

Divine Mercy Reflection

Reflect, today, upon the Divine Mercy. As you do, humble yourself through prayer by admitting to God and to yourself that His Mercy is beyond what will ever comprehend. Do this in prayer. Reading about God's Mercy is important, but it will only be through prayer that we begin our contemplation. And it will only be through this contemplation that we will begin to live the central purpose of our lives.

Glorious Divine Mercy, pour down upon me; open my mind to Your depth and breadth. Help me to begin to contemplate You in Your fullness so that I can begin my eternity with You now. My loving Savior, You have revealed so much about Your Mercy. May I not learn about this Gift but also receive it into my life. Jesus, I trust in You.

Important Meeting

April 17th at the activity center at 7:30 pm. We're inviting Guadalupanas, Divine Mercy, and Knights of Columbus members and anybody else who wants to join us. Thank you and we hope to see you there!

Catholic Sharing Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our 2024 Catholic Sharing Appeal campaign. The opportunity to contribute is still available at www.dioceseoflaredo.org/csa or by texting "GIVE" to 956-305-2140. Pledge forms should also be available in the parish. Thank You!

St. Joseph Catholic Church



LA PRYOR, TEXAS

Jesus' Parting Words

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." [Luke 24:45-48](#)

This was the final appearance to the disciples as recorded in Luke's Gospel. In this appearance, Jesus showed the Apostles His hands and His feet, explained to them that He had to suffer, die and rise, as was foretold by the prophets. He exhorted them to be "witnesses of these things," He explained that very soon the Holy Spirit would come from the Father, and then walked with them to Bethany where He ascended to Heaven. These, the final earthly words of Jesus, set forth the mission of these Apostles as well as the mission of all of us. "You are witnesses of these things," Jesus said. What things? The Apostles were to be witnesses to the Paschal Mystery: Jesus' suffering, death and Resurrection. The proclamation of these truths are the central mission of Jesus' Apostles and all of us. How often do you think about the Paschal Mystery? Perhaps you have heard those words but do not fully understand what they are. What is the "Paschal Mystery?" The Paschal Mystery was what Jesus told the Apostles to be witnesses to. They were to be witnesses to others that Jesus came from the Father, suffered death for our sins, rose from the dead to conquer sin and then ascended into Heaven to invite us to follow. This is the most central message of our faith. Sometimes our Christian faith can be treated more like a book of "do good lessons" than as the saving truths of our redemption. Though it's essential to understand the moral laws and the call to charitable works, we must always remember that the heart of the Gospel is about salvation. It's about Jesus dying for our sins and rising victorious so that we can enter the glories of Heaven. We do not enter Heaven simply because we are good people; rather, we are able to enter Heaven only because of the saving act of the Paschal Mystery.

April 14, 2024

**St. Joseph Catholic Church and
St. Patrick Catholic Church
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Parish Administrator: Fr. Gustavo Ortega, OFM.
Assistants: Deacon Gene Corrigan and
Deacon Juan Gallegos
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