

St. Mary of the Assumption

14908 Main Street, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 8, 2018

Program

- 1:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Opening Prayer (see prayer on reverse)
- 1:35 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 1:35 p.m. Rosary
- 2:05 p.m. Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image (see prayer on reverse)
- 3:00 p.m. Chanting of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Plenary Indulgence Prayers
- 3:20 p.m. Reflections on Divine Mercy by Father LaHood
- 3:30 p.m. Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Restrooms are in the white parish office building across from the side door of the church.

*Lite refreshments will be served immediately afterwards in the Red Building until 4:30 p.m.
Please join us!*

Together with our pastor, Reverend Father LaHood, the Sodality at St. Mary's is sponsoring today's celebration of Mercy Sunday. If you would like to know more about us, or have ideas for other spiritual, faith-based events, please call Ann Wittenauer at 301-627-2626.

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Opening Prayer

O Greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to your mercy – to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out. Gracious God, do not reject the prayers of this earth's exiles! O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through, and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to you, we implore You: anticipate us with Your grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence, as Your children, await Your final coming – that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope: Through His merciful Heart, as through an open gate, we pass through to heaven. (*Diary*, 1570).

Prayer during Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image

O Eternal Love, You command Your Sacred Image to be painted
And reveal to us the inconceivable fount of mercy,
You bless whoever approaches Your rays,
And a soul all black will turn into snow.

O Sweet Jesus, it is here You established the throne of Your mercy
To bring joy and hope to sinful man.
From Your open Heart, as from a pure fount,
Flows comfort to a repentant heart and soul.

May praise and glory for this Image
Never cease to stream from man's soul.
May praise of God's mercy pour from every heart,
Now, and at every hour, and forever and ever (*Diary*, 1).

Plenary Indulgence

“The plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions (**sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff**) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, **or** who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the **Our Father** and the **Creed**, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g., **Merciful Jesus, I trust in You!**).

“Additional provisions are offered to those who are impeded from fulfilling these requirements, but wish to acquire the plenary indulgence.” Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy newsletter, Vol. XXXIX, February 2003