

## Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Inc

700 Middletown Avenue North Haven, CT 06473 Phone (203) 239-2557 Fax (203) 239-5035 www.ccacem.org



April 2019



### From the Desk of the Executive Director

#### **Greetings!**

During Lent we spent time in prayer, fasting and alms giving as a sacrifice to help us grow stronger in our relationship with Christ. As the days of Lent come to a close, we prepare for the Easter Triduum and the Feast Day of Divine Mercy!

In May, we honor all Mothers on May 12th-Mother's Day. In May we also offer Masses of remembrance and thanksgiving for the selfless service of countless men and women who served to protect our republic and way of life on Memorial Day, May 27th. Please read further down to see Mass times and locations. All are welcome to join us in celebrating the lives of those who died in



service to the United States. This time of year helps remind us not only of the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, our service members, but also the importance of memorializing all that have gone before us. What better way than to pay a visit to your loved ones in the cemetery and spend some time honoring their lives. On behalf of the CCA I wish you and your family a Blessed Easter.

Peace,

John Pinone

# **Mother's Day Special**

From May 4th through Mother's Day May 12th, any Mausoleum Crypt purchased from the Catholic Cemeteries Association will receive a Free Cameo and have no opening and closing charges (Pre-Need only. Does not apply to weekend and Holiday fees. May not be combined with any other offers.) when used. This is over a \$1,000.00 in savings for your family. Stop in or call and speak with a Family Service Advisor to take advantage of this special honoring all Mothers!

#### www.ccacem.org

Advanced Planning—The Gift that Lasts an Eternity



#### April 14th

#### Palm Crosses:

The Bible speaks to the significance of palms laid at Jesus feet during his entrance to Jerusalem.

"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in Heaven and glory in the highest."-LK 19.

The Cross symbolizes Christ's victory over death through His ultimate sacrifice to save sinners. Our Catholic Tradition speaks of families working together to create beautiful palm crosses to place on graves of their loved ones..



Palm branches symbolize peace and promote reconciliation with others.

A Gentle Reminder – Catholic Cemeteries Association welcomes the placing of Palm Crosses throughout our Cemetery grounds on Palm Sunday. All palm crosses will be removed by May 1st.

## **Dignity of Life Seminars**



This Archdiocesan approved program is successfully assisting parishioners with elder care and end-of-life planning. The goal of the session is to provide educational and resource information in the areas of burial, funeral, and estate planning. Let a panel of experts assist you and



your loved ones. Call our Outreach Coordinator, Barbara Gode for more information about other Outreach programs, (203) 780-8418.

Please visit our website online at **www.ccacem.org** for more information about us.

#### **Dignity of Life Seminars at a glance-**

April 3rd (Wednesday) Sts. Isidore & Maria Parish-St. Paul So. Wing Glastonbury, CT Times: 2pm, 6pm

April 4th, (Thursday) East Haven Senior Center-Activity Room East Haven, CT Time: 11:30am

> April 11th, (Thursday) Derby Senior Center Derby, CT Time: 12:45pm

April 17th (Wednesday) Avon Senior Center Time: 12:30pm

May 13th (Monday) Prospect Senior Center 6 Center St. Prospect, CT Time: 10:00 am

May 16th (Thursday) St. Martin de Porres 136 Dixwell Ave. New Haven, CT Times: 2pm, and 6pm

To register for a Dignity of Life Seminar, please contact our Outreach Coordinator, Barbara Gode at 203 780-8418

## Featured Cemetery...



Mt. Olivet Cemetery 669 Platt Road Watertown, CT

Manager: Robert Gambordella

Office: 860 274-4641

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

## Memorial Mass Celebrations-

All Masses held on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th unless otherwise





noted. Check with local Cemetery Managers for more information:

#### **All Saints Cemetery-North Haven**

Manager: Chuck Grzywacz Phone: 203 239-2557 Place: Mausoleum Time: 10:30 AM Mass Celebrant: Fr. Timothy Meehan

#### **Calvary Cemetery-Waterbury**

Manager: Stephen Komar Phone: 203 754-9105 Place: Queen of Peace Mausoleum Time: 11 AM Mass

#### St. James-Naugatuck

249 Cross St. Manager: Steve Komar Time: 8 AM Outdoor Mass If inclement weather, gather at St. Vincent Church

#### St. Mary-East Hartford

930 Burnside Ave. Manager: Bruce McCann Phone: 860 646-3722 Place: Mausoleum Time: 9:00AM

#### St. Mary-New Britain

1141 Stanley Street (new) Manager: Paul Piscitelli Phone: 860 225-1938 Place: Mausoleum Time: 10:00 AM Mass

## Mt. St. Benedict-Bloomfield

Manager: Robert Maher Phone: 860 242-0738 Place: Mausoleum Time: 10:00 AM Mass

#### Mt. Olivet-Watertown

Manager: Robert Gambordella Phone: 860 274-4641 Place: Mausoleum Time: 8:00 AM Mass

#### Mt. St. Peter-Derby

Manager: Scott Verespie Phone: 203 735-8026 Place: Mausoleum Time: 9:00AM Celebrant: Fr. Jeff Gubiotti

#### **St. Francis-Torrington**

863 So. Main St. Manager: Lisa Richards Phone: 860 482-4670 Place: Immaculate Heart of Mary section outdoors-if inclement weather, a tent will be provided Time: 12:00 noon Celebrant: Fr. Robert Tucker



## Happy Mother's Day-May 12th

## Pray for Peace!

All are welcome Monday evenings at



## 7:00 pm to pray the Rosary. **St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish**-St. Therese Church located at 555 Middletown Ave. RT 17. North Haven

Email us your prayer petitions. email: bgode@ccacem.org

The Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who **trusts** in him. -**Psalm** 32:10

# **Divine Mercy: the Gift of Easter**

by <u>Pope John Paul II</u>

Pope John Paul II's Homily of April 22, 2001, as he



celebrated Mass of the Divine Mercy in St. Peter's Square a year after the canonization of Sr. Faustina Kowalska, a 20thcentury Polish religious known as the apostle of Divine Mercy.

LARGER WORK L'Osservatore Romano PUBLISHER & DATE Vatican, April 25, 2001

1. "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one; I died, and behold I am alive for evermore" (Rv 1:17-18). We heard these comforting words in the Second Reading taken from the Book of Revelation. They invite us to turn our

gaze to Christ, to experience his reassuring presence. To each person, whatever his condition, even if it were the most complicated and dramatic,the Risen One repeats: "Fear not!"; I died on the Cross but now "I am alive for evermore"; "*I am the first and the last, and the living one".* 

"The first", that is, the source of every being and the first-fruits of the new creation; "the last", the definitive end of history; "the living one", the inexhaustible source of life that triumphed over death for ever. In the Messiah, crucified and risen, we recognize the features of the Lamb sacrificed on Golgotha, who implores forgiveness for his torturers and opens the gates of heaven to repentant sinners; we glimpse the face of the immortal King who now has "the keys of Death and Hades" (Rv 1:18).

#### Believing in crucified Son means believing in mercy

2. "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endures for ever!" (Ps 117:1). Let us make our own the Psalmist's exclamation which we sang in the Responsorial Psalm: *the Lord's mercy endures for ever!* In order to understand thoroughly the truth of these words, let us be led by the liturgy to the heart of the event of salvation, which unites Christ's Death and Resurrection with our lives and with the world's history. This miracle of mercy has radically changed humanity's destiny. It is a miracle in which is unfolded the fullness of the love of the Father who, for our redemption, does not even draw back before the sacrifice of his Only-begotten Son.

In the humiliated and suffering Christ, believers and non-believers can admire a surprising solidarity, which binds him to our human condition beyond all imaginable measure. The Cross, even after the Resurrection of the Son of God, "speaks and never ceases to speak of God the Father, who is absolutely faithful to his eternal love for man.... Believing in this love means believing in mercy (*Dives in misericordia,* n. 7). Let us thank the Lord for his love, which is stronger than death and sin. It is revealed and put into practice as mercy in our daily lives, and prompts every person in turn to have "mercy" towards the Crucified One. Is not loving God and loving one's neighbour and even one's "enemies", after Jesus' example, the programme of life of every baptized person and of the whole Church?

3. With these sentiments we are celebrating the Second Sunday of Easter, which since last year, the year of the Great Jubilee, is also called "*Divine Mercy Sunday*". It is a

great joy for me to be able to join all of you, dear pilgrims and faithful who have come from various nations to commemorate, after one year, the canonization of Sr Faustina Kowalska, witness and messenger of the Lord's merciful love. The elevation to the honours of the altar of this humble religious, a daughter of my land, is not only a gift for Poland but for all humanity. Indeed the message she brought is the appropriate and incisive answer that God wanted to offer to the questions and expectations of human beings in our time, marked by terrible tragedies. Jesus said to Sr Faustina one day: "Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy" (*Diary*, p. 132). Divine Mercy! This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity at the dawn of the third millennium.

#### God's merciful love flows from wounded heart of Christ

4. The Gospel, which has just been proclaimed, helps us to grasp the full sense and value of this gift. The Evangelist John makes us share in the emotion felt by the Apostles in their meeting with Christ after his Resurrection. Our attention focuses on the gesture of the Master, who transmits to the fearful, astounded disciples the mission of being ministers of divine Mercy. He shows them his hands and his side, which bear the marks of the Passion, and tells them: "*As the Father has sent me, even so I send you*" (Jn 20:21). Immediately afterwards "*he breathed on them, and said to them,* "*Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained*" (Jn 20:22-23). Jesus entrusted to them the gift of "forgiving sins", a gift that flows from the wounds in his hands, his feet, and especially from his pierced side. From there a wave of mercy is poured out over all humanity. Let us relive this moment with great spiritual intensity. Today the Lord also shows us his glorious wounds and his heart, an inexhaustible source of light and truth, of love and forgiveness.

5. The Heart of Christ! His "Sacred Heart" has given men everything: redemption, salvation, sanctification. St Faustina Kowalska saw coming from this Heart that was overflowing with generous love, two rays of light which illuminated the world. "The two rays", according to what Jesus himself told her, "represent the blood and the water" (*Diary*, p. 132). The blood recalls the sacrifice of Golgotha and the mystery of the Eucharist; the water, according to the rich symbolism of the Evangelist John, makes us think of Baptism and the Gift of the Holy Spirit (cf. Jn 3:5; 4:14).

Through the mystery of this wounded heart, the restorative tide of God's merciful love continues to spread over the men and wome

6. "Jesus, I trust in you". This prayer, dear to so many of the devout, clearly expresses the attitude with which we too would like to abandon ourselves trustfully in your hands, O Lord, our only Saviour.

You are burning with the desire to be loved and those in tune with the sentiments of your heart learn how to build the new civilization of love. A simple act of abandonment is enough to overcome the barriers of darkness and sorrow, of doubt and desperation. The rays of your divine mercy restore hope, in a special way, to those who feel

overwhelmed by the burden of sin.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, help us always to have this trust in your Son, our Redeemer. Help us too, St Faustina, whom we remember today with special affection. Fixing our weak gaze on the divine Saviour's face, we would like to repeat with you: "Jesus, I trust in you". Now and for ever. Amen.

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We pray...

Jesus, 9 Trust in You now and forever!

St. Faustina...

pray for us!

Amen.

