

## **Divine Mercy Sunday 2020 -**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

One of the most powerful Psalms to pray when we might be feeling abandoned by God is the "Great Hallel." It is an extraordinary hymn of praise for all that God has done to care for and rescue His people who are in need. The refrain after each verse of Psalm 136 is, "For his mercy endures forever." It is praise for God's steadfast love in rescuing humanity from their time of misery.

The Gospel for Sunday reminds us that locked doors cannot stop Jesus from appearing in our midst. The Body of Christ has lived through plagues, wars, and every form of persecution. We have hope knowing that the Holy Spirit came upon us when we were baptized. He came upon us when we were confirmed. He has come to us countless times in our lives since then as well. Just as Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit onto His disciples, He is in our midst. He wishes us peace, and He breathes the Holy Spirit upon us today. We, His Church, are united in the communion of saints, with each other and with our heavenly allies, the saints who have gone before us, along with the host of angels who serve God and protect God's people. Though these days may seem dark and long, no one knows what the new day shall bring. God raises up saints, and aid is provided by unexpected allies. The dawn of a new day will come. In God's time, the plague will end, and His Church will rejoice once again.

In every great calamity, there are heroes that are generated. Today, the case would be with doctors, nurses, pharmacists and all other health care workers who have formed the front lines in response to the COVID-19. There have been some of these who have given their very lives, as Catholics, who were motivated by their faith. Numerous priests and religious persons have also made similar sacrifices. Heroes or saints, each of us is called to holiness, and each of us can do our part. For most of us, that means remaining at home and praying. Please do what you can. May God continue to bless all of us. We will get through this. Pray the rosary every day. Jesus, I trust in You!

In Christ,

Fr. Dan