

**DIVINE MERCY PARISH**  
**SACRED HEART & ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCHES**  
**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OUR LORD (CHRISTMAS)**

# WELCOME

As we gather to rejoice in the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, please share your joy with everyone while singing the Carols of the Season with our music ministry.

## IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

1. It came upon a midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
From heaven's all gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies  
they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats,  
O'er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.
3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the heav'nly hymns have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And warring humankind hears not  
The tidings which they bring;  
O hush the noise and cease the strife  
And hear the angles sing.
4. For lo! the days are hast'ning on,  
By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Shall come the time fortold,  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And all the world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

Author: Edmund H. Sears (1849)  
Tune: CAROL (Willis)



## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep,  
the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to all the earth!
3. How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem!  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Immanuel!

Author: Phillips Brooks (1868)  
Tune: ST. LOUIS (Redner)



Divine Mercy is a Welcoming Community that  
Inspires Disciples of Jesus to Share God's Love  
and Transform the World.

**AWAY IN A MANGER**

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head:  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;  
I love you, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us to heaven to live with you there.

Author (attributed to): Martin Luther; Author (st. 1-2):  
Anonymous (1885); Author (v. 3, attr.):  
John T. McFarland (1892)

**WHAT CHILD IS THIS**

1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Chorus:

This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

2. Why lies he in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading. [Chorus]

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone him. [Chorus]

Author: W. Chatterton Dix  
Tune: GREENSLEEVES

**THE FIRST NOWELL**

1. The first Noël the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,  
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

3. This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]

4. Then let us all with on accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
Who made the heav'ns and earth of naught,  
And with his Blood our life has bought. [Refrain]

Author: Anonymous (1833)  
Tune: THE FIRST NOEL

**SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS**

1. Sing we now of Christmas, Noël, sing we here!  
Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.

Refrain: Sing we Noël, the King is born, Noël!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noël!

2. Angels called to shepherds, "Leave your flocks at rest; journey  
forth to Bethl'hem, find the Lambkin blest." [Refrain]

3. In the stall they found him; Joseph and Mary mild, seated  
'round the manger, watching the holy Child. [Refrain]

4. From the eastern country came the kings afar,  
bearing gifts to Bethl'hem guided by a star. [Refrain]

5. Gold and myrrh they took there, gifts of greatest price;  
Frankincense to greet the Child of Paradise. [Refrain]

Tune: NOEL NOUVELET

**HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]

3. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-  
eousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his  
wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
[Refrain]

Alterer: George Whitefield; Author: Charles Wesley (1739)  
Tune: MENDELSSOHN (51171)

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY

*With great longing, we have been preparing our hearts and our homes for this day on which we celebrate the birth of our Messiah and Savior. We recall that glorious night when the Blessed Mother bore Jesus into an expectant world, realizing that Jesus is also born in our hearts and in our world here and now, made present through one another and in the Eucharist we celebrate. May this "good news of great joy that will be for all the people" continue to be incarnated in our lives and our world.*

10 p.m.

Please stand.

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

During *O Holy Night*, please light your candles.

After the Entrance Carol, please extinguish your candles., holding them upright until the wax hardens.

## ORDER OF MASS

### ENTRANCE CAROL

### O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

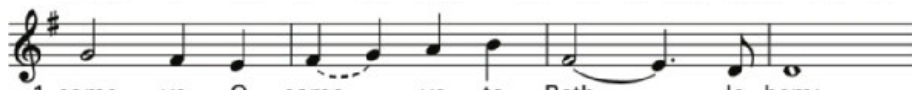
*Please stand as the Carol begins*

ADESTE FIDELES

Verses



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2. † Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, †  
 3. † Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, †




1. come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 2. Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!  
 3. Je - sus, to thee — be all glo - ry giv'n;




1. Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2. Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 3. Word of the Fa - ther. now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him. O come, let us a - dore him. O



come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

Text: Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade, ca. 1711-1786;  
 tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, alt. Music: John F. Wade.

## SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. **R. Amen.**

## O HOLY NIGHT

1. O holy night! the stars are brightly shining; it is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared, and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope – the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn! Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine!

2. Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand. So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the Wise Men from Orient land. The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger, In all our trials born to be our friend. He knows our needs – our weakness is no stranger. Behold your King, before him lowly bend! Behold your King, before him lowly bend!

3. Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his gospel is peace. Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we; let all within us praise his holy name. Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

Translator: John S. Dwight;  
 Author: Placide Cappeau (1847)  
 Tune: CANTIQUE DE NOEL

10 p.m. only: Safely hold your candles upright, sharing the flame during the singing of *O Holy Night*.

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.*

Psalm 2:7

*Or Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Savior has been born in the world. Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.*

Graduale Romanum,  
 Roman Missal, Third Edition



**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

— or — Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

— or — The Lord be with you.

**R.** And with your spirit.

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, you were born in Bethlehem of Judea: Lord, have mercy.

**R.** Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, you are reborn in us on this day of gladness: Christ, have mercy. **R.** Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, you will come again, borne on the clouds of heaven: Lord, have mercy. **R.** Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

**R.** Amen.



*The  
Glory  
to God  
is sung.*

**GLORY TO GOD**

*Mass of Christ the Savior*

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**COLLECT**

O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendor of the true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **R.** Amen.

*Please be seated after the prayer.*





**FIRST READING****Isaiah 9:1-6**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames

For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

*We observe a time of sacred silence to reflect on God's word.*

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM****Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13**

Gael Berberick and Kevin Keil  
Refrain based on GOD REST YOU MERRY



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Sing to the LORD a new song;<br>sing to the LORD, all you lands.<br>Sing to the LORD; bless his name.                 | let the sea and what fills it resound;<br>let the plains be joyful<br>and all that is in them!<br>Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.                      |
| 2. Announce his salvation, day after day.<br>Tell his glory among the nations;<br>among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. | 4. They shall exult before the LORD,<br>for he comes; for he comes to rule the earth.<br>He shall rule the world with justice<br>and the peoples with his constancy. |
| 3. Let the heavens be glad<br>and the earth rejoice;   |  |

Text: Luke 2:11; Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13. Refrain © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved.  
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**SECOND READING****Titus 2:11-14**

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his

*Continued on next page.*

**TODAY'S READINGS****Isaiah 9: 1-6**

The prophet Isaiah lived 750 years before Christ. In his time, the northern Jewish Kingdom of Israel was laid waste by the armies of Assyria. Today's passage offers the conquered people hope for a glorious future under a wonderful king. Christians have seen Jesus as fulfilling this prophecy.

**Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13**

In the Christian tradition, Psalm 96 has become the great psalm of Christmastime. The psalm celebrates the victory of the Lord who "in the sight of the nations . . . has revealed his justice."

**Titus 2:11-14**

The letter to Titus was written about 30 years after Paul's death, and was written in Paul's name, a practice common in the ancient world. Titus was a traveling companion of Paul, and later was in charge of a Christian community on the island of Crete.

**Luke 2:1-14**

On this most holy solemnity, we celebrate the birth of the world's true light. The Prince of Peace, whom Isaiah prophesied and the angels proclaimed, was born to Mary in the city of David, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a simple manger. There was no room for him in the inn, so let us always make room for him in our hearts, our lives, and our world.

## REFLECTION

Luke's narrative of Jesus' birth is rich in symbolism. The evangelist begins his account by situating it against the background of the Roman Empire. Jesus is born during the reign of Augustus, who had brought a peace to the world that it had not known for centuries. Notice how the angels proclaim Jesus' birth to the shepherds: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests" (Lk 2:14). Contrasted to the peace that Augustus brought through military power, the birth of Jesus will bring a far deeper and more lasting spiritual peace through God's grace that strengthens the bonds between God and humanity as well as among people.

Jesus' birth fulfills the prophecy of peace that we hear from Isaiah in the first reading: "For a child is born to us, a son is given us .... [He is] Prince of Peace" (Is 9:6). Luke's description also sets the stage for Jesus' ministry. His birth has universal significance. The first to learn of Jesus' birth were not kings in palaces but ordinary shepherds in the fields—people society looked down on. Jesus is born in a stable, lying in a manger, a feeding trough for animals, since there was no other place for him. Born like an outcast, Jesus identifies with all those whom society marginalizes and rejects. St. Paul's letter to Titus captures the implications of Jesus' birth for us. God's grace has been revealed in Jesus as God's salvation for all people. We are called to respond to this gift by leading lives that conform to the hope we have in our savior Jesus Christ.

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day) carries such importance within the life of the Church that it is an entire period of liturgical time lasting nearly three weeks. The doctrine of the incarnation states a fundamental Christian belief that God's divine nature assumed a human nature.

*Continued on page 8.*

*Continued from previous page.*

own, eager to do what is good.

*We observe a time of sacred silence to reflect on God's word.*

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand.*

Based on GESU BAMBINO  
Pietro Yan, 1886–1943  
Arr. by Paul Hillebrand

## REFRAIN



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*Verse sung by the music ministry.*

*I proclaim to you good news of joy, good news of great joy:  
Today our Savior is born for us, a Savior, Christ the Lord. R.*

## GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

**Luke 2:1-14**

The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel,

praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

The Gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

*Please stand.*

#### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, *(genuflect)* who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, *(stand)* suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life ever lasting. Amen.

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#### Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven *(genuflect)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. *(stand)* He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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## UNIVERSAL PRAYER

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

In other words, the unseen God became human. Both human and divine natures come together in the person of Jesus Christ. This became known as the "holy exchange," which tells us that the divine became a human being so that humans could become divine.

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light," Isaiah prophesied, looking ahead to the day that the Messiah would come (9:1). But Isaiah's words may be applied to more than just this blessed night. The two most holy events we celebrate each year occurred in deepest night. On this night, Mary gives birth to the Son of God. And before dawn on that first Easter morning, Jesus was raised from the dead. Tonight, Mary wraps her newborn son in swaddling clothes. Years later his body would be wrapped in a linen cloth. Mary lays her vulnerable infant in a wooden manger; one day her persecuted son would be nailed to a wooden cross. Jesus lay in a trough where animals fed. Years later, he became living bread, giving himself to be food for eternal life. Tonight, the angel of the Lord announces his birth to the shepherds. After the Resurrection, an angel of the Lord proclaimed the joyous news to the women who had come to anoint his body. Whether into the darkness of the Bethlehem night, out of the darkness of the tomb, or throughout our own darkness of sin and death, the unquenchable light who is the Lord comes into our lives, raises us up, and brings us abundant joy and great rejoicing.





## IN MINISTRY

December 24, 2022

3:00 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Servers: Maddie P., Quinn D., Troy Q.

Lectors: Chris Hartman/Bill Hague

EM: Nancy Kehoe/Dana Hendry/Chris Hartman

Music Ministry: Laudes Divinae

4:00 p.m.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Bob Heinz

Sacristan: TBD

Lector: Liz Harvey

EM: Cathy Stegich/Michael Koberda/Bobbie

Wiess/Deacon Bob Puhala

Music Ministry: Jenny Farney/Miranda Farmer

Violin: Linda Veleckis Nussbaum

5:00 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Presider: Fr. John Kartje

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Lector: Nicky Howard

EM: Patty Sanfilippo, Cathy Lehman

Music Ministry: Laudes Divinae

6:30 p.m.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Bob Heinz

Sacristan: Rima Abraham

Lector: Minister Needed

EM: John Meade/Judy Meade

Music Ministry: Jenny Farney/Miranda Farmer

Violin: Linda Veleckis Nussbaum

10:00 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Lector: Barb Anderson

EM: Dcn. Gerry Kennan/Patty Sanfilippo/Dan

Kubasiak/Deb Kubasiak

Music Ministry: Laudes Divinae

December 25, 2022

10:00 a.m.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Bob Heinz

Sacristan: Rima Abraham

Lector: Jim Dietz

EM: Pat Dietz/Mary Claps

Song Leader:

Music Ministry: Laudes Divinae

11 a.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Lector: Cathy Lehman

EM: Ministers Needed

Music Ministry: Jenny Farney/Miranda Farmer

## OUR OFFERINGS IN SUPPORT OF THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

You are welcome to make your Christmas donation via our safe & secure Give Central site by using your phone and scanning the QR code as the gifts are prepared to make your offering today.



## OFFERTORY ANTIPHON

Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth exult before the face of the Lord, for he is coming.

*Psalms 96(95):11*

## OFFERTORY CAROL

## ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

GLORIA

Verses

1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4. See him in a man-ger laid Whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

Refrain

Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De-o!

Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Text: 77 77 with refrain; French, ca. 18th cent.; tr. from *Crown of Jesus Music*, II, London, 1862.  
Music: Trad. French Carol.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*With great joy on this festival day, we are filled with wonder and awe at the birth of God's Son. With a profound sense of gratitude we raise our voices in this great prayer of thanksgiving.*

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

*Please stand.*

**R.** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

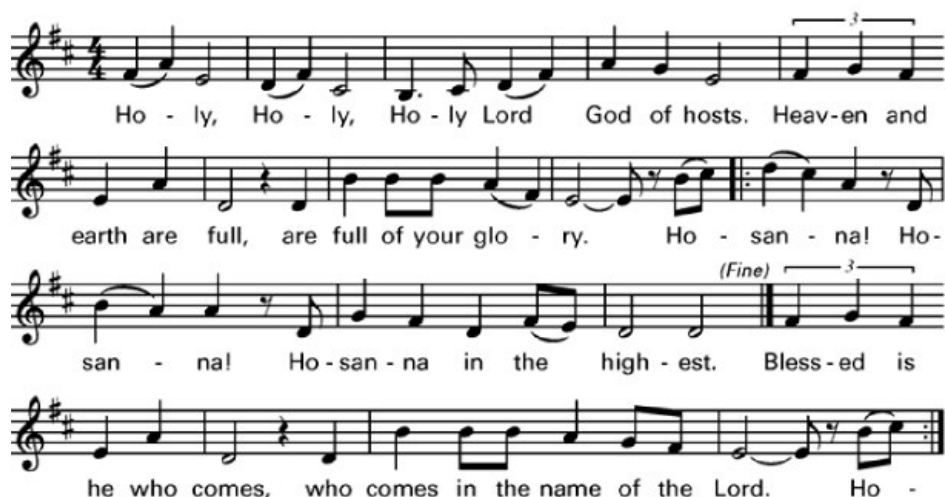
## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the oblation of this day's feast be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we may be found in the likeness of Christ, in whom our nature is united to you. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

## PREFACE

The Lord be with you. **R. And with your spirit.**  
Lift up your hearts. **R. We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **R. It is right and just.**

## PREFACE ACCLAMATION (HOLY)

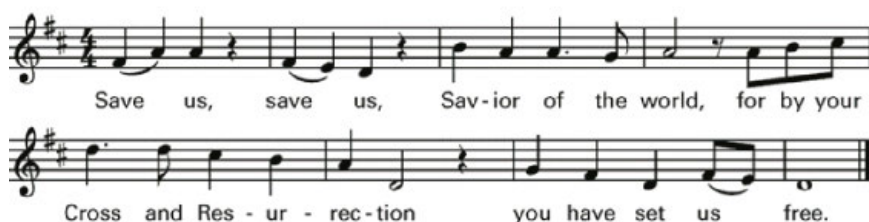


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*Please kneel after the acclamation.*

## MYSTERY OF FAITH

*Mass of Christ the Savior*  
Dan Schutte



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## DOXOLOGY AND GREAT AMEN



*Please stand after the acclamation.*

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER AND THE MOVEABLE FEASTS

*On the Epiphany of the Lord (Jan. 8), after the singing of the Gospel, a Deacon or cantor, in keeping with an ancient practice of Holy Church, announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year according to the following text.*

Know, dear brothers and sisters, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior.

On the twenty-second day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the ninth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-first day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-eighth day of May, the feast of Pentecost.

On the eleventh day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the third day of December, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

The Church's liturgical season of Christmas is one of its shortest, but also one of its most unique. Within it is the eight-day celebration of the Lord's Nativity — known as the Christmas octave — as well as other feasts pertaining to the manifestation that Jesus is Lord of the nations. And there are feasts of several saints, many of whose stories contain special significance to the season. The configuration of the calendar relative to the season of Christmas is a bit complex. It always begins on the solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord — Dec. 25 — and ends on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, a movable feast roughly three weeks after Christmas. In the U.S., Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 are always holy days of obligation.

**RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION**

1. The Communion Procession begins with the Communion Song which all are encouraged to sing with the music ministry. The communion song is an integral part of the procession.
2. As the communion ministers leave the sanctuary, process to the front of the church in the procession while singing the communion song as best you can.
3. When standing before the clergy or extraordinary minister bow (from the waist) as the Host (the Real Presence of Christ) is held before you. Do not genuflect when in the procession.
4. Stand and extend your hands from the middle of your chest to receive the Host. Your dominant hand is placed under the other hand as support. In essence you are making a throne.
5. Say "Amen" as the minister says, "the Body of Christ".
6. Place the Host in your mouth and move away from the minister.
7. Additional devotion such as making the sign of the cross is not required but a decision of personal piety.
8. Return to your seat and participate in the communion song.
9. When the tabernacle is closed and the priest is seated, all may sit to participate communally in a time of devotion until the Prayer after Communion is prayed.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, ... as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

**SIGN OF PEACE**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles, peace I leave you, my peace I give you; ... Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with your always.

**R. And with your spirit.**

*The Sign of Peace is a rite that calls us beyond sin and disunity to Christ's peace and communion. We are called as disciples to live this peace and communion that Christ gives us daily. This indeed becomes then a sign of hope for all peoples.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

Music © 2007, 2009, Daniel L. Schutte. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

*Please kneel after the acclamation.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*During communion we sing psalms and other songs that express our praise of the Father, our spiritual union in Christ, and our fellowship in the Holy Spirit.*

**The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.**

*John 1:14*

*After communion we spend some time in silent prayer and/or sing a psalm or song of praise.*





## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R.** Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

*As we process to receive Holy Communion we join the music ministry in singing.*

## COMMUNION CAROL

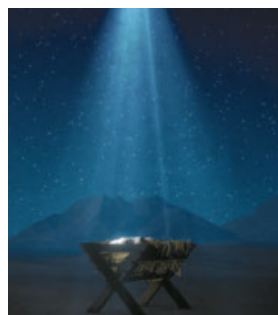
Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child!  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace...

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sigh;  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heav'nly hosts sing "Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born." ...

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth ...

Silent night! Holy night!  
Wondrous star; lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born ...

## SILENT NIGHT



Text: 66 89 66; Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. by John F. Young, 1820-1885. Music: Franz X. Gruber, 1787-1863.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Please stand.*

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, that we, who are gladdened by participation in the feast of our Redeemer's Nativity, may through an honorable way of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen.

## PASTOR'S "TO THE POINT"



Christmas, by its very nature, is one of those times of the year to which we attach great importance. The feast itself acts as a kind of waypoint in the journey of life.

We all know that life can be somewhat chaotic with all sorts of challenges. Christmas, its message and its traditions, helps to ground us and affords us an island of stability in a sometime unstable world.

We go to Mass together. We gather with extended family and friends. We exchange gifts. We sit in front of the twinkling tree in a darkened room. We partake of eggnog and other seasonal delights. We listen to and join together in singing Christmas carols. We wear those "most ugliest holiday sweaters" and laugh at each other decked in such wild attire. We put fake antlers on the car. We "ooo and aww" over lovely crèche scenes. We send and receive greeting cards containing holiday wishes and good cheer.

Most of all, we glory in the love shown to us by God who sends us his Son, Jesus. Divine Love becomes incarnate, which makes all of our human loving possible. In Christ, we are redeemed and set free. We are recreated in his image. Possibilities abound for those of us who believe.

Blessings upon blessings to you this holy season! Savor the love of God! Rejoice in the Good News of salvation!

As this Christmas waypoint sinks deep in our hearts, perhaps we can become good news for each other.

*Handwritten signature or initials.*

### LITURGICAL MINISTER ASSIGNMENTS

**December 31 2022**

**5:00 p.m.**

SACRED HEART CHURCH

**Presider: Fr. Bob Heinz**

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Minister Needed

EM: Michael Koberda

Song Leader: Carla LaMarr

**January 1, 2023**

**8:00 a.m.**

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

**Presider: Fr.**

Sacristan: Rima Abraham

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Liz Harvey

EM: Dcn. Bob Puhala

Song Leader: Jaina Alexander

**10:00 a.m.**

SACRED HEART CHURCH

**Presider: Fr.**

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Cathy Lehman

EM: Dan Kubasiak

Song Leader: Jaina Alexander

**4:30 p.m. NO MASS**

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

New ministers are always welcome to serve as weekday and weekend sacristans, servers, communion ministers, and lectors and assist with the church environment.

Please consider any of these ministries for your regular Mass attendance. If available please Ron Vanasdlen via email at: [rvanasdlen@divinemercury.org](mailto:rvanasdlen@divinemercury.org) northshore.org Ask him about the "Family Plan." **Training provided.**

### SOLEMN BLESSING

May the God of infinite goodness, who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy night (day), drive far from you the darkness of vice and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue.

**R. Amen.**

May God, who willed that the great joy of his Son's saving Birth be announced to shepherds by the Angel, fill your minds with the gladness he gives and make you heralds of his Gospel.

**R. Amen.**

And may God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favor and make you sharers with the Church in heaven.

**R. Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **R. Amen.**

### SENDING CAROL

### JOY TO THE WORLD

ANTIOCH

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re-  
 2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; Let us our  
 3. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

1. ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 2. songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills and  
 3. na - tions prove The glo - ries of his righ - teous -

1. room, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 2. plains Re - peat the sound-ing joy, Re - peat the sound-ing  
 3. ness, And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

1. sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 2. joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound-ing joy.  
 3. love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: CM with repeats; based on Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
 Music: T. Hawkes' *Collection of Tunes*, 1833; George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759.

## THIS WEEK'S PARISH CALENDAR

**December 25, Sunday**

*The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord  
(Christmas)*

- 10 a.m. Mass - St. Philip
- 11 a.m. Mass - Sacred Heart
- NO 4:30 p.m. Mass – Sacred Heart

**December 26, Monday**

*Feast of St. Stephen*

- 8 a.m. Mass — Sacred Heart

**December 27, Tuesday**

*Feast of St. John*

- 8 a.m. Mass — St. Philip
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary — St. Philip

**December 28, Wednesday**

*Feast of the Holy Innocents*

- 8:30 a.m. Mass – Sacred Heart

**December 29, Thursday**

*Fifth Day within the*

*Octave of Christmas*

*Optional Memorial of St. Thomas Becket*

- 8 a.m. Mass – Sacred Heart

**December 30, Friday**

*Feast of the Holy Family of*

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

8 a.m. Mass – St. Philip

8:30 a.m. Adoration & Rosary –  
St. Philip

**December 31, Saturday**

*Seventh Day within the*

*Octave of Christmas*

*Optional Memorial of St. Sylvester I*

*New Year's Eve*

- 5 p.m. Mass - Sacred Heart

**January 1, 2023 Sunday**

*Octave Day of Christmas:*

*Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

*World Day of Prayer for peace*

*New Year's Day*

- 8 a.m. Mass - St. Philip
- 10 a.m. Mass - Sacred Heart
- NO 4:30 p.m. Mass

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The first gathering of our Women's Club will take place January 23rd from 7-8 p.m. in the Parish Center and feature an interview with parishioner Siobhan Hill, who recently completed the Camino de Santiago or Way of St. James. Join us! Read more in Connections!

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24**

3:00 p.m. (SH) — Robert J. O'Brien †

4:00 p.m. (SPA) — Berning and Dietz

Families

5:00 p.m. (SH) — Andrew Berghoff †

6:30 p.m. (SPA) — Parishioners of  
Divine Mercy Parish

10:00 p.m. (SH) — Ted Heppner

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25**

8:00 a.m. (SPA) — NO MASS

10:00 a.m. (SPA) — John O'Brien †

11:00 a.m. (SH) — Parishioners of  
Divine Mercy Parish

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 (SH)**

8:00 a.m. — Barbara Kubik

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27 (SPA)**

8:00 a.m. — Bill Seeberg

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28 (SH)**

8:30 a.m. — Monica Yolles †

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29 (SH)**

8:00 a.m. — Joan Forte †

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30 (SPA)**

8:00 a.m. — Patrick Krohn †

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 (SH)**

5:00 p.m. — Phil Alexander

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 1**

8:00 a.m. (SPA) — Tim Doll

10:00 a.m. (SH) — Parishioners of  
Divine Mercy Parish

4:30 p.m. (SH) — NO MASS

## MASS INTENTIONS

Contact the parish office 847-446-0856  
or [megan@divinemercynorthshore.org](mailto:megan@divinemercynorthshore.org)

**SACRAMENT OF  
RECONCILIATION****Sacred Heart Church:**

Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

**St. Philip the Apostle Church:**

Wednesdays 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

with Rev. Gerald Cole.

**ADORATION****Sacred Heart Church:**

Wednesdays from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**St. Philip the Apostle Church:**

Fridays from 8:30-9:30 a.m.

## FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

*The following people have asked for the  
prayers of our parish family. Please  
remember them to the Lord.*

Mark Agnew, Jeannie Ambrose,  
Michael Anderson, Donald Blair,  
Elaine Boback, Ronald Braun,  
Wendy Braun, Robert Conte, Jr.,  
John Coyne, Rich Danstrom,  
Jeff Eastbrooke, James Farney,  
Mary Beth Fellingner, Lisa Marie Franke,  
Frank Frelka, Ermin Garcia, Jr.,  
Paul Greco, Benjamin Grillo,  
Jack Hogan, Sarah Hyde, Emily Jatis,  
Peggy Keese, Rick Kehrer,  
Patti Kotscharjan, Donna LaCaze,  
Gina Quirk Lazicki, Joseph Lee,  
Griffin Maks, Rosaleen Mazur,  
Teresa McNamara, Mike McNulty,  
Cathy Nolan, Beth O'Brien,  
Joan O'Donnell, Lynn Pattison,  
Judy Rasfeld, Kathy Sarch,  
Violet Vanselow, Larry White,  
Douglas Williams,  
and those written in our book of  
intercessions.

If you or your loved one needs a Minister  
of Care or is seriously ill or near death,  
and in need of the Sacrament of the  
Sick (Last Rites), please call the parish  
office at 847-446-0856.

## FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

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

**Aria Knee**

**Hugh Gaynor**

The Sanctuary Flowers are given to the  
glory of God and in memory of and  
thanksgiving for Divine Mercy  
Parishioners (SH) and in memory of the  
deceased members of the Berning and  
Dietz families (SPA).

The Sanctuary Candle is lit in memory of  
Andrew Berghoff (SH) and Sharon Mary  
Seul Franke (SPA).

Today's gifts of bread and wine are in  
thanksgiving for the Parishioners of  
Divine Mercy Parish.

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

**DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 9, 2023**  
**Have a joyous and safe Christmas**  
**and Happy New Year!**



**ALPHA IS COMING IN JANUARY!**

**What is Alpha?** Alpha is a series of gatherings where guests have the opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly and inviting atmosphere where no question is too simple or complex. It's an opportunity to explore the big questions of life: Is there more to life than this? Why is there suffering in the world?

**How does it work?**

Each session includes a great meal, a short video followed by a chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic in a small group setting. There's no obligation to say anything, there's nothing you can't say (seriously) and there's no such thing as a silly question.

**WHY IS ALPHA FOR YOU?****Find a Community**

Connecting people in our area from all walks of life, Alpha is a way to meet people that you wouldn't have otherwise.

**Energize your Faith**

Does your faith feel stagnant? Joining Alpha is an engaging and relational way to grow in faith through powerful videos and small group discussion.

**Move Past Small**

With the small group format, each week is an opportunity to get to know others through the sharing of thoughts, experiences, and perspectives which in turn can help you get in touch with your own beliefs.

**Just Not Sure? Come and See**

No pressure, no judgment...just food, friends, and great conversation exploring great questions. Everyone is invited, regardless of spiritual background or beliefs.



Give yourself the gift of Alpha to connect with others, experience faith, and converse on a deeper level.

Join an upcoming Alpha session that fits your schedule:

**Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center starting January 24th ([register here](#)) or

**Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 a.m.** in the Parish Center starting January 25th ([register here](#)).

Questions: email [Patty Sanfilippo](#) or call 847-446-0856.

**Join Father Steve to watch  
The Faithful Revolution: Vatican II**  
a video series on the Second Vatican Council called by the visionary Saint Pope John XXIII.

*"The world was going to hell in a hand basket and what was the Church going to do about it?" - Robert Blair Kaiser, Time magazine correspondent at Vatican II.*

Revisit a time when change and renewal were in the air. The series presents archival footage and special interviews with participants at the Council, affording us insight into this pivotal 21st ecumenical council of the Church.

Each session includes time for dialogue.  
See where it all began and where it might yet lead us.  
This 5 week series begins Thursday, January 5th at 7pm in the Parish Center.

**The Chosen**  
Following Jesus  
Then & Now

Thursdays 7-8:30pm  
beginning Feb. 9th &  
running thru Lent in the  
Parish Center

Each episode will be followed by a short discussion, hosted by Judy Pyke.

Join Us!

Enter into the story of the people who surrounded Jesus. Sinners who spent time with the one Man who understood them & would eventually die for them. These are the stories of rebuke & hope, of sin and forgiveness. Their story is ours. You'll meet the people who loved Him, served Him, & followed Him, seeing the Savior through their eyes as you consider who He is & why He came.

**SUPER FUN SATURDAY**

Warm up from the cold with an afternoon of FUN! Bounce houses, dancing, DJ contests, pizza & more!

**Saturday, February 11, 2023**  
**11:30am-2:00pm**

Divine Mercy Parish @ St. Philip's Gymnasium  
1980 Old Willow Rd, Northfield  
\$5/person (ages 2+); maximum \$20/family

**SEE YOU THERE!**  
Hosted by Divine Mercy Parish



## CHRISTMAS SHARING THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to the 65 parishioners who contributed towards our Great Gift Card Challenge for our sharing parishes - St. Moses the Black (formerly St. Columbanus) and St. Benedict the African. \$14,531.00 was raised for this effort (\$500 more than last year)! Your generosity will make Christmas possible for many people this year! Thank you!

**You are welcome to take this worship aid / bulletin home with you after Mass.**

## MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS DONATION BEFORE YEAR END

Whether you join us for Mass in-person, from your living room or from fields afar, we graciously ask you to remember Divine Mercy Parish in your giving.

Your generosity helps us bring you the Mass each week, do the good work of the parish, support our many outreach efforts and keep the lights on! We are grateful beyond measure for your support! Merry Christmas and God Bless You!!

Simply scan the QR Code or click [here](#) to be taken to our safe & secure Give Central site. Thank you!

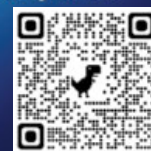


## The Psychology of Religion

**FR. JOSEPH JACKSON, PHD**  
Thursdays, January 12 and  
January 19 from 7 to 8pm  
via Zoom

Fr. Jackson will speak about the effect of religion on beliefs, motivations, emotions and behaviors. We hope you will join us!  
**REGISTER HERE or SCAN THE QR CODE**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4AADAB29ABFA7-psychology>



## UNCLE PETE'S MINISTRY

This ministry is a great way to serve as a family, no matter the age! Join us on Monday, January 16 from 7-8:00 p.m. in the Parish Center at Sacred Heart to assemble sack dinners for those less fortunate. They are then delivered the next day to a Just Harvest Community Kitchen in Rogers Park. Join us! Register [here](#) or scan the QR code to help us plan for the right number of packing stations.



## PARISH OFFICE / STAFF

**The Parish Office reopens from the Christmas Break on Monday, January 9, 2023**

Open Monday - Friday 9am to 4pm  
Office Address: Divine Mercy Parish  
1077 Tower Rd. Winnetka, IL 60093

Parish office or staff member, dial (847) 446-0856; enter the extension number.

Rev. Steven M. Lanza, Pastor  
slanza@divinemercynorthshore.org

Rev. Robert P. Heinz, Retired Resident  
rheinz@archchicago.org

Deacon Mike McNulty  
mimcnulty@divinemercynorthshore.org

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

Deacon Bob Puhala  
bpuhala@usml.edu

Michelle Wasielewski, Director of Operations, x. 131  
mwasielewski@divinemercynorthshore.org

Ron Vanasdlen, Director of Liturgy & Music, x. 107  
rvanasdlen@divinemercynorthshore.org

Liz McGowen, Director of Pastoral Care, Outreach and Special Events, x. 108  
lmcgowen@divinemercynorthshore.org

Patty Sanfilippo, (ALPHA Information),  
Director of Evangelization & Lifelong Formation, x. 103  
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Kathy Handelman,  
Director of Children's Ministry, x. 102  
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Kelly Shoup, Children's Ministry Administrator  
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Judy Pyke, Director of Communications  
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Cindy Atsaves, Finance Office, x. 114  
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Megan Nolan, Administrative Assistant  
megan@divinemercynorthshore.org, x. 101

**Sacred Heart School, (847) 446-0005**  
Margaret Webb, Principal, mwebb@shwschool.org

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