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Church: St Ann
243 Neponset Ave.
Dorchester, MA 02122

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SAINT ANN PARISH

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CONVENT -MERCY HOUSE
Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy
241 Neponset Avenue
Phone: 617-288-1202
www.sisterfaustina.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Sunday: Vigil (Saturday Evening) 4:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., (Folk Group)
11:30 a.m. (Choir) 5:30 p.m. (Teen
Choir)
Daily: 9:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday
7:00 a.m. in convent Monday
Saturday
Holy Day: Vigil 5:30 p.m., Day 9:00 a.m. &
7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Sean M Connor, Pastor
Rev. Arthur M. Calter, Senior Priest, In Residence
Rev. John J. Connolly, In Residence
Rev. Michael C. Harrington, In Residence
Rev. Hung Pham. In Residence

Mrs. Jean F. Hayward, Business Manager
Mr. Jack O'Connor, Parish Pastoral Council Vice
President

Mr. Bob Collins, Rel Ed Director/Youth Minister
Mrs. Terry Owens, Folk Group Director

SACRAMENTS

Confessions: Saturday 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
(lower church) & 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.
(upper church)
Baptism: Third Sunday of the month at 2:00
p.m. Instructions on preceding
Sunday at 12:30 p.m.
Call the rectory to register.
Marriages: Arrange with one of the priests at
least six months in advance
**Anointing
of the Sick:** Call the rectory for Sacraments
and visits to the sick and
homebound

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration: Saturdays 9:30am-3:30pm
Rosary: 8:30am Monday-Saturday lower church
Our Lady of Fatima: First Saturdays 8:00am
lower church
Divine Mercy Chaplet: M-F 2:30-3:30pm convent chapel
Sat. - 2:30-3:30pm lower church
Mass 3rd Friday at 6:00PM

PROGRAMS

Religious Education Classes: Sunday 10:30 am
Grades 1-6 and 6:30pm Grades 7- Confirmation
CYO Basketball, Mr. Michael Doyle
Color Guard, Ms. Eileen Cunningham 617-775-6644
St. Vincent DePaul Main Office 781-344-3100
St. Vincent DePaul Local Parish 617-825-6180

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The Parish Community of Saint Ann's in Neponset is in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. We believe that this tradition is a sacred gift given to us in Baptism and the inheritance bequeathed to us by those who have gone before us through the ages. With our Archbishop and Pastor we are united with our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, in our commitment to- and we are indeed shaped as a people by- the Eucharistic Assembly especially on the Lord's Day. We are strongly committed to maintaining our parish school and religious education programs. We are equally committed to the spiritual needs of those who are grieving or who are ill or because of advanced age are unable to celebrate the Sunday Eucharist. Through the Liturgy we hope to inspire and motivate our parish family to respond to the physical needs of the less fortunate of Christ's brothers and sisters. We are a parish that is deeply committed to the family.

We are a parish with a long and rich history and take great pride in celebrating our Catholic traditions.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	4/18	4:00	James Rust, 9th Anniv
SUN	4/19	8:00	Thanksgiving Mass 40th Anniv
		9:30	Divine Mercy Sunday
		11:30	The Doherty Family, Mem
		5:30	Catherine Benson, 5th Anniv
MON	4/20	9:00	Dennis Glynn, Mem
TUES	4/21	9:00	Michael Brown, Mem
WED	4/22	9:00	Brenda Dunn, Mem
THUR	4/23	9:00	Pauline Minchen, Mem
FRI	4/24	9:00	Scott Tracey, Mem
SAT	4/25	9:00	Patrick, Helen, James and Thomas Broderick, Mem
SUN	4/26	4:00	Margaret O'Donnell, 1st Anniv
		8:00	Special Intention
		9:30	Robert and Louise Bowden, Mem
		11:30	Mary Connolly, Anniv
		5:30	James Wallace, Mem

STEWARDSHIP REPORT**HOLY LAND**

Collected, April 10th.....\$1,294.00

CLERGY BENEFITS TRUST

Collected, April 12th.....\$7,078.00

LECTORS/EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

4/18	4:00	R. Pishkin	A. Lessard B. Lessard
4/19	8:00	F. Conti	M. Braudis
	9:30	B. Finn	E. Dunne N. Talalas
	11:30	D. Daley	J. Burke M. Browne
	5:30	M. Flynn	L. Moreno

ALTAR SERVERS

4/18	4:00	B. Mannion	M. Mannion S. Mannion
4/19	8:00	S. Grealish	
	9:30	R. Kulesza	K. Cotter
	11:30	A. Carle	J. Connolly
	5:30	C. Garvey	M. Garvey R. Garvey

RETREAT

Father Sean will be away on retreat with Father John Connolly until April 29th. Please keep both Father Sean and Father John in your prayers.

HOMILY OF THE HOLY FATHER***Mass in St. Peter's Square for the Canonization of******Sister Mary Faustina Kowalska***

“Confitemini Domino quoniam bonus, quoniam in saeculum misericordia eius”; “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever” (Ps 118:1). So the Church sings on the Octave of Easter, as if receiving from Christ’s lips these words of the Psalm; from the lips of the risen Christ, who bears the great message of divine mercy and entrusts its ministry to the Apostles in the Upper Room: “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you...Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained” (Jn20:21-23)

Before speaking these words, Jesus shows his hands and his side. He points, that is, to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in his heart, the source from which flows the great wave of mercy poured out on humanity. From that heart Sister Faustina Kowalska, the blessed whom from now on we will call a saint, will see two rays of light shining from that heart and illuminating the world: “*The two rays*”, Jesus himself explained to her one day, “*represent blood and water*” (Diary, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, P 132).

Blood and water! We immediately think of the testimony given by the Evangelist John, who when a soldier on Calvary pierced Christ’s side with his spear, sees blood and water flowing from it (cf. Jn 19: 34). Moreover, if the blood recalls the sacrifice of the Cross and the gift of the Eucharist, the water, in Johannine symbolism, represents not only Baptism but also the gift of the Holy Spirit (cf. Jn 3:5; 4:14: 7:37-39).

Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified: “*My daughter, say that I am love and mercy personified*”, Jesus will ask Sister Faustina (Diary, p.374). Christ pours out this mercy on humanity through the sending of the Spirit who, in the Trinity, is the Person-Love. And is not mercy love’s “second name” (cf. *Dives in misericordia*, n.7), understood in its deepest and most tender aspect, in its ability to take upon itself the burden of any need and, especially, understood in its deepest and most tender aspect, in its ability to take upon itself the burden of any need and, especially, in its immense capacity for forgiveness?

Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of *Sister Faustina Kowalska* to the whole church as a gift of God for our time. By divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind. In fact, it was between the First and

Second World Wars that Christ entrusted his message of mercy to her. Those who remember, who were witnesses and participants in the events of those years and the horrible sufferings they caused for millions of people, know well how necessary was the message of mercy.

Jesus told Sister Faustina: "*Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy*" (Diary, p. 132). Through the work of the Polish religious, this message has become linked for ever to the 20th century, the last of the second millennium and the bridge to the third. It is not a new message but can be considered a gift of special enlightenment that helps us to relive the Gospel of Easter more intensely, to offer it as a ray of light to the men and women of our time.

What will the years ahead bring us? What will man's future on earth be like? We are not given to know. However, it is certain that in addition to new progress there will unfortunately be no lack of painful experiences. But the light of divine mercy, which the Lord in a way wished to return to the world through Sister Faustina's charism will illumine the way for the men and women of the third millennium.

However, as the Apostles once did, today too humanity must welcome into the upper room of history the risen Christ, who shows the wounds of his Crucifixion and repeats: *Peace be with you!* Humanity must let itself be touched and pervaded by the Spirit who heals the wounds of the heart, pulls down the barriers that separate us from God and divided us from one another, and at the same time, restores the joy of the Father's love and of fraternal unity.

It is important then 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 will be called "*Divine Mercy Sunday*". In the various readings, the liturgy seems to indicate the path of mercy which, while re-establishing the relationship of each person with God, also creates new relations of fraternal solidarity among human beings. Christ has taught us that "man not only receives and experiences the mercy of God, but is also called "to practice mercy' toward others: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy' (Mt5:7)" (*Dives et misericordia*, n.14). He also showed us the many paths of mercy, which not only forgives sins but reaches out to all human needs. Jesus bent over every kind of human poverty, material and spiritual. His message of mercy continues to reach us through his hands held out to suffering man. This is how Sister Faustina saw him and proclaimed him to people on all the continents when, hidden in her convent at Lagiewniki in Krakow, she made her life a hymn to mercy: *Misericordias Domini in aeternum cantabo*.

Sister Faustina's canonization has a particular eloquence: by this act I intend today to pass this message on to the new millennium. I pass it on to all people, so that they will learn to know ever better the true face of God and the true face of their brethren.

In Fact, love of God and love of one's brothers and sisters are inseparable, as the First Letter of John has reminded us: "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments" (5:2). Here the Apostle reminds us of the truth of love, showing us its measure and criterion in the observance of the commandments.

It is not easy to love with a deep love, which lies in the authentic gift of self. This love can only be learned by penetrating the mystery of God's love. Looking at him, being one with his fatherly heart, we are able to look with new eyes at our brothers and sisters, with an attitude of unselfishness and solidarity, of generosity and forgiveness. All this is mercy!

To the extent that humanity penetrates the mystery of this merciful gaze, it will seem possible to fulfill the idea we heard in today's first reading: "The community of believers were of one heart and one mind. None of them ever claimed anything as his own; rather everything was held in common" (Acts 4:32). Here mercy gave form to human relations and community life; it constituted the basis for the sharing of goods. This led to the spiritual and corporal "works of mercy". Here mercy became a concrete way of being "neighbor" to one's neediest brothers and sisters.

Sister Faustina Kowalska wrote in her Diary: "*I feel tremendous pain when I see the sufferings of my neighbors. All my neighbors' sufferings reverberate in my own heart: I carry their anguish in my heart in such a way that it even physically destroys me. I would like all their sorrows to fall upon me, in order to relieve my neighbor*" (Diary, p 365). This is the degree of compassion to which love leads, when it takes the love of God as its measure!

It is this love which must inspire humanity today, if it is to face the crisis of the meaning of life, the challenges of the most diverse needs and, especially, the duty to defend the dignity of every human person. Thus the message of divine mercy is also implicitly a *message about the value of every human being*. Each person is precious in God's eyes; Christ gave his life for each one; to everyone the Father gives his Spirit and offers intimacy.

This consoling message is addressed above all to those who, afflicted by a particularly harsh trial or crushed by the weight of the sins they committed, have lost all confidence in life and are tempted to give in to despair.

To them the gentle face of Christ is offered; those rays from his heart touch them and shine upon them, warm them, show them the way and fill them with hope. How many souls have been consoled by the prayer “*Jesus, I trust in you*”, which Providence intimated through Sister Faustina! This simple act of abandonment to Jesus dispels the thickest clouds and lets a ray of light penetrate every life. *Jezu, ufam tobie.*

Misericordias Domini in aeternum cantabo (Ps88 (89):2). Let us too, the pilgrim Church, join our voice to the voice of Mary most holy, “Mother of Mercy”, to the voice of this new saint who sings of mercy with all God’s friends in the heavenly Jerusalem.

And you, Faustina, a gift of God to our time, a gift from the land of Poland to the whole Church, obtain for us an awareness of the depth of divine mercy; help us to have a living experience of it and to bear witness to it among our brothers and sisters. May your message of light and hope spread throughout the world, spurring sinners to conversion, calming rivalries and hatred and opening individuals and nations to the practice of brotherhood. Today, fixing our gaze with you on the face of the risen Christ, let us make our own your prayer of trusting abandonment and say with firm hope: Christ Jesus, I trust in you! *Jezu, ufam tobie!*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
The Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy
warmly invite you to celebrate
Divine Mercy Sunday
on
April 19, 2009

Program at St. Ann

8:00AM—Eucharistic Adoration and Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the lower church)

Program at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross

2PM—Confession 2:30PM—Eucharistic Adoration

3PM—Hour of Mercy and Chaplet of Divine Mercy

3:45PM—Holy Mass, with Most Rev. Emilio S. Allue, SDB as Main Celebrant

For more information, please call the Sisters at 617-288-1202.

SAINT ANN MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOUTH MINISTRY EVENT
Chunky’s Drive In Movie

This event has been rescheduled.

The new date is **Thursday, April 23rd**. The cost is \$15.00. We will meet at 10:00AM at Saint Ann’s. Space is limited to 30 spots. This is a very popular event so you must act fast. Keep in mind you must drop off the payment and permission slip at the rectory no later than **Monday, April 20th**.

NEIGHBORHOOD
CHILDREN’S THEATRE
 PRESENTS
ANNIE

The Neighborhood Children’s Theatre presents their spring production at St. Ann’s Parish Hall

Performance Dates

Thursday, April 23

Friday, April 24

Saturday, April 25

All Performances start at 7PM

Tickets are \$6.00

You may reserve tickets by
emailing rmob@verizon.net

This production is suitable for all ages and families and there are many neighborhood children in the production. St. Ann’s Parish is proud to host and support this event, so come and enjoy a night out with Annie and her friends.

PRAYERS FOR PARISHIONERS CORNER

Please note all requests must be in by 4:00PM Monday, Thank You. Please pray for:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Mary Tierney</i> | <i>Ann Hayward</i> |
| <i>Russell Brandi</i> | <i>Helen Maloney</i> |
| <i>Rita Gillespie</i> | <i>David O’Neill</i> |
| <i>Mary O’Sullivan</i> | <i>Connie O’Sullivan</i> |
| <i>Ethel & John McPherson</i> | <i>Kitty O’Donnell</i> |
| <i>Jean & Joseph Reardon</i> | <i>Mrs. Tighe</i> |