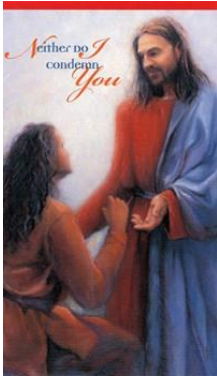


# WORD OF LIFE: APRIL 2019

*Recommended dates are provided, but you are welcome to use these materials at any time!*

## FEATURED THIS MONTH...

### April 28, 2019: Divine Mercy Sunday



Each year, on the Second Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates [Divine Mercy Sunday](#). Mankind's need for the message of Divine Mercy took on dire urgency in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when civilization again began to lose the understanding of the sanctity and inherent dignity of human life.

In the 1930s, Jesus chose a humble Polish nun, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, to receive private revelations concerning Divine Mercy that were recorded in her Diary. St. Faustina's Diary records 14 occasions when Jesus requested that a Feast of Mercy be observed. On May 5, 2000, five days after the canonization of St. Faustina, the Vatican decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

[Prayer](#) | [Order](#)

### Sample Bulletin Announcement

Today we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. God's greatest desire is to forgive us, pouring out His infinite mercy upon us so that we may be *healed*. Women and men alike who have been involved in an abortion may feel deep grief, guilt, anxiety, depression, anniversary reactions to the date of the abortion or what would have been the baby's due date, broken relationships and a sense of alienation from God and Church. If this is you, we want you to know that your Church cares. Seek the Lord's mercy and healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Consider confidential, compassionate help from Project Rachel, a confidential Catholic ministry offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. Visit the "Find Help" map on [HopeAfterAbortion.org](#) to find the diocesan ministry near you.

## Related Pro-Life Resources

[Bridges of Mercy for Healing After Abortion](#)



[Pray for Life April 2019](#)



[Divine Mercy in my Soul](#)

*Scared and nervous, I made the first confession in many years. The priest was gentle, trying to make it as easy as he could for me. He showed great empathy and support. At last, I was on my way home.*

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**WORD OF LIFE – APRIL 2019**

**Intercessions for Life**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>**

May we turn to the Lord  
in humility and repentance  
when we fail to cherish our own lives  
and the lives of those we encounter each day;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**April 14<sup>th</sup>**

For all whose lives are in jeopardy:  
May they come to know  
that God never abandons His children,  
but remains always at their side;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

**April 21<sup>st</sup>**

For all who have died, and that  
their families and loved ones  
rejoice anew in the hope of the Resurrection  
and the promise of eternal life;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**Easter Sunday  
The Resurrection of the Lord**

**April 28<sup>th</sup>**

May the infinite mercy  
of our divine Savior reach all who are  
suffering from participation in  
abortion, and transform them  
with His healing, hope and peace;  
*We pray to the Lord:*

**Second Sunday of Easter  
(Or Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

## Bulletin Quotes

### April 7<sup>th</sup>

“God creates every person for eternal union with Himself and continually invites us to embrace a loving relationship with Him. Every person is chosen.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
2018-19 Respect Life Reflection



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### April 14<sup>th</sup>

“When battered by life's storms, or immersed in a dense fog of suffering and uncertainty, we may feel alone and unequipped to handle the circumstances. Yet with words that echo through thousands of years into the corners of our hearts, the Lord says to us, ‘Do not fear: I am with you’ (Isaiah 41:10).”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
2017-18 Respect Life Reflection



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### April 21<sup>st</sup>

“Those who die in God’s grace and friendship live forever with Christ. Heaven is not an abstract idea, but a true and lasting relationship with God that is beyond all earthly description and understanding. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead and everlasting life by preparing now, in hope, for our passage from this life into eternal life.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,  
“Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing”



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### April 28<sup>th</sup>

If you or someone you know has had an abortion, “be assured that it is never too late to seek God’s forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.” Additionally, other confidential, compassionate help is also available. Visit the “Find Help” map on [www.hopeafterabortion.org](http://www.hopeafterabortion.org) to find the diocesan Project Rachel Ministry near you.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,  
“Bridges of Mercy for Healing after Abortion”



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## WORD OF LIFE – APRIL 2019

### Bulletin Art

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#### Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

- Download Image: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)



#### Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- Download Image: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)



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