

Notes from Father Craig on the Second Sunday of Easter-Divine Mercy Sunday

I hope and pray that all of you had a wonderful Easter. May we continue to celebrate this beautiful season of the Good News of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I was inspired and blessed by celebrating with you the Sacred Triduum. We had very good attendance on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and especially on Easter Sunday. For the record, I have listed our attendance for Easter 2017.

Holy Thursday,	228
Good Friday,	209
The Great Vigil of Easter,	215
Easter Sunday at 9 a.m.,	400 approx.
Easter Sunday at 11 a.m.,	251



This means we likely had over **1300 people** attend Holy Week-Easter liturgies at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception. These indeed were record crowds. For this we rejoice and pray that those who were visitors or those who only attend Mass occasionally will be renewed in the Risen Christ and be moved by the Holy Spirit to return to practicing their precious Catholic faith. I ask all of you to pray with me for our brothers and sisters who only practice their faith occasionally such as Christmas and Easter.

Today we are not only basking in the full glory of Eastertide we are celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday. Pope John Paul II proclaimed the Second Sunday of Easter as **Divine Mercy Sunday** during the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000, the year of the Great Jubilee. In the words of Pope John Paul the Great, “it is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the *Word of God* on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church, this will be called **Divine Mercy Sunday.**”

I thank Deacon Mike Moreno and Deacon Ken Snyder for assisting at Confirmation. The following received Confirmation on Thursday, April 20.

St. Mary Confirmandi

Aidan Bohl
Kyler Brothers
Anthony Dent
Natalia Egnatuk
Frank Fitzgerald
Elise Fitzmaurice
Nicholas Fitzmaurice
Regan Fulmer
Rachel Hankinson

Ashton Kalisz
Kaitlyn Kraushaar
Larin Long
Bryce Munn
James Reudisueli
Amanda Shreve
Dylan Sweeney
Ethan Twiss
Abigail Welke
Walter Westrick

St. John Confirmandi

Rachel Bieler
Kody Chamberlain
Isabel Hoaglin
Jadyn Youmans

Amanda Shreve and Bryce Munn have attended R.C.I.A. all year and were also Confirmed on April 20.

In His Love,

Father Craig Lusk, Pastor