

The Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux & St. Stanislaus Kostka

April 12, 2026

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The people of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka are a "Living Mosaic of God's People," who seek salvation through worship, education, stewardship and service, proclaiming our faith in God and in our heritages.

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NEW MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

9:00AM - English

10:30AM - Polish

12:00PM - English

1:30PM - Spanish

THE SIMPLE ABC MESSAGE... ASK FOR HIS MERCY, BE MERCIFUL, COMPLETELY TRUST IN JESUS

THE SIMPLE ABC MESSAGE... ASK FOR HIS MERCY, BE MERCIFUL, COMPLETELY TRUST IN JESUS



Jesus. I Trust in You

THE SIMPLE ABC MESSAGE... ASK FOR HIS MERCY, BE MERCIFUL, COMPLETELY TRUST IN JESUS

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THE SIMPLE ABC MESSAGE... ASK FOR HIS MERCY, BE MERCIFUL, COMPLETELY TRUST IN JESUS

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1235 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS

1232 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

Saturday and Sunday: Closed
or by appointment

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am-2:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATIONS

Saturday: 4:15 pm

By request: After Mass

Sunday - Saturday: Mornings



Saturday – April 11...Easter Saturday

9:00AM... +Murial Siccardi,
req. Mary Ellen Chanda
5:00PM... +Plick Family, req. Family

Sunday – April 12...Divine Mercy Sunday

9:00AM...+Linda Smith, req. Rich Williams
10:30AM...Wszystkiego Najlepszego Przemystaw
Błazejowicz, od Matka
12:00 Noon... Health of Paul Signorelli,
req. Beverly and Peter Cirino
1:30 PM ...+Pastoria Cuartas (7th Anniv.)
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Monday – April 13... St. Martin I

9:00AM...+People of the Parish

Tuesday – April 14... Easter Weekday

9:00AM...Apisa and Mone Family, req. Lisa and Angela

Wednesday – April 15... Easter Weekday

9:00AM...+Jane Nero, req. Niece Karole

Thursday – April 16... Easter Weekday

9:00AM...+Albert Carella, req. Daughter Kathy

Friday – April 17...Easter Weekday

9:00AM...+Giovanna Mone, req. Anna Bonacorso

Saturday – April 18...Easter Weekday

9:00AM... Peace, req. Kruse Family
5:00PM... +Robert Chanda, req. Mary Ellen Chanda

Sunday – April 19...Third Sunday of Easter

9:00AM...+Stephen Williams, req. Dad Rich Williams
10:30AM...+Stefana i Franczek Partyka, od Rodzina
12:00 Noon...+Gregory Myers,
req. John and Pat Zimmerman
1:30 PM ...+Mayra Yesenia Melina, req. Juan Benitez



THE TABERNACLE CANDLE will burn this week for Gregory Myers at the request of Beverly and Peter Cirino.

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL is in Memory of **Lucia Simeone** at the request of the Family.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially for **Marian Parcinski, Olivia Schiffer, Al Caraldo, Margaret Macknowsky, Jim Rushforth, Mike Parise, Brian Biddulph, Giovani Todaro, Pat Cook, Mary Barrow and Margaret Honora.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the Faithful Departed.

STEWARDSHIP

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

“Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” JOHN 20:19

Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, like a new neighbor, a new work colleague or a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home? When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded. We are made for relationships – with God and each other. When you see yourself as a beloved son or daughter of God, you tend to see others the same way, too – just as God, Our Father, sees us.

2.º Domingo de Pascua (Domingo de la Divina Misericordia)

“Jesús entró, se puso en medio de ellos, y los saludó diciendo: ‘La paz sea con ustedes’”. JUAN 20:19

¿Se le da bien hacer que la gente se sienta bienvenida? Cuando usted conoce a alguien, como un nuevo vecino, un nuevo compañero de trabajo o un nuevo feligrés, ¿lo hace sentirse en casa? Cuando hacemos que las personas se sientan bienvenidas, les hacemos sentir que están incluidas en lugar de excluidas. Fuimos hechos para las relaciones - con Dios y con los demás. Cuando usted se ve a sí mismo como un querido hijo de Dios, tiende a ver también a los demás de la misma manera, de la misma manera en la que Dios, Nuestro Padre, nos ve a nosotros.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47
In the early days of the Church in Jerusalem, the faithful listened intently to the teachings of the apostles. They lived a communal life, sharing all property in common and praying and taking their meals together.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9
In this first letter from Peter, he speaks to the Christians with great joy and confidence, reminding them that through Christ’s resurrection, they have been given a new birth and are heirs to the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel: John 20:19-31
After his resurrection, Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the power to forgive sins. Thomas, who is absent, sees Christ later and believes in His resurrection after feeling His wounds. Christ admonishes Thomas by saying, “You became a believer because you saw Me. Blessed are they who have not seen and believed.”

**Mother Seton Regional High School
Spring Open House**

Join us on April 16 for an evening of conversation and tours. Meet students and teachers to learn what a Catholic Education for girls can do for your daughter: academic excellence, personal growth, confidence and service to others. Register at www.motherseton.org

Sunday**April 12th, 2026****Mass Schedule:****9:00 AM – English****10:30 AM – Polish****(after Mass Swieconka in the gym)****12:00 PM – English****1:30 PM – Spanish***After the Spanish Mass***2:30PM - Exposition and Confessions****3PM – Chaplet of the Divine Mercy
in English, Polish and Spanish****SWIECONKA CELEBRATED
THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 12th**

This is a Polish Tradition that takes its roots from the Blessing of Food that is to be shared on Easter. There will be a gathering to celebrate this tradition after the 10:30AM Mass Sunday, April 12th in the school cafeteria with prayer and fellowship.

**Of course, everyone is invited
and welcome to attend.**

**Annual Diaper
And Toiletries Collection**

Will begin next week and continue through the month of May. This year we will collect diapers (size 3 to 6), baby wipes, full size lotions, soaps, shampoos, as well as feminine hygiene products. Donations will be distributed to United Families in Plainfield and to the Plainfield Star Fish Food Bank. Donations of any type and amount are appreciated. Leave all items in the open area of the church or the Parish Office. Any questions please contact Theresa.cosmas@gmail.com (908- 889-1945).

Divine Mercy Sunday

Jesus Christ offers us a lifeline through his Divine Mercy — a powerful reminder that no sin is too great for God's forgiveness and love.

The Divine Mercy is so important that we celebrate it every year on the Sunday after Easter. This special feast day is a relatively new addition to the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar, officially designated by Pope Saint John Paul II on April 30, 2000. Yet the story of Divine Mercy goes back nearly 70 years earlier, when Jesus himself appeared to a young religious sister. As we explore Divine Mercy, we are also reminded that we are called to be Christ's merciful hands and feet in our hurting world. By being a conduit of Divine Mercy, we can uplift the poor, end suffering, and share compassion with those who are in need.

On February 22, 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina while she was in her cell at the convent. During this vision, Jesus asked her to paint an image of how he appeared to her. In 1934, St. Faustina commissioned a painting by Eugeniusz Kazimirowski depicting Jesus with two streams of light — one red and one white — coming from his heart with the signature "Jesus, I trust in You."

Jesus also told her that he wanted the Divine Mercy image solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and that Sunday would be known as the Feast of Mercy. Jesus promised complete forgiveness of sins for the soul that venerates the Divine Mercy image, confesses one's sins and receives Holy Communion.

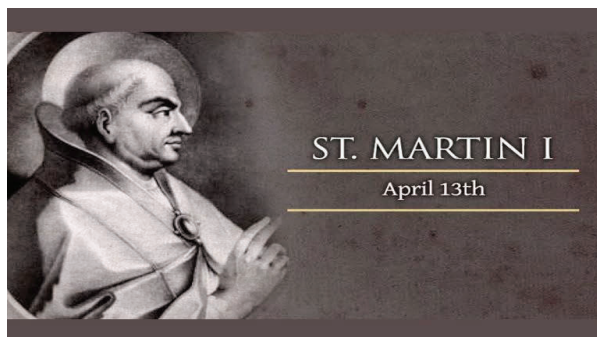
St. Faustina became known as the Secretary and the Apostle of Divine Mercy. At Jesus' request, she kept copious notes of her visions and conversations with him, which were later published in *Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul*.

In today's fast-paced world filled with distractions, remaining faithful isn't an easy task. Fear, loneliness and anxiety cause suffering for the individual and our communities. So many people live apart from the Church, the Bible and even prayer. It can even feel like this distance can't be closed.

Divine Mercy Sunday reminds us there is no suffering that is beyond God. He does not condemn us for our distance but instead invites us back — back to his Church, back to prayer, back to Jesus. Easter celebrates Christ's resurrection and victory over death and our sins. The second Sunday of Easter asks us to bring our sins and suffering to God.

Jesus did not turn away sinners, the marginalized, the sick or the forgotten. He invited them in without judgment but with love, forgiveness and healing. Divine Mercy Sunday offers us that same mercy today. It is particularly important when we feel unworthy.

When we confess our sins, repent and have a childlike trust in Jesus' Divine Mercy, we will know forgiveness. And when we receive forgiveness, we pass it on to our neighbor. By caring for the vulnerable, showing compassion instead of judgment, and forgiving rather than holding resentment, we become the hope and healing the world needs. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy helps us do this.



Martin I lay too sick to fight on a couch in front of the altar when the soldiers burst into the Lateran Basilica. He had come to the church when he heard the soldiers had landed. The thought of kidnapping a sick pope from the house of God didn't stop the soldiers from grabbing him and hustling him down to their ship.

Elected pope in 649, Martin I had gotten in trouble for refusing to condone silence in the face of wrong. At that time there existed a popular heresy that held that Christ didn't have a human will, only a divine will. The emperor had issued an edict that didn't support Monothelism (as it was known) directly, but simply commanded that no one could discuss Jesus' will at all.

Monothelism was condemned at a council convened by Martin I. The council affirmed, once again, that since Jesus had two natures, human and divine, he had two wills, human and divine. The council then went further and condemned Constans' edict to avoid discussion stating, "The Lord commanded us to shun evil and do good, but not to reject the good with the evil."

In his anger at this slap in the face, the emperor sent his soldiers to Rome to bring the pope to him. When Martin I arrived in Constantinople after a long voyage he was immediately put into prison. There he spent three months in a filthy, freezing cell while he suffered from dysentery. He was not allowed to wash and given the most disgusting food. After he was condemned for treason without being allowed to speak in his defense, he was imprisoned for another three months.

From there he was exiled to the Crimea where he suffered from the famine of the land as well as the roughness of the land and its people. But hardest to take was the fact that the pope found himself friendless. His letters tell how his own church had deserted him, and his friends had forgotten him. They wouldn't even send him oil or corn to live off of.

He died two years later in exile in the year 656, a martyr who stood up for the right of the Church to establish doctrine even in the face of imperial power.

Kick up your heels with the



BESTCHURCH SENIORS

The BestChurch Seniors will meet on Thursday, **April 16th, 12:30PM** In the church office. We always welcome new members. If you are a senior or almost a senior, please join us for a Spring Day on April 16th and as always invite a friend.

ROSARY SOCIETY

The Rosary is prayed every day before the 9AM Mass followed by the Divine Mercy Prayers.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on Thursdays after Mass with Benediction at 10:45AM.

Rosary Meeting is this Sunday, April 12th after the 9AM Mass in the Parish Office.



RICE BOWL

Rice Bowl boxes are located at all the entrances of the church. Your help is greatly appreciated. You may return them to the office or in the collection basket at Mass. Children in Religious Education classes can return them in class by April 22nd.



ANNUAL ²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

The 2026 Annual Appeal has begun! Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus. Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese.

Our parish goal this year is **\$29,654.60**, and we already collected **\$17,155.00!** Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing, scanning the QR code: Or use the envelopes available in the pews and entrances.



Collection for Easter, April 5th

Online...\$ 4,596

in Pew... \$ 12,259

Total ...\$ 16,855

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From Fr. Marcin

Today the Risen Lord appears to the disciples. To those who had abandoned Him, He offers His mercy and shows His wounds. The words He speaks to them are punctuated with a greeting that we hear three times in the Gospel: "Peace be with you!" Peace be with you! These are the words of the Risen Jesus as He encounters every human weakness and error.

God's mercy gives joy, a special joy, the joy of knowing that we have been freely forgiven. When, on the evening of Easter, the disciples see Jesus and hear Him say for the first time, "Peace be with you," they rejoice. They were locked behind closed doors out of fear, but they were also closed in on themselves, burdened by a sense of failure. They were disciples who had abandoned their Master; at the moment of His arrest, they had run away. Peter even denied Him three times, and one of their number — one from among them! — had betrayed Him.

Peace be with you! The Lord says these words a second time and adds, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He then gives the disciples the Holy Spirit to make them agents of reconciliation: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them." Not only do the disciples receive mercy, they become dispensers of the mercy that they themselves received.

Peace be with you! The Lord says these words a third time when, eight days later, He appears to the disciples and strengthens the flagging faith of Thomas. Thomas wants to see and touch. The Lord is not offended by Thomas's disbelief, but comes to his aid: "Put your finger here and see my hands." These are not words of defiance but of mercy. Jesus understands Thomas's difficulty. He does not treat Thomas with harshness, and the apostle is deeply moved by this kindness. From a disbeliever, he becomes a believer, and makes the simplest and finest confession of faith: "My Lord and my God!" These are beautiful words.

For the story of Thomas is in fact the story of every believer. There are times of difficulty when life seems to belie faith, moments of crisis when we need to touch and see. Like Thomas, it is precisely in those moments that we rediscover the heart of Christ, the Lord's mercy. In those situations, Jesus does not approach us in triumph and with overwhelming proofs. He does not perform earth-shattering miracles, but instead offers us heartwarming signs of His mercy. He comforts us in the same way He did in today's Gospel: He offers us His wounds. We must not forget this fact.

Jesus makes us see the wounds of our brothers and sisters. In the midst of our own crises and our difficulties, divine mercy often makes us aware of the sufferings of our neighbor. We think that we are experiencing unbearable pain and situations of suffering, and we suddenly discover that others around us are silently enduring even worse things. If we care for the wounds of our neighbor and pour upon them the balm of mercy, we find being reborn within us a hope that comforts us in our weariness.

Fr. Marcin

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