



# Our Lady of Victory Memorial Parish

*"We, the people of Our Lady of Victory Memorial Parish, accept as our mission to be a welcoming, diverse parish family who shares our gifts and talents that God has given us to serve others in need as we grow in our Faith."*

## April 6 & 7, 2024

### Divine Mercy Sunday

**Pastor: Father Efoe "Emmanuel" Anani**  
249 Arnold Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3L 0W4  
204-453-4225  
[www.ourladyofvictoryywq.com](http://www.ourladyofvictoryywq.com)  
[parish@victoryedu.com](mailto:parish@victoryedu.com)

**Baptism:** Contact Father for more information  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday from 3:30 - 3:50 pm.  
**Matrimony:** Contact Father six months in advance.  
**Sacrament of the Sick:** Call Father as the need arises.

**Contact Father for the following:**

- Blessing of the Home
- Visiting the Sick
- Mass intentions

**Contact Sam for Hall Rentals:** [bookolv@gmail.com](mailto:bookolv@gmail.com)  
**For Bulletin Inquiries:** [bulletin@victoryedu.com](mailto:bulletin@victoryedu.com)

**To Contact the School:** [olv@victoryedu.com](mailto:olv@victoryedu.com) 204-452-7632

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

SATURDAY—4:00 P.M.  
SUNDAY—9:30 A.M.

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

TUES, THURS, FRIDAY—9:30 A.M.  
\*\*ROSARY AT 9:10 A.M.  
WED—10:00 A.M. AT RIVERVIEW

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

### Readings for Next Sunday

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

1st Reading—Acts 3:13-15,17,19  
2nd Reading—1 John 2:1-5  
Gospel—John 24:35-48



# Events - News - Information

## Divine Mercy Sunday

**Introduction:** The readings for this Sunday show us our need for God's Divine Mercy, which is offered to us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the forgiveness of our sins, and through each celebration of the Sacraments (all instituted to sanctify us), when we receive them in trusting Faith.

### Life Messages

1) **We need to accept God's invitation to celebrate and practice mercy.** One way the Church celebrates God's mercy throughout the year is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." So, we see that all of us are to be reconcilers and mediators, becoming channels to one another of the Risen Lord's peace and forgiveness. Finding time for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is another good way to receive Divine Mercy. The Gospel command, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful," requires that we show mercy to our fellow human beings always and everywhere. We radiate God's mercy to others by our corporal and spiritual works of mercy, by our kind and supportive words, and by our prayers for all our brothers and sisters.

2) **We need to ask God for the Faith that culminates in self-surrender to Him and leads us to serve those we encounter with love.** Living Faith enables us to see the risen Lord in everyone and gives us the willingness to render to each one our loving service. It was this Faith in the Lord and obedience to His missionary command that prompted St. Thomas to travel to India to preach the Gospel among the Hindus, to establish seven Christian communities (known later as "St. Thomas Christians"), and eventually to suffer martyrdom. The Fathers of the Church prescribe the following traditional means to grow in the living, dynamic Faith of St. Thomas the Apostle. a) We must come to know Jesus personally and intimately by our daily, meditative reading of the Bible. b) We must strengthen our Faith by the power of the Holy Spirit through our personal and communal prayer. c) We must share in the Divine life of Jesus by frequenting the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) presents it this way: "If we pray, we will believe; if we believe, we will love; if we love, we will serve. Only then we put our love of God into action."

3) **We need to meet the challenge for a transparent Christian life — "I will not believe unless I see."** This "seeing" is what others demand of us. They ask that we reflect Jesus, the risen Lord in our lives by our selfless love, unconditional forgiveness, and humble service. The integrity of our lives bears a fundamental witness to others who want to see the risen Lord alive and active, working in us. Christ's mercy shines forth from us whenever we reach out to the poor, the needy and the marginalized, as St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) did. His mercy shines forth when we remain open to those who struggle in Faith, as did the Apostle Thomas in today's Gospel.

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### Traffic cop's mercy

A priest was forced by a police officer to pull over for speeding. As the officer was about to write the ticket, the priest said to him, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." The police officer handed the priest the ticket, and said, "Go, and sin no more."

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

### CWL NEWS

**REMINDER – CWL Sunday is on April 7, 2024 with a short meeting to follow the 9:30 a.m. Mass. The meeting will be in the church hall and all ladies are invited to attend.**

### Life Messages Continued ...

... We should be able to appreciate the presence of Jesus, crucified and raised, in our own suffering and in the sufferings of our brothers and sisters, thus recognizing those same now-glorified wounds of the risen Lord in the suffering of those around us.

4) **Like St. Thomas, let us use our skepticism to help us grow in Faith.** It is our genuine doubts about the doctrines of our religion that encourage us to study these doctrines more closely and thus to grow in our Faith. This will naturally lead us to a personal encounter with Jesus through our prayer, study of the Word of God, and frequenting of the Sacraments. However, we must never forget the fact that our Faith is not our own doing but is a gift from God. Hence, we need to augment our Faith every day by prayer so that we may join St. Thomas in his proclamation: "My Lord and my God."

5) **Let us have the courage of our Christian convictions to share our Faith as St. Thomas did, and to recognize the "nail marks."** We are not to keep the gift of Faith locked in our hearts, but to share it with our children, our families and our neighbors, always remembering the words: "Every believer in this world must become a spark of Christ's light," spoken by Pope St. John XXIII. "We all have scars from our own Good Fridays that remain, long after our own experiences of resurrection. Our 'nail marks' remind us that all pain and grief, all ridicule and suffering, are transformed into healing and peace in the love of God that we receive from, and extend to, others. The "nail marks" of Jesus are all around us in the lives of those living out their own Calvary. Jesus calls us to be willing to place ourselves in the pain and struggle of others and bring the joy and peace of Easter into hearts, entombed in winter cold and darkness."

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

# Saint for the Week

## Saint Crescentia Hoess' Story—April 6

Crescentia was born in 1682, the daughter of a poor weaver, in a little town near Augsburg. She spent play time praying in the parish church, assisted those even poorer than herself and had so mastered the truths of her religion that she was permitted to make her first Holy Communion at the then unusually early age of 7. In the town she was called "the little angel."

As she grew older, she desired to enter the convent of the Tertiaries of Saint Francis. But the convent was poor, and because Crescentia had no dowry, the superiors refused her admission. Her case was then pleaded by the Protestant mayor of the town to whom the convent owed a favor. The community felt it was forced into receiving her, and her new life was made miserable. She was considered a burden and assigned nothing other than menial tasks. Even her cheerful spirit was misinterpreted as flattery or hypocrisy.

Conditions improved four years later when a new superior was elected who realized her virtue. Crescentia herself was appointed mistress of novices. She so won the love and respect of the sisters that, upon the death of the superior, Crescentia was unanimously elected to that position. Under her, the financial state of the convent improved and her reputation in spiritual matters spread. She was soon being consulted by princes and princesses; bishops and cardinals too sought her advice. And yet, a true daughter of Francis, she remained ever humble.

Bodily afflictions and pain were always with her. First it was headaches and toothaches. Then she lost the ability to walk, her hands and feet gradually becoming so crippled that her body curled up into a fetal position. In the spirit of Francis she cried out, "Oh, you bodily members, praise God that he has given you the capacity to suffer." Despite her sufferings she was filled with peace and joy as she died on Easter Sunday in 1744.

She was beatified in 1900 and canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2001. The liturgical feast of Saint Crescentia Hoess is celebrated on June 15.



Taken from franciscanmedia.org

