

## Easter Message 2021 – by Bishop Daniel Miehm-Bishop of the diocese of Peterborough

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Diocese of Peterborough,

The COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions have brought much concern, anxiety and suffering to so many people and have certainly impacted the life of our parishes.

Between closures, re-opening, capacity limits and safety protocols, it has been very difficult for us to gather in the usual way. Nonetheless, even with fears about a new wave of the virus, the rollout of vaccines promises that the end of this time of tribulation is in sight. I am grateful able to return to our churches and look forward to the time when we can all gather again safely. I wish to thank

the many people who have worked so hard to enable us to gather under unusual circumstances, including our priests and deacons, parish staff, and many committed volunteers. Across our diocese, legions of people have assisted with cleaning, implementing the required safety protocols, and using media old and new to reach out to parishioners. I also wish to thank the many people who have continued to support their parish financially through these challenging times, and especially during the periods of lockdown. Your generosity has been crucial to the life of the Church and is much appreciated. We must be vigilant for a little while longer in adhering to the various precautions and protocols. It is natural to be growing frustrated with the pandemic restrictions and to long for an end to this. Perhaps, as we begin Holy Week, we could resolve to let go of some of that negativity, joining whatever hardship we have endured to the suffering of Jesus on the cross. This could be a transformational Holy Week and Easter season, if we but ask God for the grace to help us do that. Mark's account of the Lord's resurrection ends on the subdued note that the women disciples fled from the tomb on Easter morning, saying nothing to anyone "for they were afraid." Yet we know that was not the end of the story, for the news of the resurrection was too good not to share. For those first disciples, joy overcame fear. Let that be so for us, in these challenging times: weighed down though we are with many concerns, let us be confident that the risen Lord is with us, and his presence fills us with the joy, hope and courage to face anything that may come. May God bless you this Holy Week and Easter!

Yours in Christ,  
+Most. Rev. Daniel Miehm Bishop of Peterborough



## OUR PARISH BULLETIN



Our Lady of Mercy Church  
Honey Harbour



St. John the Baptist Church  
Port Severn

### Address:

**Our Lady of Mercy Parish  
P.O. Box 126  
2596 Honey Harbour Rd.  
Honey Harbour, On P0E1E0**

**Fr. Martin Dalida – Parish Priest**

**Tel. 705 756 2311**

**Email: [office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca](mailto:office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca)  
Website: <https://www.ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca/>**

### Weekend Masses

**Sunday 9 A.M. - Port Severn**

**Sunday 11 A.M. - Honey Harbour**

**Weekday Masses  
(See inside bulletin)**

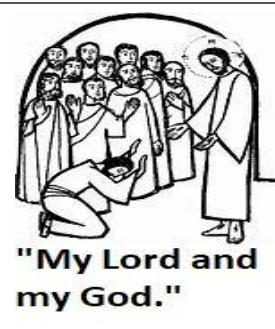
**Confession: 20 minutes before weekend Masses**

**Wedding and Baptism: Call the office**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER (Divine Mercy Sunday)

April 11, 2021

**Gospel Today:** John 20:19-31—"Thomas, the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of the Church that comes after this first community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human nature seeks hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative in obtaining this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe.



### April 4 Sunday Collections

 \$555 - Regular Sunday Offerings, \$690-Easter Offerings  
\$20 - Lenten Charity (D & P)

### Weekday Masses (Honey Harbour Chapel)

Wed April 14, 11am -

Thurs April 15, 11am Mass - For peace in the world

Friday April 16, 11am Mass - For

### Weekend Masses – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Sunday April 18, 9am Mass @ Port Severn – For People of the parish

11am - Honey Harbour – + Kimberly, Selina , Gerard,  
Kenneth by Mark&Maryrose Vessair

**Covid-19 Vaccines For Ontario**— "COVID-19 Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses like COVID-19. Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. This can reduce your risk of developing COVID-19 and make your symptoms milder if you do get it. Supply will not arrive all at once, so distribution will happen in stages. The goal is for everyone in Ontario to be able to get a Covid- 19 vaccination if they want one, as soon as enough doses are available. After independent and thorough scientific reviews for safety, efficacy and quality, Health Canada has approved four vaccines for use in Canada: Pfizer-BioNTech – approved on December 9, 2020, Moderna – approved on December 23, 2020, AstraZeneca – approved on February 26, 2021, and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – approved on March 5, 2021."

### Stay-at-Home Order

— "The provincial government today declared a 28-day April 7, 2021 State of Emergency and issued a Stay-at-Home Order. These measures are taken in addition to the Emergency Brake Shutdown that took effect on Saturday. The Stay-at-Home Order does not impinge upon the 15% capacity limit for places of worship and therefore parish churches remain open for Sunday and Daily Mass. The Missions may be opened or closed at the discretion of the pastor. Under the current circumstances while remaining open, you might encourage parishioners to access televised options for worship. The *Stay-at-Home Order* does not apply to parishioners making the trip from home to the church."

*Bishop Daniel Miehm*

Our parish of Our Lady of Mercy and St. John the Baptist will remain open for Sunday Masses observing the limit at 15% capacity during the 28-day lockdown. If you are attending Mass in Port Severn, please call our office tel: 7057562311 or email: [office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca](mailto:office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca) to make sure there's space for you. If you come to Mass in Honey Harbour, no need to call for reservation as the church building has enough space to accommodate everyone.

**Divine Mercy** (Jesus Instruction and Promises through Faustina Kowalska) I want the image solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. Let all mankind recognize My unfathomable mercy. It is a sign for the end times; after it will come the day of justice. Souls perish in spite of My bitter Passion. I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My Mercy. If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity... tell souls about this great mercy of Mine, because the awful day, the day of My justice, is near. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy.

**Pope Francis** — Pope Francis on Jan. 30 urged those charged with passing on the principles of the Catholic faith to consider the teachings of the Second Vatican Council as sacrosanct, saying that to be Catholic one must adhere to the reforms brought about by the landmark event. "No concession to those who deny Vatican II Teachings. You can be with the church and therefore follow the council, or you can not follow the council or interpret it in your own way, as you want, and you are not with the church. The council is the magisterium of the church. On this point we must be demanding, severe. The council cannot be negotiated. I think often about a group of bishops who, after Vatican I, left ... to continue the 'true doctrine' that wasn't that of Vatican I. Today, they ordain women. The severest attitude, to guard the faith without the magisterium of the church, brings you to ruin", he said. The Second Vatican Council, called by Pope John XXIII and held in Rome from 1962 to 1965, brought about a number of reforms for the global Catholic Church. The council's effect has been hotly debated by Catholics in the decades since the event, with some movements now even choosing to go back to a Latin-language celebration of the Mass.