



DIVINE MERCY PARISH

SACRED HEART CHURCH • ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

DECEMBER 22, 2019 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Sacred Heart Church

Christmas Eve

- 3:00 p.m. Children's Choir, Trumpet and Violin
- 5:00 p.m. Contemporary Praise & Worship Ensemble
- 9:30 p.m. Prelude Music with Choir, Harp, Flute, Oboe and Organ
- 10:00 p.m. Choir and Instrumentalists

Christmas Day

- 10:00 a.m. Choir, Brass Quartet and Organ

St. Philip the Apostle Church

Christmas Eve

- 4:00 p.m. Cantor with Flute and Trumpet
- 5:30 p.m. Vocal Quartet with Flute and Trumpet

Christmas Day

- 9:00 a.m. Vocal Quartet with Flute and Trumpet

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

FOUR

We light the fourth candle of the Advent wreath to mark the beginning of the fourth week of the season. Four and we are almost there.

The entire liturgical year depends on the date of Easter (the highpoint of the Church's year). Everything is figured from that. Easter is not date-specific. It's always the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox.

And then there's Christmas, which is date-specific. No matter what day of the week it is, Christmas is always celebrated on December 25. Given the confluence of those two things, Easter and Christmas, you sometimes have what we have this year, a truncated fourth week of Advent.

in other words, this year the fourth "week" of Advent isn't a week, it's only four days (today through Wednesday with Wednesday, December 24 being the vigil of Christmas).

THREE

Speaking of the Vigil of Christmas, Christmas Eve, the first Mass will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart church. Each year we petition our Episcopal Vicar for permission to celebrate the vigil early. Normally, vigil Masses are not allowed to be celebrated before 4:00 p.m. But Bishop Bartosic has given his permission for ours to start at 3:00 p.m.

This allows for families to then get on the road in order to join with other family members or friends as they gather in homes to spend the evening. It also enables us at the Sacred Heart campus to space out our vigil Masses with enough time between each Mass to try to contain or limit the frustrations of parking in a lot that only holds 45 cars. (Our St. Philip campus is so blessed to have many

more spaces available for people to park.)

TWO

So now that brings me to a reminder. We are one parish with two houses of worship. You might want to consider this when you are making your plans for celebrating either the Vigil or Christmas Day Masses. Every household received the Christmas mailing that details our schedule of Masses.

You've got some choices. We hope this helps you in gathering with the faith community at Christmas. We've done everything we can to enhance the celebration of the Christmas liturgies at both houses of worship. Great music and great decorating awaits. All we need now is you.

ONE

On Christmas Eve and Day we will get together at St. Phillip and Sacred Heart churches as one parish, Divine Mercy, to celebrate the Nativity of the One who saves and redeems us, Jesus Christ. He is the Person who brings us together as one community to praise and worship, to celebrate our salvation.



One, indeed! One faith, one Lord, one Baptism, one community, one parish, Divine Mercy—

- making disciples
- building church
- serving others.

Merry Christmas to all!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Stas".

NOTE: The Divine Mercy Parish Offices will be closed from Tuesday, December 24th through Sunday, January 5, 2020. The office will reopen Monday, January 6th. If you have an emergency during that time, please call the parish office, and follow the prompts to contact a priest. Thank you!
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**WELCOME OUR NEW FAMILIES
TO DIVINE MERCY PARISH**

Mr. and Mrs. Nick (Meghan) Klimisch



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

RESPECT LIFE

For the Holy Church of God throughout the world, that as she celebrates the birth of Christ, she may grow in holiness, we pray to the Lord.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP

A scripture reflection group meets every Monday morning in the Sacred Heart offices after the 8:30am Mass. We gather for one hour to read and reflect on the **coming** Sunday readings. We simply share what is in our hearts and on our minds. No experience in scripture necessary. All are welcome!

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS DECEMBER 23 or 30.



ALPHA SEASON ONE ENDS AND NEW LIFE IN CHRIST BEGINS

We would like to thank all those who participated in our first season of Alpha. It is so heartwarming to witness the transformation of the attendees. Many have said the experience was transformative for their lives. New friends were made. Barriers fell away. Parishioners from both worship sites of St. Philip and Sacred Heart became new found friends and confidants.

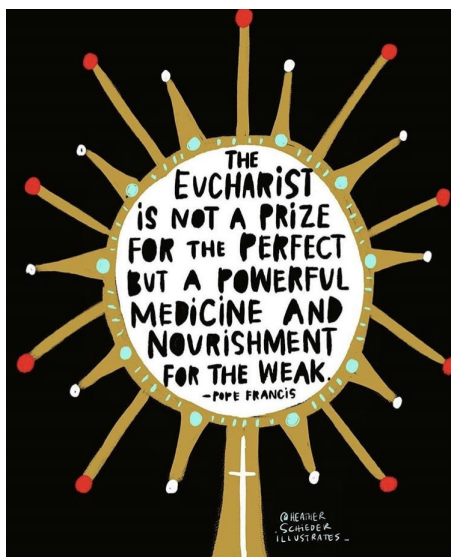
We also would like to thank the team that hosted this first season of Alpha. First and foremost was the chair of Hospitality, Rachel Rowland, who went above and beyond to feed 100 people each week, often by herself! Thanks also to Lisa (and husband Geoff) Centner, who provided some of our Monday night meals and was

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP FROM OUR SCRIPTURES

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."

MATTHEW 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.



often by Rachel's side whenever she was needed. Patty Sanfilippo, Mary Anne and Burr Martin and Liz Harvey also pitched in to help! Thank you!

Thanks to Pat Dietz and Phyllis Russell who worked along side Rachel on Wednesday mornings and even led the charge in Rachel's absence when she needed to be out of town. To Kelly Matthews-Pluta and Rita Compton, who often brought in food to share. And to Jim Dietz and Cathy Stegich, who often helped with clean-up!

Our utmost thanks go to our small group hosts: Maureen Valvassori, Greg Grodecki, Patty Sanfilippo, Sue Lehocky, Judy Pyke and Linnea Baney, who joined us from Alpha

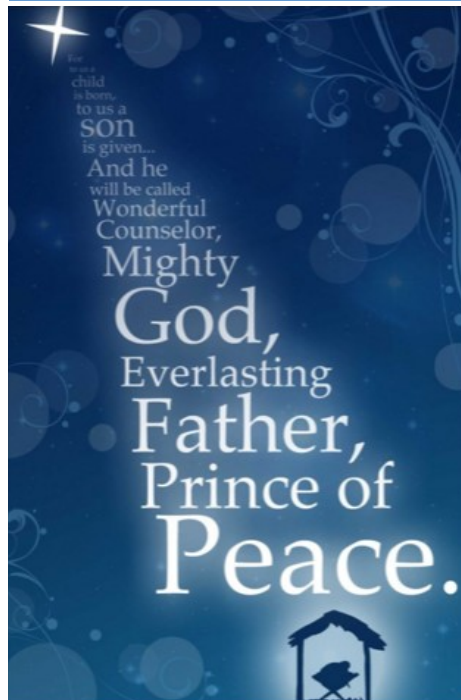
POPE FRANCIS ON TWITTER



18,134,737 Followers

Christ is born for us!

Come, all of you who are seeking the face of God. Here He is, the Child lying in the manger.



Chicago. Our small groups would not have been successful without our small group helpers: Claudia Goodrich, Liz Harvey, John Russell, Shannon McSorley, Cathy Stegich, Michelle Wasielewski, Alex Valvassori and Rita Compton.

Alpha can never succeed without prayer. Thanks to our Prayer Team of Deb Guy, Dan and Deb Kubasiak, Fran and Jim Freeman, Kelly Matthews-Pluta, and of course our priests: Fr. Steve, Fr. Dean, Fr. Mike and Fr. Dan.

All we can say is, God is good! May all who were involved in Alpha go on to become missionary disciples, seeking to bring others on the journey to come to know Jesus.

COMMUNITY

THANK YOU TO THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST TEAM!

Many, many thanks to all those parishioners who contributed to the success of the annual Pancake Breakfast that took place earlier this month at St. Philip. We actually ran out of pancakes and syrup!! This effort was led by a dedicated group of parishioners who contributed in so many ways, particularly Bobbie Weiss! Thank you! Additional thanks go to Jeanne Doherty for ticket sales and cashiers, Jim and Pat Dietz for hospitality, Dona Carroll and Margery Fejes for their décor, Kim Orth for publicity, Cathy Stegich for the raffle, Rima and Ed Abraham for their donation of the Nativity Set, Lori Racine for supervising the Children's Ministry volunteers, to Stephanie Kirk and Jenny Gallagher for coordinating Children's Ministry ticket sales, to Santa's Workshop, the North Pole Outlet ladies and the Crafty ladies—cheers! Thanks to Stan Smith, the infamous coffee maker and sausage cooker! To the many, many volunteers who freely gave of their time to plan for this event for months, thank you! Additional thanks to all those who set-up, cooked, served, greeted, bussed tables, and cleaned-up (special thanks to Tony, Salvador and Noemi), and all those who sponsored the Pancake Breakfast and donated raffle prizes. And of course, thank you to Santa Claus for his visit!

THANK YOU TO ALL!!



OUTREACH

CHRISTMAS SHARING WITH OUR SHARING PARISHES ST. COLUMBANUS AND ST. BENEDICT THE AFRICAN

SACRED HEART CHURCH

THANK YOU to all of the Divine Mercy families who adopted St. Columbanus families this Christmas season. Fr. Matt O'Donnell, the pastor of St. Columbanus, extends his thanks to all of you on behalf of his parishioners. You have been a gift during this season of giving. Thank you!.

And...you can still make donations through the end of the year to Divine Mercy Parish towards the purchase of Jewel Foods Gift Cards for St. Columbanus families in need. We ask that your donation be in increments of \$25.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Take a tag off of the Christmas Tree in the Church vestibule that indicates a particular gift card needed for the St. Benedict the African community. Gift cards in any denomination are welcome, though smaller denominations are preferred for the people of their community. Christmas Sharing at St. Philip will run through the feast of the Epiphany.

Please note that there will no longer be a toy collection for Catholic Charities. The parish has decided to focus all energies on the needs of the St. Benedict the African community.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/PREP)

Merry Christmas from all of us in Children's Ministry...

During our November Service Fair, our youngest children and their parents created beautiful Christmas ornaments for the elderly and infirmed. We learned about the Corporal Works of Mercy, made festive and cheerful ornaments, and then decorated boxes and bags with special messages. Our Ministers of Care have been busy delivering the ornaments to the elderly on their weekly visits to the homes. Moreover, we sent 125 ornaments to our sharing parish, St. Columbanus, and the ornaments were given to children and families they serve. Father Matt, pastor of St. Columbanus was very excited about our gift! We pray you are enjoying the blessings of this holy season. God bless you all!



ALPHA

DIVINE MERCY INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN ALPHA!

What is it? Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in an open and informal environment. Alpha runs in churches, bars and coffee shops all over the world. Alpha sessions consist of sharing a meal with other members of the group, enjoying a short video and a discussion where you can share your thoughts in a small group. Alpha is for anybody and everybody who wants to know more about the Christian faith or simply grow in their faith.

There's no judgement, no pressure, no charge and it's FUN! Alpha in the Catholic Context is run around the world, and all have three things in common: good food, a video and good conversation.

We believe Alpha is a key component of what the future holds for us as Divine Mercy parish. It's a wonderful



COME AND SEE JANUARY 23rd

opportunity to get to know people in our faith community, whether they are from St. Philip or Sacred Heart. Come and check it out! No matter who you are or what you believe, everyone is welcome...Catholic or not... practicing or not...or simply curious...Join us and **COME AND SEE!**

SOME FEEDBACK FROM PARISHIONERS:

When I signed up for ALPHA, I did not appreciate what I would experience. The program was a great way to get to know other parishioners. We became a closer group as the weeks went by. The videos were very powerful means to remind us of how wonderful it is to be a Catholic.
Joe M.

The ALPHA retreat was just what I needed. A chance to reflect, to pray, to share, to listen, to simply be... it gave me the opportunity to grow. The music, videos, discussions, camaraderie, meals, and time in the church all restored and refreshed me in different ways. I'm so thankful I carved out the time to do it!
Rita C.

I so enjoyed our small group sessions. It was a place to share, support, and strengthen the bonds of our Catholic Community. Dona C.

I had no idea what to expect but was pleasantly surprised. It helped me review my faith on another level and talk with others about it. I also was very surprised about the number of fellow Parishioners that attended. George K.

Alpha was the first experience that helped me to find a path to forgiveness in my heart. It would not have happened without the inspiring people I shared the Alpha journey with or the amazing overnight retreat. It was truly a life-changing experience. Kirsten L.



Some members of our recent Monday night Alpha group.



Some members of our recent Wednesday morning Alpha group.

ALPHA


ALPHA AT DIVINE MERCY

We believe everyone should have the chance to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and share their point of view.
Come and see what Alpha is all about!

Thursday, January 23, 2019
6:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish Center
1090 Gage Street, Winnetka

Have questions? Call the Divine Mercy office at 847-446-0856.

Pause Netflix.
Try Alpha.



The Alpha
Weekend Crew!





LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT
SACRED HEART SCHOOL!



DODGEBALL mania happened at the annual party in the Sacred Heart gym.



As you can see, it was a blast!



One of our Christmas angels!



These cousins (8th grade and kindergarten) both received Core Value Shout Outs during morning assembly!



Sacred Heart School will be on Christmas break beginning Friday, December 20th at 1:20pm. Classes will resume on Monday, January 6th. We wish you a blessed Christmas full of joy, peace and love. May the happiness of the birth of our Lord Jesus come into each and every one of your homes. God Bless.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE - Weekend of December 28 & 29, 2019

SACRED HEART CHURCH

5:00 p.m.

Presider: Fr. Cassidy
Greeters: Dan O'Rourke, Patty Sanfilippo
Servers: Volunteers needed
Lector: Ludy Mariano
EM's: Samuel Fifer, Barbara Fifer, Volunteer needed
Cantor: Saturday Choir

7:30 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Solazzo (Deacon Keenan preaching)
Greeter: Volunteers
Servers: Christopher Essig, Luke Malles
Lector: Roberta Olshansky
EMs: Bernadette Broccolo, Nancy Kehoe
Cantor: Tim Stadler

9:00 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Solazzo (Deacon Keenan preaching)
Greeters: Mary Newton, Volunteer needed
Servers: Matthew Bradley, Michael Smylie
Lector: Catherine Boyle
EMs: Dan Kubasiak, Mary Newton, Kathy Handelman
Cantor: Shannon Keys

10:30 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Cassidy
Greeters: Jim Harrington, Kay Madden
Servers: Rachele Lombardi, Charlotte O'Bryan
Lector: Bill Hague
EMs: Kay Madden, Mark Kengott, Christine Kengott,
Mary Jo Bushell, A.J. Leonard, Volunteer needed
Cantor: Sacred Heart Adult Choir

4:30 p.m.

Presider: Fr. Semmer
Greeter: Dan Hagedorn
Servers: Aidan Dobsch, Evan Dobsch
Lector: Lynn Finneke
EMS: James Collins, Catherine Lehman, Chris Hartman
Cantor: Matt Mieling & Ensemble

MINISTERS OF CARE

Lake Cook: Mike Pearson

Glen Oaks: Jose Vargas

Maryhaven / Lutheran General:

Mary Breen, Mary Claps, Maureen Claps, Marilyn Hielscher,
Marty Kearney, Anna Koberda, Michael Koberda,
Diana Scheeler, Tom Carroll

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

5:30 p.m.

Presider: Fr. Lanza
Servers: Shane Kropp
Lector: Tom O'Donoghue
EMs: Susan Corley Turk, Peggy McCallum,
Bobbie Weiss
Ushers: Gino D'Egidio, Tom Stegich, Rick Turk

7:30 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Lanza
Servers: Volunteers needed
Lector: Jim Dietz
EMs: Jane Clark, Stephen Cross, Caroline Duppler
Ushers: Joe Pacini, Greg Clingan

9:30 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Semmer
Servers: Ryan Johnson, Shane Kropp
Lector: Julie Buzza
EMs: Jean Kane, Jeanne Doherty,
Gerry Schroeder
Ushers: Tom Andersen, Jason Cravens, Gene Nowak,
Fred Steinemann

PLEASE PRAY

For Those Who Are Sick

*The following people suffer from illness or chronic conditions.
They have asked for the prayers of our parish family.
Please remember them to the Lord.*

Mark Agnew, Jeannie Ambrose, Michael Anderson,
Jim Baisley, Dorothy Banas, Donald Blair, Elaine Boback,
Sande Bolan, Paula Brady, Dennis Braun, Wendy Braun,
Luciana Butera, Milly Calabrese, Kierre Caldwell, Patt Carlson,
Patricia Catarello, Teresa Chapman, Kelly Bolan Chevalier,
Sheila Devlin, Tim Doll, Rick Doucette,
David and Mary Ann Duerwachter, Maureen Dwyer,
Timothy Feeney, Reese Felderman, John Flynn, Lisa Franke,
Lydia Gatton, Benjamin Grillo, Philip Hall, Laura Hendricks,
John Hoerster, Nancy Holihan, Mario Iturino, The Jatis Family,
Becky Jones, Philip Jones, Marge Kalsch, Edward Kennedy,
Ginny Kunkel, Gina Quirk Lazicki, Anne Lesniak, John Madden,
Drew Mans, Jackson Mans, Matthew Morgan, Beth O'Brien,
Sally O'Malley, Ennio Rossi, Mary Sabo, Donna Sabido,
Dick Schager, Catherine Scheid, Mary Shepherd, Judy Sokal,
Mary Tatro, Linda Walsh, Julie Wright, Simonne Wysocky,
Lisa Zitella and Dr. Jerome Zwierzycki

For Those Who Have Died

May the souls of the faithfully departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

MASS INTENTIONS

SACRED HEART

Monday, December 23

7:00 am-

8:30 am-

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Masses

3:00 pm- Marsha Bushell-Slater

5:00 pm-Joyce Ward

10:00 pm-Ted Heppner

Wednesday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

10:00 am – Parishioners of Divine Mercy

Thursday, December 26

7:00 am-

8:30 am-

Friday, December 27

7:00 am – Roger Costanzo

8:30 am-

Saturday, December 28

8:30 am-Special intention for Conor,
Sandra and Elena Marie Thomas

5:00 pm- Rowland and Rosemary
Hoffman

Sunday, December 29

7:30 am –

9:00 am –Chuck Oldfield

10:30 am-Parishioners of Divine Mercy

4:30 pm- Kevin Connolly

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE

Monday, December 23

8:00am -Holy Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00pm- Blessings for all of our children

5:30pm-Andrew Berghoff

Wednesday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

9:00am – Parishioners of Divine Mercy

Thursday, December 26

8:00am –Charlotte Kутten

Barbara Kubik

William and Alice Ahern

Friday, December 27

8:00am- Brent Weiland

Daniel J. McNamara

Saturday, December 28

8:00 am-Mary Viola Scheeler

Emma May Dietz

5:30 pm-Ann Redding

Sunday, December 29

7:30 am-Mary Lou Colfer

9:30 am-Parishioners of Divine Mercy

THIS WEEK AT DIVINE MERCY

Monday, December 23

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 26

Friday, December 27

Holy Hour 3:00pm / SPA

Saturday, December 28

Men's Inspirational Study Group

7:30am

Sunday, December 29

SACRAMENTS

Sacraments can be scheduled at either church. Arrangements should be made through the main office at Sacred Heart.

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday—3:00-5:00pm (SP)

Saturday—9:00-9:30am (SH)

Saturday—5:00-5:15pm (SP)

or by appointment

BAPTISM

By appointment. Please call the main parish office or visit our website for the requisite forms.

MARRIAGE

Contact the main parish office 6 months prior to the anticipated date of the marriage.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK

Contact the main parish office to arrange for the sacrament for the seriously ill and homebound.

DO YOU HAVE A BULLETIN SUBMISSION?

Please adhere to the following specifications when submitting an item for the bulletin. The deadline is Tuesday, 9:00am for the following Sunday.

BULLETIN SPECS:

FONT STYLE: Corbel

FONT SIZE:

Headlines: 12 (ALL CAPS & BOLD)

Body text: 10

LINE SPACING:

Before and After Paragraphs: opt

Between Lines: 1sp

Avoid outlining text boxes, if you can.

Continue to create ads for special events like A Moveable Feast, Oktoberfest or NiteLites. We simply ask you incorporate the Corbel font style when you are able.

Please submit all items to
divinemercybulletins@gmail.com.

DIVINE MERCY OFFICES

Main Office

Sacred Heart

1077 Tower Road

Winnetka, IL 60093

(847) 446-0856

Fax: (847) 501-5311

Monday - Thursday: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Office

St. Philip the Apostle

1962 Old Willow Road

Northfield, IL 60093

(847) 446-8383

Fax: (847) 446-8338

Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

Religious Education Offices

Sacred Heart (847)446-6535

St. Philip (847)446-8390 or

(847)446-8383

Sacred Heart School Office

1095 Gage Street

Winnetka, IL 60093

(847) 446-0005

www.shwschool.org

Children's Ministry Office

1077 Tower Road

Winnetka, IL 60093

(847) 446-6535

www.divinemercynorthshore.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor - Rev. Steven M. Lanza, slanza@divinemicynorthshore.org

Associate Pastor - Rev. Dean Semmer, dsemmer@divinemicynorthshore.org

Associate Pastor - Rev. Michael J. Solazzo, msolazzo@divinemicynorthshore.org

Resident - Rev. Daniel Cassidy, dcassidy@divinemicynorthshore.org

Deacon Mike McNulty, mimcnulty@divinemicynorthshore.org

Deacon Gerry Keenan, gekeenan@archchicago.org, 773-251-6626

Deacon Bob Puhala, bpuhala@usml.edu

Director of Communications - Judy Pyke, jpyke@divinemicynorthshore.org

Principal Sacred Heart School - Kristen Fink, kfink@shwschool.org

Director of Evangelization and Lifelong Formation - Sue Lehocky, slehocky@divinemicynorthshore.org

Director of Pastoral Care, Outreach and Special Events - Maureen Valvassori, mvalvassori@divinemicynorthshore.org

Music Director - Todd Gresick, tgresick@divinemicynorthshore.org

Associate Music Director - Sarah Cozzi, scozzi@divinemicynorthshore.org

Director of Operations - Michelle Wasielewski, mwasielewski@divinemicynorthshore.org

Finance Office - Cindy Atsaves, cindyatsaves@divinemicynorthshore.org

Administrative Assistant - Carol L. Brown, clbrown@divinemicynorthshore.org

Religious Education Admin (SH) - Jeanne Morette, jayersmorette@divinemicynorthshore.org

Religious Education Admin (SH) - Debbie Perkins, dperkins@divinemicynorthshore.org

Coordinator of Children's Ministry - Kathryn Handelman, khandelman@divinemicynorthshore.org