

DIVINE MERCY PARISH

SACRED HEART & ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCHES

DECEMBER 10, 2023

Welcome to Divine Mercy Parish



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

See news on the new pastor selection process on page 13.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PASTOR'S "TO THE POINT"



Here we are. Second Sunday of Advent. We're getting closer to Christmas and the great celebration of the Nativity of the Lord and the Incarnation of divine mystery among us.

In that vein, here is an insight from Pope Francis found in his encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti* (On Fraternity and Social Friendships). He writes: "In the depths of the human heart, love creates bonds and expands existence, for it draws people out of themselves and towards others (n. 88)."

A phenomenon prevalent in the modern world is the isolating tendencies of culture and especially of the internet. Strangely enough, in spite of lots of communication through social media, those types of digital relationships cannot substitute for real and up-close bonds.

So many people suffer from isolation. The Incarnation challenges us to be "real" for one another. To be drawn out of ourselves, extending ourselves for and to others. This is the way we grow. This is the joy of Advent. Let us walk together in the ways of the Lord!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

cf. Isaiah 30:19, 30 Roman Missal

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY

"Make straight his paths," Isaiah cried out, prophesying that the LORD would come to rescue and comfort the people of God. Centuries later, Mark quotes this call at the very beginning of his Gospel, presenting John the Baptist as the prophet who took this to heart, preparing the way for the Lord. Now, two millennia later, during this season when we prepare for the Lord's coming into our lives and into our hearts, how can we "make straight his paths"?

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE HYMN

COMFORT, COMFORT, O MY PEOPLE

We stand and sing together.

1. Com - fort, com - fort, O my peo - ple, Speak of peace, now
 2. Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing In the des - ert
 3. O make straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er

says our God; Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
 far and near, Bid - ding all to full re - pent - ance
 plac - es plain; Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

Mourn - ing 'neath their sor - row's load. Speak un - to Je -
 Since the king - dom now is here. O that warn - ing
 As be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

Tell of all the sins I cov - er, And that war - fare now is o - ver.
 Let the val - leys rise to meet him And the hills bow down to greet him.
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Isaiah 40:1-8; *Tröstet, tröstet, meine Lieben*; Johann Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
 Tune: GENEVA 42, 8 7 8 7 7 7 88; *Genevan Psalter*, 1551; harm. adapt. from Claude Goudimel, 1505-1572

ENTRANCE SONG

Together we sing with the Song Leader.

4:30 p.m.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong take heart

Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6:33, 7:7; Taizé Community, 1984
 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
 © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

10 a.m.

PreK-2nd Grade children are invited to participate after the Collect. We repeat each phrase after the Song Leader.

Go now and listen to God's Word R.

God's Word of love,

God's Word of truth. R.

God's Word of eternal life. R.

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FIRST READING

This passage from the book of Isaiah begins with God calling upon the prophet to encourage the Jewish people who are exiled in Babylon. The prophet is to tell them that they will be returning home soon, and the road of the return will pass through the desert. We will also hear God call the people to proclaim from a mountaintop the goodness of God.

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the Lord double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. Go up onto a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord God, who

rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

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

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

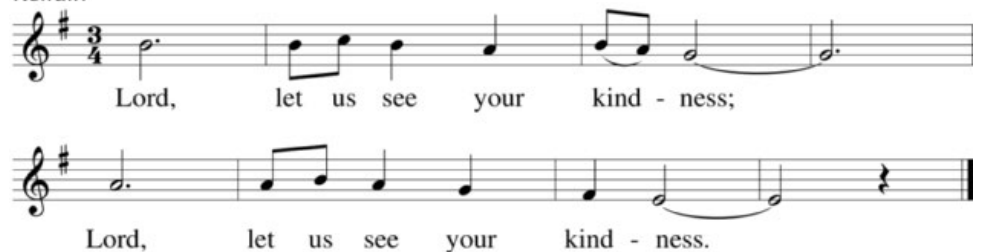
After the First Reading we hear the word of God proclaimed through the Psalm.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

Together we sing the response with the Psalmist.

Refrain



Verses sung by the Psalmist.

1. Let us hear what our God proclaims: Peace to the people of God, salvation is near to the ones who fear God. **R.**
2. Kindness and truth, justice and peace; truth shall spring up as the water from the earth, justice shall rain from the heavens. **R.**
3. The Lord will come and you shall know his love, justice shall walk in his pathways, salvation the gift that he brings. **R.**

Today the *Psalm* is a promise of the kingdom of God in our lives and in our world.

SECOND READING

The second letter of Peter was written nearly 100 years after Jesus' death and resurrection. At an earlier time, Christians had expected the Lord to return in glory quickly. But by this time, they had lost confidence that the Lord would return at all. The author doesn't want people to abandon their hope and gives a positive interpretation to this delay.

2 Peter:3:8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

4:30 p.m.

Together we sing the response with the Psalmist.



Verses sung by the Psalmist.

I will hear what God proclaims; the Lord — for he proclaims peace to his people. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land. **R.**

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps. **R.**

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After the Psalm we hear the word of God proclaimed with the Second Reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand as we join the Song Leader in singing:.

Mass of St. Mary Magdalene
Sarah Hart



Music © 2018, Sarah Hart. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Verse sung by the music ministry.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **R.**

Luke 3:4, 6

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 4:30 p.m.



Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

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

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

We stand and sing the appointed acclamation.

GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

For the next two Sundays, the gospels encourage us to encounter Christ through the ministry of John the Baptist. The great prophet, clothed in camel's hair and munching on locusts, prepares the way of the Lord with a singular focus.

Mark 1:1-8

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

A proclamation from the holy Gospel ✠ according to Mark

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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, **(all bow)** who was conceived by the Holy

Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, **(all 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.

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 **(all bow)** and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. **(all stand)** For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, 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.

4:30 p.m. OFFERTORY SONG

Together we sing the Song Leader.

The musical notation is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

WITHIN OUR DARKEST NIGHT

OUR OFFERINGS IN SUPPORT OF THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH



INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

John the Baptist proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Our baptism gives us the right and privilege of standing at this altar to offer our prayer of thanksgiving. Seeking the forgiveness that is poured forth from this table of reconciliation, we lift up our hearts and voices.

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

R. Amen.

PREFACE DIALOGUE

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.



OFFERTORY SONG

Together we sing.

A VOICE CRIES OUT

Michael Joncas

Verse 1

1. Con - sole my peo - ple, the ones dear to me; speak to the
1. heart of Je - ru - sa - lem: the time of your mourn - ing is
1. end - ed now, the Lord of life will come.

Refrain

A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness: "Pre - pare a
way for the Lord!" A voice cries out in the wil - der -
ness: "Make straight a high - way for God!"

Verse 2

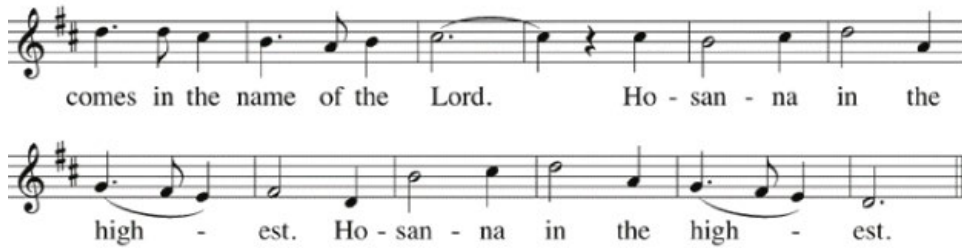
2. Ev - 'ry val - ley is made a plain, ev - 'ry moun - tain is
2. lev - eled; the glo - ry of God shall then be re -
2. vealed, and the na - tions will sing in praise.

Text: Based on Isaiah 40:1-11. Text and music © 1981, 1982, The Jan Michael Joncas Trust.
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PREFACE ACCLAMATION (HOLY)

Together we sing.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of
hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name, who



Please kneel after the acclamation.

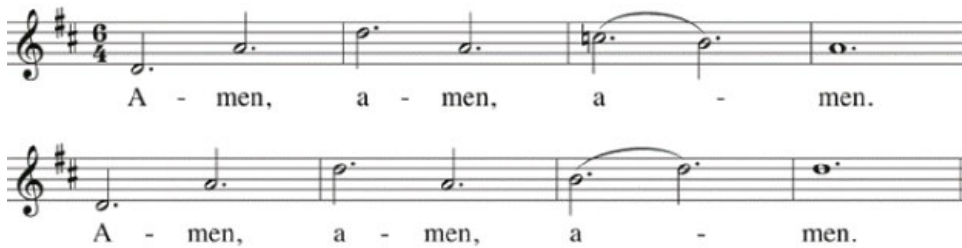
MYSTERY OF FAITH

Together we sing.



DOXOLOGY AND GREAT AMEN

Together we sing.



Please stand after the response as we pray together The Lord's Prayer.

LAMB OF GOD

Together we sing.



Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *Missa Pacem*, L. Randolph Babin, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

Please kneel after the acclamation.

LORD'S PRAYER & SIGN OF PEACE

INVITATION TO 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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

cf. Isaiah 30:19, 20



Tuesday is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Take the time to research the wonders of Mary's appearance to Saint Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill outside of Mexico City.

O God, Father of mercies, who placed your people under the singular protection of your Son's most holy Mother, grant that all who invoke the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe, may seek with ever more lively faith the progress of peoples in the ways of justice and of peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

During the communion procession 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 singing together, as best we can, the Communion Song.

After the Communion Song we spend some time in silent prayer and/or sing a psalm or song of praise.

COMMUNION SONG

ON THAT HOLY MOUNTAIN

Together we sing with the Song Leader.

The wolf is the guest of the lamb, **R. on that holy mountain.**
And the calf and the lion shall lie down, **R. on that holy mountain.**
Together they shall rest with the child,
R. on that holy mountain, on that holy mountain of the Lord.

REFRAIN

Cantor/All

No harm or ruin— on that ho - ly moun - tain.
That sa - cred day— shall be filled with knowl - edge.
There shall be peace,— led by all the chil - dren,
on that ho - ly moun - tain, on that ho - ly moun -
- tain, on that ho - ly moun - tain of the Lord.

1.-2. To Verses Final 2

Joe Mattingly
Text and music © 1990, WLP

COMMUNION SONG

4:30 p.m.

OUR DARKNESS

Jacques Berthier

Our— dark-ness is nev - er dark-ness in your
La té - nè - bre n'est point té - nè - bre de - vant
sight: the deep-est night is clear as the day - light.
toi: la nuit com-me le jour est lu - miè - re.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN ADVENT BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Bow down for the blessing:

May the almighty and merciful God, by whose grace you have placed your faith in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son and yearn for his coming again sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent and enrich you with his blessing.

R. Amen.

As you run the race of this present life, may he make you firm in faith, joyful in hope and active in charity. **R. Amen.**

So that, rejoicing now with devotion at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh, you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life when he comes again in majesty. **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.**

DISMISSAL

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

— or — Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

— or — Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

— or — Go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Together we sing.

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to
reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine
own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all
sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

TUNE: HYFRYDOL

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: Rowald H. Prichard arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams

SENDING SONG


4:30 p.m.

PATIENCE, PEOPLE

Together we sing.


John Foley, S.J.

Refrain




Pa-tience, peo-ple, till the Lord is come.


Verses



1. See the farm-er a-wait the yield of the soil. He watch-es
2. You have seen the pur-pose of the Lord. You know of
3. Stead-y your hearts, for the Lord is close at hand. And do not



1. it in win-ter and in spring rain. } Pa-tience,
2. his com-pas-sion and his mer-cy. }
3. grum-ble, one a-against the oth-er. }



1-3. peo-ple, for the Lord is com-ing.

Text: Based on James 5:7-9, 11. Text and music © 1977, John B. Foley, S.J., and OCP. All rights reserved.

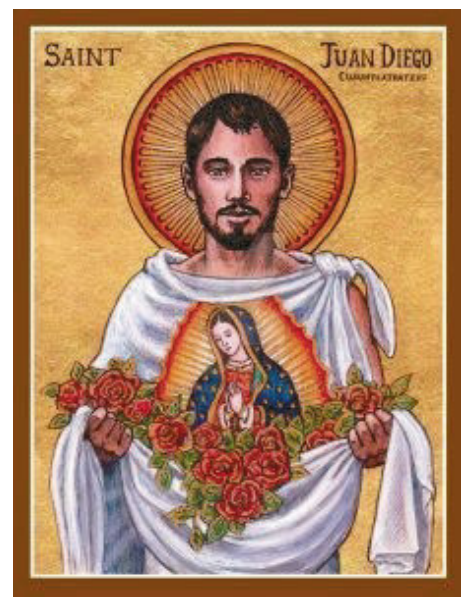
Members of the Parish Prayer Team are available after the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses to pray with you in the church.

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception (celebrated Dec. 8) and the Divine Infancy.

The first 24 days of December fall during the liturgical season known as Advent and are represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

The remaining days of December mark the beginning of Christmas Time. The liturgical color changes to white or gold — a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.

The word **Advent** is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming," which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God's incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:1), his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist (John 1:29), and his first miracle at Cana (John 2:1).



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Adoration by Candlelight

Sunday, December 17, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Parish

Sacred Heart Church



As we begin the last full week of Advent, the Season of Preparation for Christmas Time, let us forever adore the most Holy Sacrament with the Divine Mercy Men's Inspirational Study Group.

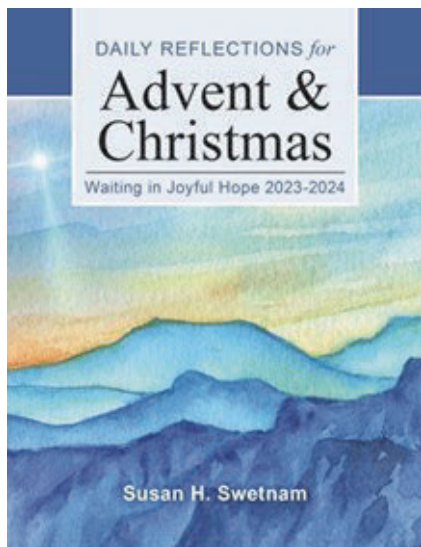
All are welcome!

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

As we prepare to celebrate the joy of the Christmas Season, let's come together to amplify the joy through the gift of music. Our Music Ministry has been a heartbeat of our worship, filling our hearts with hope and inspiration all year long. This holiday, we invite you to join us in making a beautiful symphony of togetherness. Your heartfelt donations will harmonize our celebrations and resonate with the spirit of the season. Let's create lasting memories with music, kindness, and love. You may use an envelope or our GIVE CENTRAL link by clicking [here](#) or by scanning the QR Code.



Join us to Discuss and Reflect on Waiting in Joyful Hope!

THURSDAYS DURING ADVENT

Plenty of booklets are available for all in the vestibule of St. Philip and the Gathering Space of Sacred Heart.

Mornings 9-10am

John Paul II Room at St. Philip

Hosted by Cathy Stegich

(Join us at 8:45am for Coffee & light Breakfast)

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)

**Evenings 7-8pm**

Fireplace Room at Sacred Heart

Hosted by Kathleen Clarke

(Join us at 6:30 for a glass of wine and a slice of pizza)

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

Your Christmas Flower donations will assist us in enhancing our worship with beautiful poinsettias at all our Masses during Christmas Time at both St. Philip and Sacred Heart. You may use your envelope to make your donation via our Give Central site by clicking [here](#) or scanning the QR code.



YOU ARE INVITED TO
SACRED HEART SCHOOL'S

Candles and Carols

DECEMBER 20 @ 6PM
SACRED HEART CHURCH

Children's Ministry
Christmas Pageant

December 17 9:15 a.m.
Sacred Heart School Gym

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Please note that the Fourth Sunday of Advent is *also* Christmas Eve this year. There is only **one Mass** for the last Sunday of Advent, which will take place on Saturday, December 23rd at 5 p.m. at St. Philip the Apostle Church. Please note there will be NO 8 a.m. Mass at St. Philip and NO 10 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart on the **morning** of December 24th.

Join us for one or more of these
festive holiday gatherings!

Christmas Mass Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent
December 23rd (Saturday) 5 pm
at St. Philip the Apostle

Christmas Eve

3 pm at Sacred Heart
4 pm at St. Philip the Apostle
5 pm at Sacred Heart
10 pm at Sacred Heart

Christmas Day

9 am at St. Philip
the Apostle
10 am at Sacred Heart

Divine Mercy Parish Presents

Caroling Party

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19
4:30-5:30 PM
PARISH CENTER AT SACRED HEART
1090 GAGE, WINNETKA

- Come and sing Christmas carols led by parishioner Alex Valvassori
- Christmas crafts
- Hot chocolate and treats
- Come cozy and comfy or dress in your holiday gear
- Babies, children of all ages, aunts, uncles, grandparents, caregivers & friends welcome

Come one, come all!

Questions?
Contact Kathy Handelman, khandelman@divinemercynorthshore.org or
Liz McGowen, lmcgowen@divinemercynorthshore.org, 847-446-0856 ext. 108

CHRISTMAS SHARING IS HERE



Christmas Sharing with St. Benedict the African and St. Moses the Black returns for 2023! Once again, we have worked with each parish to tailor the cards to the needs of their communities. We are thankful for all who give so generously to this program each year.

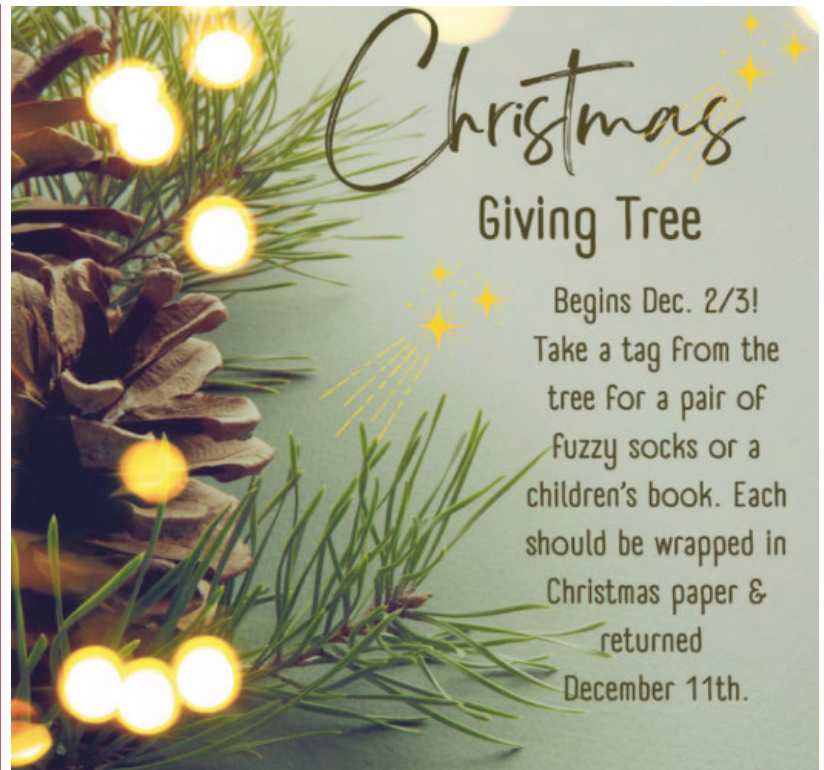
DEADLINE:

Monday, December 11, 2023.

HERE IS WHAT TO DO:

- 1) Sign up for a gift card. You may sign up for as many as you wish. Click [here](#) or scan the QR Code below or visit our website.
- 2) Purchase the gift card and get a receipt for each card.
- 3) Place the gift card(s) and receipt(s) in an envelope marked "Christmas Sharing." Remember to put your name on the envelope so we can keep track of who returned their cards.
- 4) Put your envelope in the offertory at Mass or bring it to the parish office. If the office is closed, you may put it into the **black drop box** next to the front door.
- 5) **Please do not put your envelope into the mailbox -- if you do, it will go to the post office and not to our sharing parish!**
- 6) Or, you may mail your envelope to Divine Mercy Parish, 1077 Tower Rd., Winnetka, IL 60093, Attn: Christmas Sharing.

Questions? Contact Liz McGowen,
Lmcgowen@divinemercynorthshore.org
 or 847-446-0856 ext 108.



**Thank you for your generosity
 in supporting so many
 of our outreach efforts!**

 Divine Mercy Parish

100 Suitcase Project

November 18–December 17

Many people in the Chicago area are in desperate need of warm clothing, blankets, and suitcases.



Divine Mercy Parish is collecting suitcases in good condition.

**All are encouraged to fill the suitcases with
 Blankets, Sleeping Bags, Winter Clothing, & Coats**

OUR GOAL IS 100 FULL SUITCASES!

Donations may be dropped off at Sacred Heart Church Mon-Fri 7-3, Sat 7-6, Sun 7-5:30
 St. Philip the Apostle Church Tues & Fri 7-9 am, Sun 7-9:30 am
 Items will go to organizations serving the needy.

**Too much to fit in a suitcase or no suitcase to donate?
 Please put items to donate into bags and bring them anyway!**

www.divinemercynorthshore.org/outreach-partners

NEW PASTOR SELECTION PROCESS AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Our pastor, Fr. Steve Lanza, will be retiring in June of 2024. The Archdiocesan Priest Placement Board is beginning the search process for a new pastor of Divine Mercy Parish beginning July 2024. Representatives of the Priest Placement Board met with our Parish Staff, as well as members of the Senior Leadership Team, the Parish Council, the Finance Council and the Chairs of all of our Boards (including Sacred Heart School) on December 4th to gather input on what Divine Mercy needs in a pastor for our future.

The Priest Placement Board seeks input from our parishioners as well through a questionnaire they have created. You can find copies of that questionnaire in the Gathering Space at Sacred Heart and the vestibule of St. Philip. Once you complete the questionnaire, you can place them in the receptacle box located in the same location. All questionnaires will be forwarded to the Priest Placement Board. **QUESTIONNAIRES ARE DUE AT THE PARISH BY DECEMBER 28th.**

Next steps? The Priest Placemen Board will review all the information gathered from and about Divine Mercy (as well as other parishes in need of a pastor) over the next 2-3 months, while simultaneously speaking with priests who are considering new assignments. Please keep the Priest Placement Board in your prayers during this process as they discern the best pastor for Divine Mercy.

Thank you for your participation in this important process! The future of Divine Mercy depends on all of us! Come Holy Spirit, Come!

TRI-PARISH EVENT: BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS: THE CHRISTIAN CALL IN THE MIDST OF VIOLENCE

Join us for the next Tri-Parish even featuring Brian Schmisek, PhD, Provost of the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary on Monday, January 15th from 7-8:00 p.m. at Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity Parish Center.

Our world, both at home and across the globe, seems engulfed by violence. We each have our own fears, hopes and coping mechanisms when confronted with it. How does our faith inform our response? What are the teachings of Jesus and the Church? Join us to learn more!

Join us for Season 3

The Chosen

Following Jesus
Then & Now

Thursdays 6:30-8 pm
Beginning February 1, 2024
for 8 weeks

at Divine Mercy Parish Center at
Sacred Heart (Burr & Gage Sts.)
We Begin with Dinner!

ALL ARE WELCOME



Each episode will be
followed by a short
discussion. Join Us!

Join Us for Alpha
Tuesday Evenings
6:30-8pm beginning 1/16/24 or
Wednesday Mornings from
9:30-11am beginning 1/17/24

WHY?
To energize your faith, move past
small talk, find a community, and
make new friends.

Register or get more info:
divinemercynorthshore.org/alpha

Join
Fr. John Kartje's
Amazing Bible Study!
Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Nov 15 & 29 / Dec 13
Jan 17 & 31, Feb 7 & 28
Mar 6 & 20, Apr 3 & 17
May 1, 15 & 29

**Divine Mercy
Parish Center
at Sacred Heart**

Join Fr. John Kartje, Rector and President of
Mundelein Seminary/University of St. Mary
of the Lake, as he opens the Word of God for
us during his Bible Study sessions. You'll
look at scripture in a whole new way!
Scan the QR Code for any date changes.

THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE LITURGICAL MINISTER ASSIGNMENTS

December 16, 2023

5:00 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Bob Heinz

Sacristan: Joe Schuessler

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Cathy Lehman

EM: Minister Needed

December 17, 2023

8:00 a.m.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Bob Heinz

Sacristan: Rima Abraham

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Bob Snediker

EM: Deacon Gerry Keenan

10:00 a.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Bill Hague

EM: Mary Jo Bushell

4:30 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

Sacristan: Minister Needed

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Barb Anderson

EM: Cathy Stegich

Questions for the Week

What is the most difficult obstacle I face in preparing a way for Christ to come into my heart anew this Christmas?

How can I remove this obstacle?

On December 17, we welcome Jennifer Morse to our community of faith as she makes her Profession of Faith and receives her First Communion at the 4:30 p.m. Mass.

Don't Miss Catholicism 101!

Come hear:

Why Be Catholic? A Guide for Parents

Time: 8:45-9:50 a.m.

Date: Sunday, December 10

Place: Sacred Heart School

You will not want to miss this second of four parent coffees presented by attorney, professor, catechist and Catholic convert Sam Fifer. Sam will dive deeper into the Church Calendar, Advent and church Tradition. We invite parents to take this hour to deepen their faith this Advent in community with others from Divine Mercy Parish.

All are welcome! Bring a friend!

Coffee and light breakfast bites will be served.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on a Sunday this year.

There is only one Mass to
fulfill our Sunday
obligation at 5 p.m. on
Dec. 23 at St. Philip the
Apostle Church

Please note: there are no
Sunday morning Masses
(8 a.m. St. Philip and no 10
a.m. Sacred Heart) on Dec. 24

The Season of Christmas Time

*Christmas is not a single day
but an entire season concluding on
January 8. Join us in worship!*

Dec. 26, 8 a.m., Feast of St. Stephen
—St. Philip

Dec. 27, 8 a.m., Feast of St. John
—Sacred Heart

Dec. 28, 8:30 a.m., Feast of the Holy
Innocents—Sacred Heart

Dec. 29, 8 a.m., Fifth Day of Christmas—
St. Philip

Dec. 31, Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and
Joseph—Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Jan. 1, 9 a.m., Mary, the Holy Mother of
God—Sacred Heart

Jan. 2, 8 a.m., Ss. Basil and Gregory
Nazianzen—St. Philip

Jan. 3, 8:30 a.m., The Most Holy Name of
Jesus—Sacred Heart

Jan. 4, 8 a.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton—
Sacred Heart

Jan. 5, 8 a.m., St. John Neuman,
First Friday—St. Philip

Jan. 7, Epiphany of the Lord—
Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Jan. 8, Feast of the Baptism of the Lord,
the Last Day of Christmas Time
—Sacred Heart

PARISH OFFICE

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

PARISH OFFICE / STAFF

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

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slanza@divinemercynorthshore.org

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

Rev. Ken Kiepora, Retired Resident

Deacon Mike McNulty, retired
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Deacon Gerry Keenan, 773-251-6626
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Sacred Heart School,
1095 Gage St, Winnetka, IL 60093
(847) 446-0005
Jodi Reuter, Principal,
jreuter@shwschool.org

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, Loretto Berghoff,
Paul Berghoff, Caroline Birnbaum,
Donald Blair, Elaine Boback,
Ronald Braun, Wendy Braun,
Robert Conte, Jr., John Coyne,
James Farney, Joseph Felicelli,
Julie Felicelli, Mary Beth Fellingner,
Lisa Marie Franke, Ermin Garcia, Jr.,
Patricio Gilchrist, Benjamin Grillo,
Rose Anne Grimes, Regina Harvey,
Mike Hayes, Barbara Hayward,
Jack Hogan, Jim Horrell, Sarah Hyde,
Rick Kehrer, Ryan Kelly, Andy Klatt,
Patti Kotscharjan, Diana Lambert,
Gina Quirk Lazicki, Margaret Lenhart,
Ginny Linting, Susan Lodge,
Jamey Machens, John Madden,
Sr. Peggy McDonnell, Mike McNulty,
Heather Mroz, Beth O'Brien,
Joan O'Donnell, Lynn Pattison,
Mike Pearson, Cheryl Pierson,
Debbie Puhala, Brad Raguse,
Judy Rasfeld, Scott Rood, Kathy Sarch,
Terry Shin, Catherine Sullivan,
Kay Thomas, Rita VanHynning,
Violet Vanselow, Amanda Warford,
Larry White, and those written in our
parish book of prayer.

If you or your loved one needs a Minister of Care, is seriously ill or near death, and in need of the Sacrament of the Sick/Last Rites, please contact 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,
especially **Celeste Rak** and **Kris Bhasin**.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sacred Heart Church:

Saturdays 9 - 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 2 - 3:00 p.m.

St. Philip the Apostle Church:

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

ONLINE ROSARY via Zoom

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m.

Link on website homepage

PARISH CALENDAR

The month of December is dedicated to
the **Immaculate Conception**
and the **Divine Infancy**

December 10, Sunday

*The Second Sunday of Advent
International Human Rights Day*

- 8:45 a.m. Catholicism 101 for Parents
- Sacred Heart School Room 300.
- Hospitality after the 8 a.m. Mass at
St. Philip and the 10 a.m. Mass at
Sacred Heart
- Hunger Hero Weekend
- 5:15 - 7 p.m. - Family Faith - Parish
Center

December 11, Monday

*Monday of the 2nd Week of Advent
Optional Memorial of
St. Damasus I*

- 8 a.m. Mass — Sacred Heart

December 12, Tuesday

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 8 a.m. Mass — St. Philip
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary — St. Philip
- 8:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Tutoring at
Tolton Academy
- 6:30 p.m. Councils and Boards
Christmas Party - Parish Center

December 13, Wednesday

Memorial of St. Lucy

- 8:30 a.m. Mass — Sacred Heart
- 2 - 3 p.m. Adoration — Sacred Heart
- 3 - 4:30 p.m. Confessions — St. Philip
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study with Fr. Kartje -
Parish Center

December 14, Thursday

Memorial of St. John of the Cross

- 8 a.m. Mass — Sacred Heart
- 8:45—10:15 a.m. Advent Small Group
- SPA JPPII Room
- 6:30—8 p.m. Advent Small Group -
SH Fireplace Room

December 15, Friday

Friday of the 2nd Week of Advent

- 8 a.m. Mass — St. Philip
- 5-9:30 p.m. 8th Grade Christmas
Dance - Parish Center

December 16, Saturday

*Saturday of the 2nd Week of Advent
Simban Gabi Begins
Las Posada Begins
Las Parrandas Begins*

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Inspirational Study

Group - SH Fireplace Room

- 9—9:30 a.m. Confessions — Sacred
Heart
- 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. A Just Harvest Food Drop
Off - Parish Center Kitchen

December 17, Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:45—9:50 a.m. Children's Ministry
Sessions - Sacred Heart School and
Parish Center
- 9:15 a.m. Children's Ministry Christmas
Pageant - Sacred Heart School Gym
- 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. A Just Harvest Lunch
Service (offsite)
- 6 - 7 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament - Sacred Heart Church

MASS INTENTIONS**SUNDAY, DEC 10**

8:00 a.m. (SPA) — Tom Reedy †

10:00 a.m. (SH) — Ludy Mariano

4:30 p.m. (SH) — Parishioners of Divine
Mercy

MONDAY, DEC 11 (SH)

8:00 a.m. — Alice Mantoan †

TUESDAY, DEC 12 (SPA)

8:00 a.m. — Georgeann Pyke †

WEDNESDAY, DEC 13 (SH)

8:30 a.m. — Pat Craddock †

THURSDAY, DEC 14 (SH)

8:00 a.m. — Gisela Diaz Lazarot †

FRIDAY, DEC 15 (SPA)

8:00 a.m. — Joel Dysart †

SATURDAY, DEC 16 (SH)

5:00 p.m. — Stevens-Conway Families

SUNDAY, DEC 17

8:00 a.m. (SPA) — Jean Kane †

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

4:30 p.m. (SH) — Tom Reedy †

MASS INTENTIONS

Contact the parish office 847-446-0856 or
megan@divinemercynorthshore.org

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AFTER MASS.**

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