



SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC CHURCH †

P.O. Box 1747—6191 Hwy 28 S
Dunlap, TN 37327-1747
(423) 949-6903

Website: sotvcc.weebly.com
E-mail: shepherdofthevalleyindunlap@yahoo.com

APRIL 7, 2024

Pastor: Rev. Mark Scholz (423)837-7068

Deacon: Mike Butz

Sr. Maria Del Pilar Hnojosa Aguilar (423)463-1541

Mass Schedule: Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Thursday 7:00 p.m. (Hispanic)

Adoration:

Confessions: 7:30—7:50 a.m. Sunday before mass
& by request.



If you are a new parishioner, or would like to become one, you are invited to stop by the Office to register. **If you are visiting**, we extend a Special Welcome. We hope you find it spiritually rewarding and will come back.

Daily Readings for the week April 7

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35; 1Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY



Mission Statement

We will use our skills and resources to promote, maintain and encourage a supportive community that earns the respect and recognition of our neighbors both near and far as we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

Next Sunday will be our monthly Second Collection to benefit our local food bank through the Fellowship of Churches. ★

There will be a Church Council meeting on **Tuesday, April 9**, at 6:00 p.m. The council meeting last week was Rescheduled due to weather. ★

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35
The first Christian community shared their possessions, and no one was needy. ★

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118:2-4,13-15,22-24
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6
Those who love God keep his commandments.

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31
Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

I am setting up a Text Message Group for texting parishioners for important notifications. If we have your cell number, you will be included Unless you Opt Out. Please notify me if you don't want to be included in the Messaging. Contact me to ensure I have the correct number. Thank you. Don West ★

★ = New, Updated, or Important

Saint Michael the Archangel Prayer

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the divine power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. **-Amen**



Prayer to Receive a New Bishop

Praise to You, Lord our God, our Eternal Shepherd and Guide.

We know that all authority comes from You. With confidence in Your providence, we entreat You to provide the Diocese of Knoxville a new shepherd after Your own heart.

In your love for us, send us a shepherd who will lead us in being Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice.

Help him to fill our minds and hearts with the truth of the Gospel, the power of the sacraments, and the desire to build up Your Holy Church.

We pray through Christ our Lord. AMEN

Background on the Gospel Reading



Today's reading from the Gospel of John is proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter in each of the lectionary cycles. This fact alone should alert us to the significance of the encounters with the resurrected Jesus that are described in this reading. This Gospel combines two scenes: Jesus' appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection and Jesus' dialogue with Thomas, the disciple who doubted.

Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit, but in bodily form. We do not know, however, exactly what this form looked like. Earlier in John's Gospel, when Mary of Magdala first encountered the risen Jesus, she did not recognize him until he spoke to her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples walking along the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until he broke bread with them. We know from readings such as today's that in his resurrected form, Jesus was not bound by matter; he appeared to the disciples inside a home even though the door was locked. Yet the disciples could still touch the marks of his Crucifixion.

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun; as Jesus was sent by God, so Jesus sends his disciples. He gives his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be able to accomplish this task. Jesus' words to his disciples also highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share forgiveness and reconciliation with others.

Thomas, the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of the Church that comes after this first community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human nature seeks hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative in obtaining this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe. **Loyola Press**



Divine Mercy Sunday - In a series of revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Blessed John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000. The Lord expressed His will with regard to this feast in His very first revelation to St. Faustina. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in her Diary entry 699: My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of grace upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the



Monthly Schedule		
Date	Lectors	Intercessions
04/07/2024	Lisa Tuggle Michelle Nuñez	Greg Higgins
04/14/2024	Erin Lamb Nagore Luzuriaga	David Tuggle
04/21/2024	Craig Cerminara Michelle Nuñez	Greg Higgins
04/28/2024	Greg Higgins Nagore Luzuriaga	David Tuggle
05/05/2024	John West Michelle Nuñez	Greg Higgins

Last Sunday—March 31	
Mass Attendance: 146	
Collections:	\$ 851
Food Bank:	\$
Online Giving:	\$ 120
2nd Collection :	\$ 510
Online Giving is available through our website. Note: Collection includes all previous week Masses	

	February	YTD
Collection:	\$ 5,298	\$ 9,959
Expenses:	<u>\$ 11,870</u>	<u>\$ 15,252</u>
Net:	(\$ 6,572)	(\$ 5,293)

★ divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My mercy.



Are you feeling depressed? Isolated? Worried? Overwhelmed?

There is hope. Catholic Charities of East Tennessee offers counseling services in the Knoxville and Chattanooga areas. In Knoxville, please call 865-963-4420. In Chattanooga, please call 423-322-0057. If you are in crisis and need immediate help, or if you are worried about someone who may be in a crisis, help is available by calling the Tennessee Statewide Crisis Line at 855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471) or the Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255

We Welcome Everyone

If you would like to register, change your address, or have questions about our parish, please fill out the form and drop it in the collection basket.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

___ I would like to enroll as an active parishioner.

___ Please change my address to the one above.

___ I would like to learn more about the Catholic faith.

___ I would like to volunteer as a Reader, Usher, Maintenance helper or some other capacity.

___ Please Contact Me.



Food Bank: Don't forget to bring in your favorite canned food items. Always in need of plastic bags, canned green vegetables (green beans, peas, etc) and canned protein foods (tuna, salmon, etc). Any donations can be dropped off here at church for delivery to the food bank.

PLEASE NOTE ! No food in the sanctuary or narthex. All food should be confined to the kitchen area and large dining room. If spills do occur anywhere in the church, please take the time to clean it up. Food on the floor attract ants and other insect. So please be careful and clean up. Parents, please watch your children. Thank you !

The Tabernacle Lamp is lit to indicate the living presence of Jesus Christ in the tabernacle and to Honor and Glorify Him. Parishioners may request to have the Tabernacle Candle burn for one week in memory of a loved one, in thanksgiving, or for a special intention. Intentions will be published in the weekly bulletin. There is **NO** donation requirement, although donations are accepted. Please contact Kathy West at dandkwest@bledsoe.net or in person or (423)554-3289 to schedule a Lamp memorial week.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to request a Mass intention, there are white envelopes in the Narthex. All Mass Intentions are offered at Our Lady of Lourdes. If the date you request is not available, we'll come as close as we can to that date. A \$5 donation is requested, but **not required**.

Please continue to bring in your plastic shopping bags to be re-used at the Food Bank. Just drop them off in the Narthex and they will be collected and carried to the Food Bank.

Volunteers are always needed for grounds caring, church cleaning, ushers, readers, etc. Please see Father Mark or any council member to serve in God's work.

Please submit all bulletin announcements,
to Don West - (423) 554-3289
shepherdofthevalleyindunlap@yahoo.com

The Sunday bulletin is available through our website on the Friday night before Sunday.

Parish Secretary:	Mary Anne Moyer
Bookkeeper:	Don West
Dir. Religious Education:	Erin Lamb
Council of Catholic Women:	Linda Lambert

Council Members : Fr. Mark; Darcy Cogar, MaryAnne Moyer; Craig & Nagore Cerminara, Mark & Barbara Klusa

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)
RCIA is a program for adults who wish to become Catholic or who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith. Please contact Fr. Mark.

If you would like to have your Anniversary, Birthday or any Special Event mentioned in the bulletin, please come by the finance office after mass and let me know, or send an email to the church email address or place a note in the collection basket.

If you know of anyone on our Prayer List who has recovered, or if you would like to add someone to the list, please share that information with the Parish office so the list can be updated.

Please Remember in your Prayers

The Smith Family, Karen Sprague, Gee Miller, Jeremy Holmes, Margaret Robin, Judith Winner, Jan Schumacher, Richard Kern, Melinda Hendon, Mary Ann Keukel, Adam Turner, Mary Ellen Majewski, Kathy West, Linda Slomian, Dorothy Creedon

In Memoriam

Larry Fish, Emma Hankins, Joan Scholz, Laura Moyer, John Kaprelian, David Ramirez
