own. A good team is not just a collection of talented individuals. It is individuals working together in such a way that they create something new and better.

You can have inadequate members in a good team as long as the team sustains all the members. Some teams take the ball field, some of them prepare a meal, and some of them keep a parish alive to its Gospel call.

The team that formed in the years after Jesus died was that kind of a group. They taught and prayed, served, and lived in community. This "Easter team" - the church - worked so well that miracles happened and their numbers increased. God was blessing the work they did.

One of the hallmarks of Christianity is that it is not a faith for loners. Even though each of us meets God intently in the privacy of our hearts, we meet God fully in the communion of the faithful.

You can support your parish community in many ways. You can learn with others, worship in the assembly, do acts of charity with a group, and just spend time with your friends there. When you do, you build God's Easter team.



There is an envelope in your packet for ST. VINCENT DEPAUL, dated APR 26. Please be as generous as you are able as there are extra needs during this especially trying time.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the 1st/2nd Readings, Year A © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD.

BISHOP MALESIC'S DIVINE MERCY TELEVISED SPECIAL



"Faith During Crisis: Lord, Have Mercy!" is a one-hour special scheduled to air on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19, at 2pm on WTAE Channel 4.

Local families explain the importance of Divine Mercy during the COVID-19 outbreak. Learn about the history of Divine Mercy then pray the chaplet along with Bishop Malesic.

The broadcast will be available to view afterward on the diocesan website, dioceseofgreensburg.org, and TheAccentOnline.org.

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

THE MASS INTENTIONS LISTED BELOW WILL BE CELEBRATED AT A PRIVATE MASS ON THAT DAY BY ONE OF OUR PRIESTS. PLEASE KNOW THAT YOUR INTENTION IS BEING FULFILLED.

SAT, APR 18 VIGIL

- SR Joey Marciante (Parents, Brother Tony & Family)
- SA Pat & Diletta Orlando (Family)
- IC Andrew & Nellie Kruczkiewicz (Andrew, Jr. & Family)

SUN, APR 19 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER/DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

- SR Tina & Brian Casey, Mass of Thanksgiving (Tina & Brian Casey)
- SA Pro Populo
- IC Art & Kathleen Andyjohn (Don & Karen Mahokey)
- SJ Helen R. Kosinski (Joe & Pam Kosinski)

MON, APR 20 EASTER WEEKDAY

- SR George & Margaret Grimm (Barcine Graft & Family)
- SA Catherine Lizza (Patty & Jim Gambone)

TUE, APR 21 ST. ANSELM, BISHOP/DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

- SJ Margaret Genest (Dick & Jackie Hardy & Family)
- SA Billy J. Dull (Rick & Donna Bieniek)

WED, APR 22 EASTER WEEKDAY

- SR Greg Beucher (The Beucher Family)

THU, APR 23 ST. GEORGE, MARTYR, ST. ADALBERT, BISHOP/MARTYR

- IC Jessica Rankin & Family (Ronald Herman)
- SA Joseph L. Villaneuva (Julie Burner & Family)

FRI, APR 24 ST. FIDELIS OF SIGMARIGEN, PRIEST/MARTYR

- SR John T. Micklus (Mary Ann Micklus)
- SA John "Jay" Orazi (Jim & Tracy Mari)

SAT, APR 25 ST. MARK, EVANGELIST

- SR Jacob Anthony Shelkey (Family)
- SA Tom Bell (Bill & Zoe Lincoln)
- IC John G. Tlumack, Jr. (John, Sharon & John-Luke Tlumack)

SUN, APR 26 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

- SR Mariotti, Martucci & Canada Families (Dan Mariotti Poulin)
- SA Beatrice Guynn & Son, John (John & Ruth Tabaj)
- IC Pro Populo
- SJ Leona & Frank Forys (Daughters)

First Holy Communion for the 2nd graders from our 4 parishes was originally scheduled for SUN, MAY 3.



Because of the uncertainty of the developments happening around us, I have decided to postpone the date for First Communion. I do not have a date at this time, but as soon as we have permission to schedule gatherings again, we will set a date and notify you. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.



IF YOU DON'T TELL US, WE WON'T KNOW!

Help us keep our census up-to-date and our postage down. A crucial part of the continued success of our parish communication system is the constant updating of information about you, our parish family. All parish mailings, etc., can only be kept accurate if changes of any kind are reported to the offices. Our parish secretaries are doing their best to be aware of changes in parishioner information, but if no one tells them, then the information in our databases doesn't give a true picture. Please help us keep accurate by calling the DeVivo Centre in Connellsville at 628-6840, and 277-4236 for the Brady Centre in Dunbar.

Today, April 19, is DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY.

On this day people all over the world celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy. From St. Faustina's diary, it is clear that this octave Day of Easter is a day chosen by Christ as a day of extraordinary graces, a complete outpouring of His mercy upon all who approach Him with great trust and expectant faith.

The Divine Mercy is a devotion to Jesus Christ associated with the apparitions of Jesus to Faustina Kowalska. The venerated image under this Christological title refers to what Kowalska's diary describes as "God's loving mercy" towards all people, especially for sinners. Kowalska was granted the title "Secretary of Mercy" by the Holy See in the Jubilee Year of 2000. Kowalska reported a number of apparitions during religious ecstasy which she wrote in her diary, later published as the book *Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul*. The two main themes of the devotion are to trust in Christ's endless goodness, and to show mercy to others as a conduit for God's love toward them.

Pope John Paul II had great affinity towards this devotion and authorized it in the Liturgical Calendar of the Roman Catholic Church. The liturgical Feast of the Divine Mercy is celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Worshipers of the Divine Mercy commemorate the Hour of Mercy (3pm),

which according to Kowalska's diary, is the time of the death of Jesus.

Another very popular form of the devotion is the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. As in the prayers that form the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, there are three main themes to the Divine Mercy Devotion: To ask for and obtain the mercy of God, to trust in Christ's abundant mercy, and finally, to show mercy to others and act as a conduit for God's mercy towards them.

The first and second elements relate to the signature "Jesus I trust in You" on the Divine Mercy image and Kowalska stated that on April 28, 1925 the day the first Divine Mercy Sunday was celebrated, Jesus told her, "Every soul believing and trusting in My Mercy will obtain it."

The third component is reflected in the statement, "Call upon My mercy on behalf of sinners", attributed to Jesus in Kowalska's diary. This statement is followed by a specific short prayer: "O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You," which Kowalska wrote that Jesus told her, "I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me," and that he explained that there are three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first by deed, the second by word, the third by prayer.



The Divine Mercy devotion views mercy as the key element in the plan of God for salvation,

and emphasizes the belief that it was through mercy that God gave his only Son for the redemption of mankind, after the fall of Adam. The opening prayer for Divine Mercy Sunday Mass refers to this and begins, "Heavenly Father and God of Mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for He is alive and has become the Lord of Life."

In her diary Kowalska wrote that Jesus specified 3pm each day as the hour at which mercy was best received, and asked her to pray the Chaplet of Mercy and venerate the Divine Mercy image at that hour. On October 10, 1937, in her diary, Kowalska attributed the following statement to Jesus: As often as you hear the clock strike the third hour, immerse yourself completely I My mercy, adoring and glorifying it, invoke its omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners, for at that moment mercy was opened wide for every soul."

The time of 3pm corresponds to the hour at which Jesus died on the cross. This hour is called the "hour of Divine Mercy" or the "hour of great mercy."



FROM THE PASTOR

I would like to take this opportunity to extend to all of you a very grateful and

sincere word of thanks for all that you did to make the Lenten Season, Holy Week and Easter such a spiritually and prayerfully rewarding time. I know this was a first for all of us in not being able to gather to celebrate the liturgies of our Lord's passion, death and resurrection, as parish families, side-by-side, but I truly believe that we as the family of God here in Connellsville and Dunbar prayed and celebrated our first virtual Holy Week in a oneness that kept us rooted in Christ.

Between Fr. Dan and Mary Sampey and their technical know-how, we were able to keep in touch with you by Fr.

Dan's and my video messages and live-streaming our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. I thank all those who helped to make these events become reality. It was a first for me as it was for many of you. I cannot thank all of you for your prayerful times at home, in our churches (while they were open) and the open spaces as you meandered on your walks and visited our outdoor shrines. Please know that as you were in our prayers then, you remain in them now.

I also thank you for your generosity shown to Fr. Julius, Fr. Dan and myself and the parishes. The cards, gifts of food and candy, and other surprises showed me how truly blessed I am to be your pastor, and I remember each of you at my Masses. I thank you for your gifts to our parishes in the collections of Holy Week. May God bless you always and in all ways, and may our parishes continue to grow in the way of the Lord. Fr. Paul

All praise be yours, my Lord, through those who grant pardon for love of you;
through those who endure sickness and trial.
Happy are those who endure in peace, by You, Most High, they will be crowned.
(St. Francis of Assisi, *Canticle of Creation*)

IN DAYS OF UNCERTAINTY

(For peace in anxiety during the coronavirus pandemic,
Catholic Health Association of the US)



Loving God, we come to you full of anxiety about what may happen in the coming days and weeks. Shower us with the peace of Jesus promised to his disciples and make us into steady pillars for those around us. In this time of uncertainty and epidemic, wake us up to the reminder that we are not alone.

Even as we are asked to keep our distance from others, help us to find ways to reach out to those who need our support. We pray especially for those whose incomes and livelihoods are threatened; for the children who will miss meals due to school closures; for those isolated, lonely and scared. Living God, give them your peace, and through our hands ensure they have what they need.

Sustain, strengthen and protect all caregivers. Bless them as they offer compassionate care and show selfless courage in the face of risk.

Remind us, each time we wash our hands, that in our baptism you call us to let go of our fears and live in joy, peace and hope. *Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

MON: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

TUE: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

WED: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

THU: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

FRI: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

SAT: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

SUN: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

You may still purchase St. John's frozen pirohi by calling Stephanie/Toni at 628-8878.

IC is hosting a trip on SAT, AUG 29 to see QUEEN ESTHER at the Sight & Sound Theatres in Lancaster. Cost of \$150 includes bus, show and dinner. There are only a few tickets left, so get yours ASAP. Call Guy or Patty at 880-4919 to make a reservation, or with any questions. A \$25 deposit per ticket, payable to IC, reserves your spot. You may mail your reservation to the DeVivo Centre at 116 South 2nd Street, or put it in the drop box there. *Balance of payment is due by MON, JUN 1.*



the repose of the souls of
PAUL TONY MONGELL AND
ELLEN ROMANKO,
who died recently. May
their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

"Blessed are those
who have not seen
and have believed."
John 20:29b



Dear parishioners, please remember to return your DLA pledge card to your parish office ASAP. Please mark the outside of your envelope with your parish name, as it helps us in the office. You can also make your pledge online at donatediocesefgreensburg.org. Fr Paul

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. RITA FOR SURPASSING THEIR DLA GOAL!

IC

DLA Goal

\$38,133

Pledged

\$34,890 (91.5%)

124 gifts

SA

DLA Goal

\$26,715

Pledged

\$15,002 (56%)

74 gifts

SJ

DLA Goal

\$18,319

Pledged

\$14,480 (79%)

54 gifts

SR

DLA Goal

\$34,301

Pledged

\$35,786 (104.3%)

135 gifts



THE WOMAN AT THE WELL: THIRSTING FOR TRUTH

A popular saying is "God won't give you anything you can't handle." Of course He does! He asks any number of things of us that we can't do except with His help and grace.

This doesn't mean we should start looking for impossible feats to accomplish. Jesus asks – or rather, commands tasks for His people; He never condones foolhardy, reckless acts. Nor does it mean that we should say "Yes" to every seemingly impossible opportunity that comes our way. Sometimes God puts limits or closed doors in our path to teach and guide us. But it does mean that when He wants us to do something we don't think we can do, instead of telling Him all the reasons we can't, or waiting to *feel* like we have the strength and the ability, we should just take the next step, put one foot in front of the other, obey, and trust Him for the ability.

What impossible assignment has God given you? For most of us, we are experiencing a sudden and drastic change to our everyday lives. To you this new reality may seem impossible (and the devil would want

you to believe that), but God loves to answer impossible prayers, because He, the creator of all that is, lives in the realm of what seems impossible.

He wants us to be obedient in prayer so that He can stretch our faith to the place where He dwells.

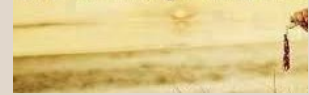
In this place of faith-filled obedience, He makes the impossible possible by His might and power alone. He wraps His strength around our weakness, bringing our faith to a new level.

We must realize that we are not alone. God is powerful, and He is with us through every storm and danger in life. I once heard a story about a house that caught on fire one night and was being consumed with flames. A young boy was forced to climb out on the roof to escape. His father stood below with his arms outstretched, calling out loudly to his son, "*Jump! I will catch you.*" The only way to save his life was to get the boy to jump. But he only saw the huge flames and black smoke and was terribly afraid. His father kept yelling frantically, "*Jump! I will catch you.*" The boy fearfully protested, "*Daddy, I can't see you. I can't see you,*" to which the father replied, "*But, I can see you and that's all that matters.*"

God breaks through if we don't give up in prayer. Sometimes we feel the darkness of life just like that young boy on the roof. We can't see our way through a situation, but we pray fervently to God for the answer. We may say, "*God, I can't feel your presence. Are you*

with me?" And He says to us, "*I can see you and that's all that matters. I*

**I am not alone because
GOD is always with ME**



will never leave you or forsake you. You can trust me." We must realize that

God is there and that He will catch us even though we cannot see our way through. He will grant us victory step-by-step as we continue in prayer. Don't give up in prayer, because He will win the battle for you. Remember that His strength is made perfect in our weakness. Let us pray for one another that our faith may not fail. Faith honors God. He answers prayer according to our faith. We link our humanity to His omnipotence when we pray in faith.

Don't discount what is possible with God. When God gives an assignment, it is no longer an impossibility, but rather it is an absolute certainty. When God gives you a seemingly impossible task, the only thing preventing it from coming to pass is your disobedience.... How do you respond to assignments that seem impossible? Do you write them off as unattainable? Or do you immediately adjust your life to God's revelation, watching with anticipation to see how He will accomplish His purposes through your obedience. God wants to do the impossible through your life."

~Henry and Richard Blackaby

Christ's peace
and our Mother Mary's love,
Mary Sampey



PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE ON OUR PRAYER LIST:

Barb Check, Mason Collins, Joe Connell, Jim Garstecki, Doug Pirl, Karla and Kevin Tressler, John Emanuel, Joanne Fox, Robert Ruck, Eugene Onusko, Patrick and

Joan Frazier, Esther Ziska, Paul B, Mario Scotto-DiMarco, Joe Maiese, Lora Rulli, Margaret Molinaro, Marsha and Barry Huey, and Stephanie Tripoli.



On the morning of March 29, 2016, I found myself walking into an old convent. It was a very plain, ordinary building and looked almost

deserted. Upon entering we discovered that we were the only people there except for a curator who also tended the small gift shop. We turned a corner and entered a simple room. This room was also small and plain, having been a shared bedroom for the sisters who lived there. Each sister only had a small corner of the room for their simple belongings. It was an image of poverty and extreme simplicity. It was in this small, plain, and insignificant corner of the world that Jesus conversed with St. Faustina Kowalska, appearing as the now-famous Divine Mercy image.



St. Faustina's entire "bedroom" was this corner

I wasn't originally supposed to be there that week. I was tagging along with a group of four other seminarians during our Easter week break from classes in Rome. European travel during breaks as a seminarian only had three criteria. One, wherever we go, we should

be able to attend daily Mass. Two, it needed to be reasonably safe to travel there. And three, it had to be cheap, cheap, cheap.

Our original plans were to go to Georgia (the country, not the state) and Armenia. When the travel turned out to be too expensive and Mass availability seemed unreliable, we altered our plans and went to Lithuania and Latvia instead. (Most people went to places like England, France, or Germany. I had weird friends.)



My friends and I, now all priests

It was only after we arrived in Lithuania that we realized we had travelled to one of the places where St. Faustina lived, her convent building sitting just on the outskirts of the capital city of Vilnius. In the city proper is the Shrine of Divine Mercy, where the original image is kept and venerated. (There are also two shrines of Divine Mercy in Poland - one in Krakow and one in Plock. St. Faustina received visions in all three places when she lived there, but only Vilnius has the original image.) Thus, unintended, on the following Sunday we found ourselves going to Mass at the Divine Mercy Chapel in front of the original Divine Mercy image on Divine Mercy Sunday during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. That's a lot of mercy! (And even more providence.)

In his conversations with St. Faustina, Jesus called the first Sunday after Easter the "Feast of Mercy" (*Diary of St. Faustina*, 742). Its proximity to Easter proclaims the Resurrection as the great event of mercy in which God redeems his undeserving

people. In Luke's Gospel, when imploring his disciples to love their enemies, Jesus commands them to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Lk 6:36). Jesus promises St. Faustina abundant graces to those who ask for mercy on this Sunday, for all who pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, for those who pray at the hour of mercy (3pm, the hour when Jesus died on the cross), and for all who simply pray the famous prayer scribed on the Divine Mercy image: "Jesus, I trust in you."

Although she died in 1938 at the age of 33, St. Faustina's visions preceded (and predicted) World War II and the atrocities that took place in Eastern Europe where she lived and around the entire world. In those days, her messages were crucial for a Church in crisis, oppressed by Nazism for 5+ years and by Communism for nearly 50 years - including for a young Karol Wojtyła, the future Pope John Paul II who would officially establish Divine Mercy Sunday in the year 2000. Jesus' words of comfort and his offer of mercy are necessary in a broken world that never seems to advance socially and morally as far as we'd like to think we have.

In that small, plain room just by St. Faustina's living quarters, the five of us fell to our knees for ten minutes and prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet where those words were first shared with her by our Lord. It is a moment that I'll never forget. It was a moment that reminded me how much I need God's mercy and how much the world around us needs God's mercy.

My prayer is that each of us at 3pm today will take out our rosary beads and recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in our homes. Our world is in need of many things in these days - of PPE and masks; of healing and employment; of strength and patience. But above all else, we need God's mercy.