

St. Joseph Catholic Church
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Pastor: Rev. Tom Kuffel
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Parish: 907-443-5527; Cell 907-434-6117
Second Sunday of Easter 4.23.2017

Announcements
We thank Fr. Tom Lankenau and Fr. Jim Oberle for coming up to celebrate Easter with us. May God bless their sacrifice and may your souls be enriched with God's grace.

St. Joseph	4.16.2017	4.9.2017	4.18.2017
\$3,068.50	\$1,129.50	\$1,139.00	\$800.00
Thank You	Thank You	Thank You	Thank You



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April 26 Parish Council 5:30 PM Mass Meeting to follow.

May 7 Religious Ed Sunday from 10:30 – 2:30. Last class. Please make every effort to participate and encounter the risen Jesus.

Fr. Tom will be in Kotz Apr 27 – May 1.



Love does not have to be perfect
In fact, love accepts the imperfections of a person!
Love embraces them!
That's Mercy!

Today we are consumers of faith, we pick and choose what we want just as though shopping! Jesus did not ask us to pick and choose what we want from Him, He gave Himself: All of Himself You cannot choose just part of a person!

You are not the sum total of your Mistakes Sins Failures Guilt

You are the sum total of Your Father's love for you!

Stewardship

What you did to the least of my brethren you did to me!

The way we treat our brethren especially those who are broken, shattered, and offensive,
Is how we treat Jesus!

Jesus came and reaching out to the marginalized of society so that they can be accepted.

Accepted people are different. They are wanted and once they feel wanted they start to want to do good.

Accepting People in all their weaknesses and failures is the Mission of the Church.

The Church's Mission is to heal the person. At the core of healing is the forgiveness of sins.

To be a good steward, we are to forgiving: that is merciful as the Beatitude tells us.

Blessed are the Merciful They will receive Mercy!

Jesus warns us, that we will be "condemned into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil for as often as you neglected to do it to one of these least ones, you neglected to do it to me" (Mt 25)

Mercy Sunday reminds us of the great gift we have received:
Mercy from Jesus.

Mercy Sunday reminds us that as good stewards we need to be merciful to those who are least of our brethren – especially sinners!

Who is least in your Life? Can you do your best for him?

Why be Catholic?
Everyone needs love. We are made for love.

- Being Catholic is not to become spiritually superior.
- It is not about meriting points to earn heaven.
- Being Catholic is not rules that say Thou Shalt Not!
- Being Catholic is to be fulfilled as a person who is in communion with our Father.

God speaks to us through our desires; yet many times our desires are derailed by the devil who wants us to seek selfish desires rather than serve the needs of others.

Jesus came as Messiah that is He is chosen by the Father to bring the message of forgiveness of sins so that we can see beyond our faults and failures. We are to see God's desire for us.

God desires us to be Holy!

To be holy is not to beat yourself up because of your failures. Holiness is trusting God that He will free you from your addictions and abuses so you can be free to be fulfilled with his love:

To Desire His Love with All your Heart, All your Soul, All your Strength.

To free us from demonic desires, we need to pray the ancient prayer of St. Peter: Jesus Son of God, Have mercy on me a Sinner.

Constantly we pray that prayer, but then we add the prayer that satisfies our deepest desires: Jesus I trust in you.

Jesus proved that He has power to free us from sin. It is up to us to trust that He will do what He says!

Jesus I Trust in You!

Weekly Schedule:

Date	Mass Time	Place	Feast Day	Lector/Minister	Intention	Activity
Mon Apr 24	5:30 PM	Nome			Lisa Svobada	
Tue April 25	5:30 PM	Nome	St. Mark		R & R McAdoo	
Wed Apr 26	5:30 PM	Nome			Nancy McGuire	Parish Council
Thu Apr 27	No Mass				P. Groosthhausen	Fr. K to Kotz
Fri Apr 28	6:00 PM	Kotz	St. Monfort		Marian Srs	
Sat Apr 29	6:00 PM	Kotz			Marian Srs	
Sun Apr 30	11:0 AM	Kotz			St. Francis Parish	

**Seeing a person as a child of God
Takes away the stigma
as seeing them as sinners
who are unwelcome in my life.
All are welcome in my Father's
House , even the worst**

**"A LITTLE BIT OF MERCY MAKES THE WORLD
LESS COLD AND MORE JUST."**

POPE FRANCIS

Mercy: the Only Mission of the Church

The disciples feared. They gathered behind closed doors; and then Jesus sends them on an impossible mission – save the world! He sends them into the world to save the world by proclaiming the message of forgiveness.

We all struggle with sin. It is interior struggle between a closed heart and the call of love which opens doors closed by sin. Forgiveness frees us from ourselves and our lies about ourselves so we can forgive and be forgiven.

Christ entered through doors barred by sin, death and the powers of hell. He breaks open the closed doors shut by sin and enters into each one of us breaking the chains of our slavery to sin.

Jesus by his resurrection overcomes the fear and dread which imprison us, wishes to throw open our closed doors and send us out. The path that the Risen Master shows us is a one way street, it goes in only one direction, out to preach forgiveness.

We must move beyond ourselves to witness to the healing power of love that has conquered us. We see before us person who are often wounded and fearful, who bears the scars of pain and guilt. Before the anguished cry for mercy and peace of broken people, we hear Jesus' inspiring invitation: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you" (Jn 20:21).

In God's mercy, all of our infirmities find healing, first for ourselves and then for others. His mercy, in fact, does not distance itself from the destruction of the battle fields. Forgiveness encounters all forms of misery and to free this world of so many types of slavery Jesus sends us out as messengers of Divine Mercy. Our mercy desires to touch the wounds of all and heal them.

Being an Apostles of Mercy means touching and soothing the wounds that today afflict the bodies and souls of many of our brothers and sisters. Curing these wounds, we profess Jesus, we make him present and alive. We allow others, who touch his mercy with their own hands, to recognize him as "Lord and God" (Jn 20:28), as did the Apostle Thomas.

This is the mission Jesus entrusts to us. So many people ask to be listened to and to be understood. The Gospel of Mercy must be proclaimed and written in our daily lives. We seek people with patient and open hearts. We are Good Samaritans who understand broken and shattered lives and offers compassion and acceptance to our wounded brothers and sisters. The Gospel of Mercy requires generous and joyful servants, people who love freely without expecting anything in return. People who have received Mercy and offer it.

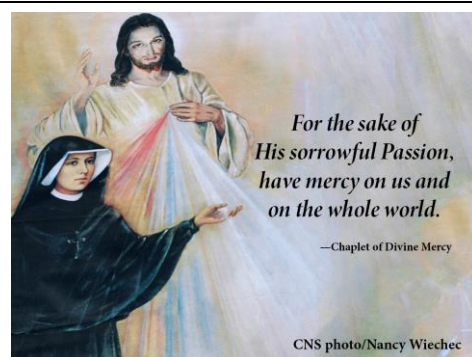
"Peace be with you!" (Jn 20:21) is the greeting of Jesus to his disciples; this same peace awaits men and women of our own day. It is not a negotiated peace. It is not the absence of conflict: It is his peace, the peace that comes from the heart of the Risen Lord, the peace that has defeated sin, fear and death.

- It is a peace that does not divide but unites
- It is a peace that does not abandon us but listens and loves;
- It is a peace that persists even in pain and enables hope to blossom.

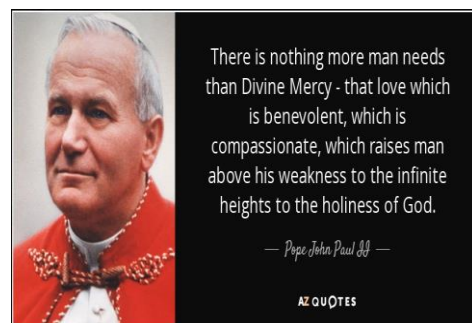
This peace is born ever anew by the forgiveness of God who calms our anxious hearts. We are to be bearers of his peace. This is the mission entrusted to the Church on Easter day. In Christ, we are born to be his Messengers of Mercy. We bring the Father's forgiveness to everyone, to reveal his loving face through concrete gestures of mercy. We feel the wounds and heal them!

"His Mercy endures forever" (Ps 117:2).

Truly, God's mercy is forever; it never ends, it never runs out, it never gives up even when faced with closed doors, and it never tires.



CNS photo/Nancy Wiehac



AZ QUOTES

