

# SCARBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISHES

## CHURCHES OF ST PETER, ST JOSEPH, ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Part of the Middlesbrough Diocesan Trust: Reg. Charity No. 233748

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12 APRIL 2026: DIVINE MERCY / DOUBTING THOMAS SUNDAY: YEAR A DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK 1



Jesus, I trust in you

### FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY

This Feast Day **originated** from the **diary message of a young Polish nun**. The message is nothing new, but it is a reminder of what the Church has always taught through Scripture and Tradition: that **God is merciful and forgiving and that we, too, must show mercy and forgiveness**. But in the Divine Mercy devotion, the message takes on a powerful new focus, calling people to a deeper understanding that God's love is unlimited and available to everyone - especially the greatest sinners.

**The message and devotion** to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the **writings of St Faustina** (St Maria Faustyna Kowalska of the Blessed Sacrament OLM, born Helena Kowalska; **1905–1938**), an **uneducated Polish nun** who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread. **The message of mercy is that God loves us - all of us - no matter how great our sins. He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with complete trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust.**

**EXPLANATION OF IMAGE** The Divine Mercy revealed to St Faustina was **the Image**. Jesus appeared to her with **hand raised in a blessing**, and **rays radiating** from His **heart** and said, *"Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus I trust in You. I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and throughout the world. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish"* (Diary 47-48) *"The two rays denote Blood and Water. the pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when my agonised heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father."* (#299)

During the course of the revelations to St Faustina, Jesus asked that a Feast Day dedicated to the Divine Mercy be celebrated on the **first Sunday following Easter**, when the Image of Divine Mercy be **solemnly venerated**. The liturgical texts are already suited to this request. The Feast Day was incorporated into the Church calendar by **St Pope John Paul II in 2000**, during the Canonisation of St Faustina. The Church encourages celebration of devotion to the Divine Mercy on this Day by offering a **Plenary Indulgence**. For those, who have been wondering, whether it is still possible to receive the special Plenary Indulgence for Divine Mercy Sunday, this answer is yes. In the original Vatican decree of 2002 that establishing the plenary indulgence, and has perpetual force, there is a special provision *"For those who cannot go to church or the seriously ill"*. It clearly states that *"all who for a just cause cannot leave their homes ... may obtain a plenary indulgence on Divine Mercy Sunday"*. This does not remove the **3 conditions** which must be fulfilled to receive the plenary indulgence: **1)** a sacramental confession, **2)** a Eucharistic communion, and **3)** a prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff. The decree clearly states that these must be done *"as soon as possible"*. The decree reads as follows: *"if totally detesting any sin ... and with the intention of fulfilling as soon as possible the three usual conditions, will recite the Our Father and the Creed before a devout image of Our Merciful Lord Jesus and, in addition, pray a devout invocation to the Merciful Lord Jesus (eg. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you)."* The decree has many other special provisions, including *"the sick and those who nurse them"*. For the complete official decree, visit: [www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/tribunals/apost\\_penit/documents/rc\\_trib\\_appen\\_doc\\_20020629\\_decree-ii\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/tribunals/apost_penit/documents/rc_trib_appen_doc_20020629_decree-ii_en.html) Divine Mercy Website: <https://www.thedivinemercy.org>

### THE MEANING OF EACH SYMBOL OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE:

Since the early centuries of Christianity, the Paschal Candle has been one of the most expressive symbols of the Easter Vigil and the entire Easter Season. On the night of Holy Saturday, the priests celebrating the Vigil Mass light it as a symbol of the Risen Christ. **Light: Represents the risen Christ**, who is the *"true light that enlightens everyone who comes into the world"* and who dispels the darkness caused by sin and its consequences. **Flame or Fire:** The gesture of the priest sharing the flame of the Paschal Candle with the faithful at the Easter Vigil symbolizes the faith that we all receive and share. **Cross:** Always the central symbol. It represents the path we must take to reach the Father, as Christ taught us. **Grains:** There are **five grains of incense**, usually red in colour, embedded in the candle representing the **five wounds of Jesus**: the three nails that pierced his hands and feet, the spear thrust into his right side, and the thorns on his head. **Alpha and Omega:** The letters **A (alpha) and Ω (omega)**, the first and last of the Greek alphabet, indicate that Christ's Passover, the beginning and end of time and eternity, is an occasion to receive that ever-new strength that comes from God, in the specific year we are living. **Year:** The current year symbolizes God in the present, as the Master and Lord of all eternity. **Lamb:** Christ is represented by the figure of a lamb, a symbol of meekness. God rules the universe, but does so with mercy. That is why His justice is truly capable of saving. His power lies in love.

**MASS TIMES - WEEK COMMENCING 12 APRIL 2026 – YEAR A** **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**Masses at St Peter's Church are also LIVE STREAMED via YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@stpeterschurchscarborough>

Saturday	11	5.30pm	St Edward's	
Sunday	12	9.30am	St Joseph's	<b>DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY</b>
		9.30am	St Peter's (Polish)	
		11.30am	St Peter's	
Monday	13	10am	St Joseph's	
Tuesday	14	5.30pm	St Edward's	
Wednesday	15	10am	St Peter's	
Thursday	16	10am	St Joseph's	
Friday	17	10am	St Peter's	
Saturday	18	10am	St Peter's	

**MASS IN THE SYRO-MALABAR RITE** celebrated monthly **9.30am** on **4th Sunday of month** at St Edward's Church.**CONFESSIONS** Normal times **Sat: 10.30-11am** at St Peter's & **5-5.20pm** at St Edward's; **Sun: 9-9.20am** at St Joseph's; & **by request****ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT** weekdays **9.30-10am** at St Peter's, 1 hour before Mass at St Joseph's, 5pm St Edward's  
**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (Children only)** St Peter's & St Joseph's Sundays weekly; **PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER: APRIL** for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer. **DIVINE MERCY** Fridays before Mass. **LEGION OF MARY** Saturdays 11am **STATIONS & SACRED HEART DEVOTION** alternating Fridays after Mass.

**LATELY DEAD:** Denis Proctor, Daniel (Danny) Murphy; **ANNIV'S:** Terry Furness, Sharon Walsh, Susan Hoggarth, Jacqui Gilleard, Gary Ledden, Joseph Doody, Canon Donal O'Byrne, Fr Norman Jacobson; **ATTENDANCE: Holy Thursday:** St Joseph's **85**; St Peter's **118**; St Edward's **80**; **Good Friday:** St Peter's **189**; St Joseph's **101**; **Easter Vigil:** St Joseph's **62**; St Peter's **191**; **Easter Sunday:** St Edward's **75**; St Joseph's **214**; St Peter's **336**; **OFFERINGS:** Loose Plate: **£60**; Gift Aid Envelopes: **£211**; Av. Standing Orders: **£740** (av.); Contactless **£1,121**; Polish: **£30**; **Total £2,162. Thank you.**

**ONLINE GIVING** You can use the QR code (right) or you can donate online at [donate.mydona.com/scarborough-parishes](https://donate.mydona.com/scarborough-parishes), or direct from your account: Parish bank account details: Barclays Bank Account No: **50003417**, Sort Code: **20-56-90**, Account name: **Diocese of Middlesbrough**. Include a reference - your name. If you wish to **Gift Aid** your offerings, please sign a **Gift Aid Form** if you haven't already done so). **300 CLUB WINNERS: £100 No.87.** £1 for 2 numbers to join.



**EASTER REFLECTION** *Easter Sunday is not the end of the Easter season and celebrations. We continue our 50 days of celebrating and rejoicing in the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, up to Pentecost on 24 May. The first eight days of the Easter Season make up the Octave of Easter and are celebrated as solemnities of the Lord. The Sundays of this season are Paschal Sundays and, after Easter Sunday itself, are called the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Sundays of Easter. On the fortieth day after Easter (14 May this year) the Ascension is celebrated. The 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day - as one "great Sunday." These above all others are the days for the singing of the Alleluia. The Catechism calls Easter 'The Feast of Feasts and Solemnity of Solemnities'.*

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** is this **Sunday 12 April (today)**. Divine Mercy devotions begin at **2.30pm** at St Peter's Church, to include Chaplet, Veneration of Image, Rosary and Benediction.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION** resumes this **Wed 15 April** in school & in St Peter's Parish Centre.

**HOLY HOUR FOR DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE** The Bishops of England and Wales have arranged a Holy Hour to take place across the country at **4:30pm on Sun 19 April**. We will hold a Holy Hour for this intention at **2.30pm** at St Peter's Church.

**MEETING FOR ALL CATECHISTS & CHILDRENS LITURGY LEADERS 11am Wed 22 April** in St Peter's Parish Centre. There is a Catechist **on line training** course beginning in May which we need encourage & to talk about.

**BLESSED EASTER WATER FROM THE EASTER VIGIL** available at all churches. **Bless yourself** at Holy Communion time, & your home and car as a pledge of God's protection and a reminder of baptism. Holy water bottles in Holy Shops.

**TOMB TO MISSION** On Easter Sunday our **Diocesan Faith Formation Coordinator, Nicola Sweetman**, (in collaboration with the Diocese of Leeds Faith Formation department) will start a new social media series **Tomb to Mission**, following the journey of the first disciples from discovering the empty tomb to being empowered for mission by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Follow along for Gospel reflections, prayer prompts, catechetical reflections and practical ways to live out our daily mission. Follow: **#tombtomission #easter \*discipleship #faithjourney**

**NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** Please collect **your box** from back of church if you have not already done so.

**MASS INTENTIONS** Offerings for a Mass paid via contactless device—it is **ESSENTIAL to give a handwritten note of the Intention**. We will **not** know this information & your Mass may not be said. Mark it as **'paid by contactless'**.

**THANK YOU** for all your Easter gifts and cards, & for the help of our all volunteers in our churches over the Holy Week: visiting priests, cleaners, music, flower & Easter Garden arrangers, Altar Servers, singers, organists, Ministers (Word & Eucharist), foot-washing volunteers & hospitality teams, & for your ongoing help through the year across the 3 churches.

**SUNDAY SMILE:** (*Motorist's Prayer*) *Lord, help me to never drive faster than my guardian angel can fly.*

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL VOLUNTEERS** In line with the recommendation from the **Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (ICCSA)** report, all existing and new volunteers must now undertake safeguarding training as part of their role in the parish every 3 years – even if the role does not require DBS clearance. For those who DO NOT require a DBS clearance: this involves reading a 2-sided A4 sheet in full (LMS Training Module 1) **Please collect a training sheet from the sacristy, read it in full and sign the form**