

KNIGHTHOOD

Council 15659 - St. Lucy of Racine

Divine Mercy Explained

A big part of the Jubilee of Mercy is a regional initiative to get the message out to each family in parishes. The Divine Mercy devotion has been growing but still not widely known by many. Deacon Eric and committee put together a great plan for the year starting with handing out a booklet in December.

Divine Mercy Explained is a booklet from best-selling author Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, who deftly provides you with a brief and easy-to-understand introduction to the Divine Mercy message and devotion. You'll read about the history and context of Divine Mercy, the essential elements of the devotion, and how you can live the message. Includes the full prayers of the Divine Mercy Novena and St. Faustina's Litany to Divine Mercy, as well as two bonus appendices: valuable Divine Mercy prayers and Divine Mercy wisdom from Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI. **Watch for the sign-up e-mail to help hand-out these booklets soon.**

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016



Merciful Like The Father

Pope Francis announced the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy earlier this year. Jubilee years were part of the Old Testament law. The Catholic Church took up this tradition in the year 1300, and by 1450 ordinary jubilee years were set for every 25 years. Pope Francis' invitation is an "extraordinary" jubilee year because we were not due to have another until 2025, falling out of the every 25-years pattern.

Beginning on Dec. 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and to conclude on Nov. 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Church will celebrate an Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. During jubilee years, Catholics have the opportunity to seek out special indulgences and confessors are given special faculties. Pope Francis explains in his papal bull that he wants a greater use of the Sacrament of Penance during this year. He wants Lent to be a special time during which parishes offer more opportunities for the sacrament than usual. Keep an eye out for all of these special activities.

December Events

- Light Up for Christ
- December 1st, 8:00 p.m.
- Book of James study continues
- Sunday Readings Bible Study
- Every Saturday at 7:00 a.m.
- Divine Mercy Explained booklet
- Tentatively 5th - 6th Masses
- Keep Christ in Christmas Sale
- 5th - 6th, 12th - 13th, 19th - 20th
- Christmas Baskets Food Drive
- 5th - 6th, 12th - 13th
- Immaculate Conception Masses
- 7th at St. Sebastian, 5:30 p.m.
- 8th at St. Lucy, 6:30 p.m.
- District Officers Meeting
- 9th at St. Sebastian, 7:00 p.m.
- Men of Christ Leadership
Retreat, 11th - 12th
- Holy Hour of Eucharistic
Adoration
- 14th at St. Lucy, 6:30 p.m.
- Members Meeting
- 17th at St. Lucy, 6:30 p.m.
- Meal for the Homeless
- 19th at HALO, 4:00 p.m.
- "Rediscover Jesus" Book
- 24th - 25th Masses
- Assembly 1207 / 4th Degree
- 28th at McGivney Hall, 7:30 p.m.

January Events

- Baby Bottle Campaign for Crisis
Pregnancy Centers
- Book of James study continues
- Day of Prayer for the Unborn
- 2nd and 3rd Degree Lessons

February Events

- Retreat at Redemptorist Center
- 40 Cans for Lent

**Details on Events Calendar, Blog,
and frequent e-mails!**

"Serve Others"

Grand Knight Reflection

Merciful Like The Father. This is the theme of the Jubilee of Mercy starting December 8th. Of course mercy (and justice) are part of who God the Father is. And of course mercy and justice are always there even when there is no special jubilee. So what does it mean to us to be "merciful like the father?"

It seems me that our guide is mercy himself, Jesus the Christ. Jesus showed us the example of mercy with his interactions with sinners he encountered and in his teachings. Think about the woman at the well. He knew what her sins were and she admitted her faults. He did not condemn her (just her sins) but also invited her to change her life and to sin no more. The same story with the women caught in adultery. He loves us so much that he enters into our lives where we are but invites us to change our path.

In the parables we see many teachings about how we can extend mercy to others and how we can accept mercy ourselves. For many years I thought that the Prodigal Son was only about the son. But one day the light bulb went off in my head and realized this parable is more about the Father's mercy! The son sinned greatly and squandered his inheritance so much so that even the son felt he did not deserve to be forgiven or to be a member of his father's family. Yet his father not only forgave him, he threw a party to show that he WAS a member of his family and restored his inheritance.

So it is with us as we confess our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and with how we then extend the mercy received to our family members. Especially those that have strayed from the Catholic faith, those that have hurt us deeply, and those we really don't like very much.

We can do no less than be "merciful like the father."

God Bless!

