

# DIVINE MERCY PARISH

SACRED HEART & ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCHES

DECEMBER 31, 2023

## DIVINE MERCY PARISH

### WISHES YOU A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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

## THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

**PASTOR'S "TO THE POINT"**

The liturgical feast which we celebrate this Sunday is the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It also happens to be New Year's Eve.

To my mind, that is a great conjunction. I think this type of holiday ought to be observed with family, whether that be family of origin or "families" of good friends who gather for the festivities.

I will be with my brother and sister-in-law. I'm sure my nieces will be with us for the first part of the evening. Mostly likely, they will have parties with friends that will take them out of the house. Or, if the University of Georgia is in a playoff game and it airs on New Year's Eve as it did last year (this column was written many weeks ago), then my nieces will be with us for the game screaming their heads off. (Miles, the dog, was really confused by all the commotion that comes with fan-fever.)

If your family is like mine with the younger ones going off to separate parties later in the evening, I pray that you all be kept safe this New Year's Eve and have an enjoyable time filled with goodness and laughter. May the Holy Family be a shining example of love for all our human families!

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? YOU'LL:

### 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 TALK

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 16th ([register here](#))



or Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Parish Center starting January 17th ([register here](#)).



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



## MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

Join Catholic writer, speaker, and podcaster Joan Watson, on a Marian Pilgrimage across the Iberian Peninsula! As we travel from Fatima to Lourdes at a contemplative place, we will have the opportunity to pray at both ancient and modern Marian sites. Specifically curated by Joan with daily focuses and themes, this journey aims to increase your love of Jesus through Mary and the saints like Anthony, Dominic, and Teresa of Avila. June 20-30, 2024. For more information, visit [versoministries.com/marian2024](https://versoministries.com/marian2024) or email Joan at [joan@versoministries.com](mailto:joan@versoministries.com).

Take advantage of the Christmas special for \$400 off with promo code **MARY400**.

## MEN'S ADORATION THANK YOU

Thank you to all who attended the special night of Eucharistic Adoration on December 17th sponsored by our Men's Spirituality group. It was a wonderful evening of prayer, music and reflection. Special thanks to Ron Vanasdlen and Miranda Farmer for their liturgical and musical contributions!





4.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DIVINE MERCY

## NOW OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT!



9X

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School

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Faith-Inspired development sets the foundation for strong values, compassion and service within the community and beyond.



Our welcoming and supportive Community in the Heart of Winnetka lives out the epitome of the "village" it takes to raise secure, kind, and compassionate future leaders.

### FACT:

More than 90% of Sacred Heart Students are performing at or ABOVE grade level in Math and Reading.



INSPIRING MINDS. SHAPING HEARTS.

[www.shwschool.org](http://www.shwschool.org)

## THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK AT DIVINE MERCY

We are on the cusp of great things at Divine Mercy. The fruits of the Holy Spirit are everywhere we look, and that is because our parishioners and guests have chosen to be engaged with their faith. They have taken that first step of saying, Yes! They've made the commitment to get to know Jesus better. And the heavens rejoice.

This is YOUR church, YOUR parish and YOUR faith community. It can only flourish through God's grace and the efforts of us all.

We graciously ask you to remember Divine Mercy Parish in your giving this Christmas. Your generosity, which is the SOLE source of funding for everything we do at Divine Mercy, helps us bring you the Mass each week, do the good work of the parish through our community outreach partners, evangelize through efforts like ALPHA, connect with our homebound parishioners, and keep the lights on! We are grateful beyond measure for your support.

[Click here](#) to use our website to make your Christmas donation, or scan the QR Code.



Merry Christmas and God bless you!

# SUPER FUN SATURDAY

Bounce Houses!

Saturday, Feb 3

11:30am-1:30pm

DJ Contests!

Enjoy an afternoon of FUN  
for the whole family!

Games!

1980 Old Willow Rd.

Pizza!

[DivineMercyNorthShore.org/FunSat](http://DivineMercyNorthShore.org/FunSat)


## SAVE THE DATE

### LIGHT THE NIGHT

7-12th Graders:  
Join us on Saturday,  
February 17, from  
5:30-8:30 p.m. at  
Carmel Catholic High School  
for an evening of faith,  
fellowship, and reflection.

To learn more:  
[carmelhs.org/lightthenight/](http://carmelhs.org/lightthenight/)





# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DIVINE MERCY

5.

Highlights from Children's Ministry Christmas Pageant held on December 17, 2023. Bravo to the 3rd and 4th graders as well as their catechists for hosting a wonderful performance! Many thanks to director Kristin Katz, her assistants Nelson Goodrich and Connor Lolli. Additional thanks to pianist and song leader Miranda Farmer. Finally, thank you to Kathy Handelman and Kelly Shoup for their leadership in Children's Ministry! Happy New Year to all!



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY STUDENTS GO CAROLING AT NORTH SHORE PLACE

Many thanks to our Children's Ministry Students who went Caroling at North Shore Place before Christmas, led by Parishioner Joe Carey. The kids did a great job! After the show, one of the seniors approached them to say that they wait for this concert every year! Another senior was dancing and hand clapping during the songs. They really enjoyed seeing and hearing the kids sing! Bravo!



## 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!



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. 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. Their story is ours.





## 6. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DIVINE MERCY

Sacred Heart School held its annual Candles and Carols Christmas celebration on Wednesday, December 20th. The students put on a magnificent program! Many thanks to our students, Jodi Reuter and Jennifer Sullivan for their guidance, Angela Mack and Laura Wettersen for their leadership and organization, Jon Comstock and Miranda Farmer for their beautiful music and accompaniment, Tanya Klatt for the beautiful art and backdrop and of course the faculty and staff of Sacred Heart School. It was a magical night!



### SACRED HEART SCHOOL 8TH GRADE FOOD DRIVE

Kudos to our Sacred Heart School 8th Graders for living their values and leading by example in completing a corporal work of mercy—feeding the hungry! They conducted another food drive just before Christmas and collected over 300 cans of food for A Just Harvest Community Kitchen in just a few short days. Well done 8th Graders!







## **Blessed are the Peacemakers: The Christian Call in the Midst of Violence**

**Brian Schmisek, PhD**

Provost, University of Saint Mary of the Lake/  
Mundelein Seminary

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 popular speaker Brian Schmisek for an important discussion about the issue of violence and our response as Christians.

*You are invited to stay for refreshments and conversation following the presentation.*

*The event will not be livestreamed but will be recorded.*

*Please register if you would like to receive the link to the recording after the event.*

### **A Tri-Parish Event**

**Monday, January 15**

**7:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Ss. Faith Hope &  
Charity Parish Center**  
191 Linden St. Winnetka

To register, go to  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AADAB29ABFA7-46512245-blessed>  
or use the QR code below.



Questions?  
Contact Pam Coster at  
[pcoster@gmail.com](mailto:pcoster@gmail.com)

### **CHRISTIFIDELES AWARD**

Rita Compton recently received the Archdiocesan Christifideles Award. This award is bestowed upon an individual Catholic layperson who has demonstrated by participation in parish life, the personal and ministerial renewal called for by the Papal Exhortation, *Christifideles Laici*, calling the laity to the vocation of responsibility for the Church's life springing from the gift and mission of their baptism. Congratulations to Rita (pictured below with her family) and thank you for all you do for Divine Mercy Parish. This award was truly deserved!



### **CHRISTMAS CAROLING PARTY**

Thanks to all who joined us on December 19th for the Christmas caroling party in the Parish Center with carols led by our very own Alex Valvassori. A great time was had by all!



**Join**

## **Fr. John Kartje's Amazing Bible Study!**

Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**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!



### THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE LITURGICAL MINISTER ASSIGNMENTS

**January 6, 2024**

**5:00 p.m.**

SACRED HEART CHURCH

**President: Fr. Steve Lanza**

Sacristan: Joe Schuessler

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Minister Needed

EM: Minister Needed

**January 7, 2024**

**8:00 a.m.**

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

**President: Fr. Steve Lanza**

Sacristan: Rima Abraham

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Steve Clingan

EM: Minister Needed

**10:00 a.m.**

SACRED HEART CHURCH

**President: Fr. Steve Lanza**

Sacristan: Ludy Mariano

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Minister Needed

EM: Minister Needed

**4:30 p.m.**

SACRED HEART CHURCH

**President: Fr. John Kartje**

Sacristan: Minister Needed

Servers: Ministers Needed

Lector: Minister Needed

EM: Minister Needed

*Christmas celebrations  
continue until January 8.*

*See the Parish Calendar  
for Mass dates, times,  
and locations*

*Merry Christmas!*

**January 1**

**The Solemnity of the  
Holy Mother of God**

*is not a holy day of  
obligation this year*

**Mass will be celebrated,  
however, 9 a.m.,  
at Sacred Heart Church**

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week our sanctuary candle is lit in memory of Pat Craddock.

### 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.

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

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

Rev. Ken Kiepura, Retired Resident

Deacon Mike McNulty, retired  
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 Vanasdlén,  
Director of Liturgy & Music, x. 107  
rvanasdlén@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  
psanfilippo@divinemercynorthshore.org

Kathy Handelman,  
Director of Children's Ministry, x. 102  
khandelman@divinemercynorthshore.org

Kelly Shoup,  
Assistant Director of Children's Ministry  
kshoup@divinemercynorthshore.org x. 106

Judy Pyke, Director of Communications  
jpyke@divinemercynorthshore.org, x. 104

Cindy Atsaves, Finance Office, x. 114  
cindyatsaves@divinemercynorthshore.org

Megan Nolan, Administrative Assistant  
megan@divinemercynorthshore.org,  
x. 101

**Sacred Heart School,**  
1095 Gage St, Winnetka, IL 60093  
**(847) 446-0005**  
Jodi Reuter, Principal,  
jreuter@shwschool.org



[www.shwschool.org](http://www.shwschool.org)

## INSPIRING MINDS. SHAPING HEARTS



*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."—Dr. Seuss*

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR**



## 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 Fellinger,  
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 VanHyning,  
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 **Barbara Lund, Jim Mill** and  
**Jeff Estabrooke.**

## 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

**January is dedicated to the  
Holy Name of Jesus**

**December 31, Sunday**

*Seventh Day within the  
Octave of the Nativity of the Lord  
Feast of the Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
New Year's Eve*

**January 1, Monday**

*Solemnity of Mary,  
the Holy Mother of God  
(not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)  
Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord  
New Year's Day  
World Day of Prayer for Peace  
Kwanzaa ends*

• **9 a.m. Mass — Sacred Heart**

• Parish Office Closed this week

**January 2, Tuesday**

*Memorial of Ss. Basil the Great  
and Gregory Nazianzen*

• 8 a.m. Mass — St. Philip

• 8:30 a.m. Rosary — St. Philip

• Parish Office Closed this Week

**January 3, Wednesday**

*Christmas Weekday  
Optional Memorial of the  
Most Holy Name of Jesus*

• 8:30 a.m. Mass — Sacred Heart

• 2 - 3 p.m. Adoration — Sacred Heart

• 3 - 4:30 p.m. Confessions — St. Philip

• Parish Office Closed this Week

**January 4, Thursday**

*Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

• 8 a.m. Mass — Sacred Heart

• Parish Office Closed this Week

**January 5, Friday**

*Memorial of St. John Neumann  
First Friday*

• 8 a.m. Mass — St. Philip

• 8:30 - 9 a.m. Adoration

& Rosary — St. Philip

• Parish Office Closed this Week

**January 6, Saturday**

*Christmas Weekday  
Optional Memorial  
of St. André Bessette  
First Saturday*

• 7:30 a.m. Men's Inspirational Study  
Group—SH Fireplace Room

• 9—9:30 a.m. Confessions — Sacred  
Heart

• 5 p.m. Vigil of the Epiphany — Sacred  
Heart

**January 7, Sunday**

*The Solemnity of the  
Epiphany of the Lord*

**The Parish Office is closed until Jan. 8.**

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, DEC 31**

8:00 a.m. (SPA) -The Crafty Ladies of  
St. Philip

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

4:30 p. m. (SH) - Tom Reedy †

**MONDAY, JAN 1**

9:00 a.m. (SH) - Bob & Sheila Bernert

**TUESDAY, JAN 2 (SPA)**

8:00 a.m. - Viola Dietz †

**WEDNESDAY, JAN 3 (SH)**

8:30 a.m. - Mario Iturino†

**THURSDAY, JAN 4 (SH)**

8:00 a.m.—Bob Erzinger †

**FRIDAY, JAN 5 (SPA)**

8:00 a.m.—Jean Kane †

**SATURDAY, JAN 6 (SH)**

5:00 p.m. - Sandra Dols †

**SUNDAY, JAN 7**

8:00 a.m. (SPA) -Nancy Blair†

10:00 a.m. (SH) - Frank & Teresa D'Astici

4:30 p. m. (SH) -Denis Dunne † and  
Parishioners of Divine Mercy

## MASS INTENTIONS

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

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO TAKE  
THIS BULLETIN WITH YOU  
AFTER MASS.**

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