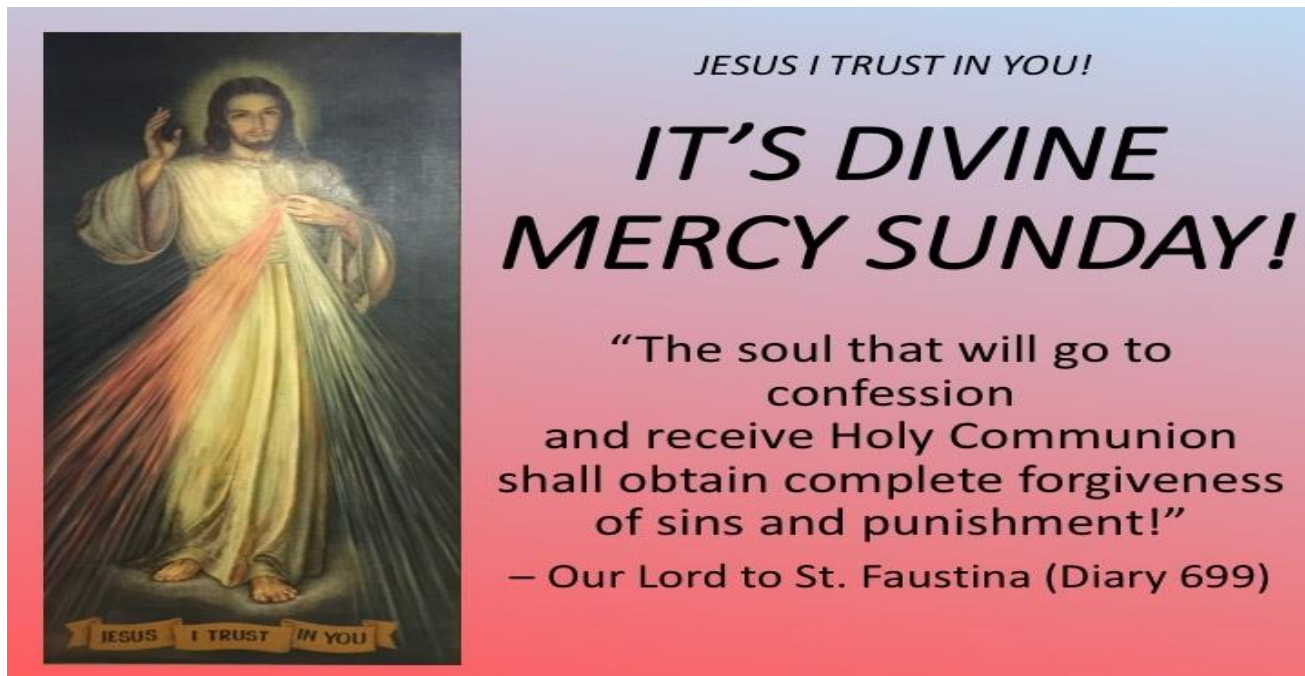


St. Cletus Faith Formation Newsletter

Friday, April 14, 2023



This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. On April 30, 2000, Saint Pope John Paul II officially designated the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy is a devotion to the merciful love of God and the desire to share that love with others. This devotion is based on the visions received by St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun, and published in her 600-page diary. Jesus asked St. Faustina to spread the message of Divine Mercy.

Dear St. Cletus Families,

This week during our classes we recount the Easter story, our Christian life is sustained by God's word in Scripture and by Christ's presence in the Eucharist. We are especially sustained in our faith through our weekly celebration of Mass. Let us pray:

O God,

In Christ's humiliation, you stooped down, and raised up the fallen world in the resurrection, grant to your faithful people a holy joy, so that those whom you have freed may delight in you eternally; through Jesus Christ who is alive with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Calendar

Remember this week, April 16 & 17, our classes are in session.

We will be in session next week Sunday & Monday April 23 – 24 and our last session will be Sunday, April 30 and Monday, May 1.

Safe Environment Training

The Archdiocese requires us to present a Safe Environment Training Lesson to our children in grades 1 - 7.

This year we will present a lesson for each class on internet safety. Following are the topics:

Grade 1: What is the Internet & What is personal data.

Grade 2: Rules for internet safety & Be kind on-line.

Grade 3: Top ten internet safety rules.

Grade 4: Keeping personal information safe & What is cyberbullying.

Grade 5: Understanding on-line friends and Talk to an adult you trust.

Grade 6: Posting on-line and Protecting personal information.

Grade 7: Cyberbullying – You can't take it back.

While many schools cover these topics or major purpose is to be a reminder for our children and hopefully provide a different perspective.

St. Cletus Food Pantry: BIG NEWS!

Remember, our hours for the food pantry have been expanded. Our new hours will be 4:00-8:00pm. Therefore, **we need more volunteers! We are adding a new volunteer session every Thursday from 3:15-5:15pm.** This is perfect for students' right after school, but we definitely need adults during this shift, as well! Volunteers must be 6th grade and up. This will double our Thursday night volunteer opportunities, we hope you can join us. Sign up is now available at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-stcletus#/>

Mother's Day Baby Shower & Carnation Sale

Mother's Day Weekend (May 13-14) the Area Respect Life Ministry will be collecting donations for Women's Care Center in La Grange. Please see their Wish List for the most needed items and bring them to Mass with you!

Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for volunteers to help sell flowers after all the Masses May 13-14. This opportunity is appropriate for middle school and up, adults welcome. Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-mothers#/>.

First Communion

First Communion families, remember the First Communion Banners should be turned into the Faith Formation Office by April 26. If you need information about the banner, please contact the Faith Formation Office.

Spiritual Resources

A word about the resources, I include the resources weekly to assist you in your role as the primary Catechist. My hope is that you will find one or two of the activities useful in promoting discussion and faith sharing with your children.

Sunday Readings and Resources for our children:

Catholic Kids Media - Doubting Thomas and Divine Mercy! A fun Catholic reflection for kids based on the readings for the 2nd Sunday of Easter, cycle A.

[Divine Mercy Sunday.](#)

Fun with the Gospel:

[Divine Mercy Coloring Page](#)

[Kids Corner - Gospel Today](#)

[Gospel Word Search](#)

Note

Our Faith Formation Year is quickly coming to an end. While getting to know St. Cletus Parish at times had its challenges, I feel it has been a good year. Much of that has been because of the dedication of our catechists and your support. Working together we were able to bring our children closer to God. I have learned a lot this year and I will be sharing with you, plans for next year in the coming weeks.

I do need to say one thing that has been consistent with my past experiences, the children are wonderful and I am glad to have the opportunity to be a part of their spiritual development.

We will be sending out the information for 2023 – 2024 year during the second week of May.

One change being considered is our Sunday class hours. With plans to have a monthly Family Mass, it has been suggested 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. may be more conducive for a 10:30 a.m. Family Mass.

Have A Great Week!

God Bless,

Lawrence Manetti
Director of Faith Formation

Hector Obregon-Luna
Associate Director of Faith Formation