

# A Guide to Divine Mercy Ministries & Organizations





## DIVINE MERCY PARISH

Sacred Heart Church - St. Philip the Apostle Church

Rev. Steven M. Lanza, Pastor



We are a welcoming community that inspires disciples of Jesus to share God's love and transform the world.

Making Disciples  Building Church  Serving Others

Visit us at [www.divinemercynorthshore.org](http://www.divinemercynorthshore.org)

# We Are Divine Mercy

Welcome to Divine Mercy Parish! We are a welcoming community that inspires disciples of Jesus to share God's love and transform the world.

We are rooted in and sustained by prayer and the celebration of the sacraments. We strive to establish a deep, personal relationship with Jesus with the help of our many faith formation opportunities like Alpha, and through our many ministerial, outreach, and pastoral care efforts.

Divine Mercy is a place of belonging. All are welcome and invited to come together as the Body of Christ through our Catholic liturgies, ministries, and organizations.



We invite you to explore all the wonderful ministries at Divine Mercy, as well as all the opportunities for you to belong, worship, and serve the Lord and others. You'll find them separated into the following categories.

Liturgy and Worship  
Community and Parish Life  
Outreach and Pastoral Care  
Faith Formation and Education  
Leadership Boards and Councils





# Liturgy and Worship



**Art & Environment** - Helps prepare our churches for Mass or prayer services. Decorates & sets the mood that invites participation through the use of symbolic art and materials, colors, plants, and flowers. (RV)

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** - Trained adults lead children ages 3-8 in the Mass readings in the Parish Office Chapel during part of the 10:00 am Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart Church. (KH)

**Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** - Spend time with Jesus every Wednesday from 2-3:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church and every Friday morning from 8:30-9:00 am at St. Philip the Apostle Church. (RV)

**Rosary** - Weekdays online at 7:30 a.m. (link on our website home page) and in-person on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:30 am at St. Philip the Apostle Church and during Adoration on Wednesdays at 2 pm at Sacred Heart Church. (RV and PS)

**Flowers & Gardens** - Parishioners who plant the exterior flower pots at both church sites, as well as care for the flower and parish vegetable gardens at St. Philip the Apostle. (RV)

**Liturgical Ministers** (all ministers plan their schedules based on availability):

- **Lectors** - Proclaim (read) the Word of God during Mass. (RV)
- **Eucharistic Ministers** - Help the priest distribute Holy Communion at Mass. (RV)
- **Greeters** - Welcome parishioners and guests as they enter Church, and answer any questions guests may have. (PS)
- **Ushers** - Help seat parishioners, collect offertory donations, and coordinate traffic needs at Christmas and Easter if necessary. (PS)
- **Altar Servers** - Assist the priest at the altar (adults and children 4th grade and up). (RV)
- **Sacristans** - Prepare the altar and liturgical books for Masses on Sundays, weekdays, and holy days throughout the year. (RV)
- **Multi-age Choirs, Leaders of Song, Psalmists, and Instrumentalists** - Provide music for Divine Mercy liturgies at both churches, including weekends, holy days of obligation, Christmas, Holy Week, Easter, and other parish celebrations. (RV)

## CONTACTS:

Ron Vanasdlen (RV) at x. 107 or [rvanasdlen@divinemicnorthshore.org](mailto:rvanasdlen@divinemicnorthshore.org)  
Patty Sanfilippo (PS) at x. 103 or [psanfilippo@divinemicnorthshore.org](mailto:psanfilippo@divinemicnorthshore.org)  
Kathy Handelman (KH) at x. 102 or [khandelman@divinemicnorthshore.org](mailto:khandelman@divinemicnorthshore.org)

# Community and Parish Life



**College Care Package Parties** - Parishioners gather once each semester to share stories about the transition to college and prepare care packages for students away at school. (LM)

**Crafty Ladies** - Weekly gathering of women over coffee and pastries to check in with each other and occasionally work on various crafts and parish projects. (LM)

**Hospitality** - Parishioners that host Sunday Social after the 8 am and 10 am Masses, typically held the second Sunday of each month. Hospitality can also be called on for help with bigger parish events when necessary. (PS)

**Men's Club** - Men's group that gathers once a month for social, spiritual, or service activities. (LM)

**Parent-Tot Playgroup** - Parents who participate in a drop-in playdate on Thursday mornings during the school year from 9-10 am. Gatherings alternate between St. Philip and Sacred Heart. Spontaneous summer playdates at the park are coordinated via a chat group. (LM)

**Wedding Ministry** - Assists with rehearsals and "day of" wedding activities. (PS)

**Welcoming Ministry** - Parishioners who visit newly registered parishioners to extend a welcome to the parish and invite their participation at Mass and other parish activities. (PS)

**Women's Network** - Gathering of women on the 4th Monday of each month from 7-8 pm during the academic year, with a program focused on a particular topic or activity. (LM)

## Large Parish Events

**Advent by Candlelight** - Women's gathering the first week of Advent. (PS/LM)

**Alpha Reunion** - Annual gathering in June of all Alpha participants. (PS/LM)

**NiteLites** - Annual fundraiser for Sacred Heart School typically held in April.

**Party in the Park** - Annual parish fun-raiser typically held in the fall. (LM)

**St. Patrick's Day Party** - Annual family party to celebrate the holiday.

**Super Fun Saturday** - A fun winter event for families of younger children with bounce houses, kids' DJ, crafts, and games. (LM)

**Christmas Caroling Party** - Informal family event held during the week before Christmas with carols, cookies, hot cocoa, and crafts. (LM and KH)

**CONTACTS:** Liz McGowen (LM) at x. 108 or [lmcgowen@divinemercynorthshore.org](mailto:lmcgowen@divinemercynorthshore.org)  
Patty Sanfilippo (PS) at x. 103 or [psanfilippo@divinemercynorthshore.org](mailto:psanfilippo@divinemercynorthshore.org)



# Outreach and Pastoral Care



**Outreach – Ministries focused on serving the poor and marginalized in our community, nation, and world.**

**Uncle Pete's Ministry** – One hour of service each month to assemble sack dinners for the homeless.

**Hunger Heroes** – Monthly collection for the food pantries in New Trier and Northfield townships.

**A Just Harvest** – Parishioners volunteer at this Rogers Park community kitchen serving the homeless in multiple ways including preparing and serving lunch at the kitchen on the third Sunday of the month.

**Sharing Parishes** – Divine Mercy Parish partners with St. Moses the Black and St. Benedict the African, two Catholic parishes in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago.

- Tutoring – Parishioners visit Augustus Tolton Catholic Academy to tutor students.
- Day before Thanksgiving – A much-loved Divine Mercy tradition, families go to St. Moses the Black on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to help distribute food to hundreds of people.
- Christmas Sharing – Divine Mercy families sign up to provide gift cards for our sharing parishes' communities.
- School Supply Drive – Collection of school supplies for families served by our sharing parishes.
- Collaborations – Thanks to the generosity of St. Benedict the African, last year our parish hosted the Spellman College Glee Club.

**International outreach** – Divine Mercy Parish has a long and valued history of partnership with the Fr. Paul Foundation in Sri Lanka and with St. Jean Baptiste in Sassier, Haiti.

**Pastoral Care – Ministries focused on sharing God's love with parishioners who are experiencing difficulties or suffering.**

**Family Life Speaker Series** – Presentations to address the identified needs of local families and parishioners. Topics include issues relating to parenting, marriage, and senior life.

**Ministers of Care** – Trained, dedicated parishioners who bring Holy Communion to those who are homebound as well as those living in local nursing homes, hospitals, and other care facilities.

**Support** – Formal and informal support for parishioners in a variety of circumstances including:

- Loss and bereavement – Volunteers help provide hospitality at funerals, help with setup and hosting at funeral repasts, and assist with other needs of those who have lost a loved one.
- Caregiving – Parishioners who are caring for loved ones gather weekly for an informal discussion to share experiences and offer each other support.

**CONTACT:** Liz McGowen at x. 108 or [lmcgowen@divinemer McNorthshore.org](mailto:lmcgowen@divinemer McNorthshore.org)

# Faith Formation and Education



**Adult Education & Formation** - Plans, organizes, and hosts events to build community within the parish and provide opportunities for adult catechesis. Some events are planned within the Tri-Parish group which includes the parishes of Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity, and Sts. Joseph and Francis Xavier. (PS)

**Alpha** - A series of interactive gatherings where guests have the opportunity to explore life, faith, and the meaning of it all in a friendly and inviting atmosphere where no question is seen as too simple or too complex. The format includes a meal, a video, and a small group discussion. All parishioners are encouraged to participate in Alpha. (PS)

**Children's Ministry** - Focuses on engaging the hearts and minds of our children (pre-K through eighth grade) and their families. Sessions are held on Sunday mornings; we also offer Family Faith catechesis, which meets one Sunday evening per month followed by at-home lessons. Sacramental prep is special, thorough, and celebratory. This ministry is made possible by many generous adults and high school students who share their time, faith, and talents. (KH)

**Fr. Kartje Bible Study** - Parishioners gather semi-monthly with Fr. John Kartje, Rector of Mundelein Seminary, who leads the group in a Bible Study focused on specific passages. (PS)

**Men's Spirituality Group** - Gathering of men on Saturday mornings at 7:30 am to discuss books of a spiritual/theological nature. (PS)

**Prayer Team** - Volunteers who pray with and for others after the Sunday 8 and 10 am Masses.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** - A process of faith formation designed for those interested in the Catholic faith. (PS)

**Sacred Heart School** - A faith-based community of faculty, parents, and staff focused on educating the hearts and minds of our students. Core values of Love, Serve, Engage, Discover, and Persevere shape all they do. (JR)

**Scripture Reflection Group** - Monday morning online gathering of parishioners who read and discuss the coming Sunday readings. (JP)

## CONTACTS:

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Kathy Handelman (KH) at x. 102 or [khandelman@divinemercynorthshore.org](mailto:khandelman@divinemercynorthshore.org)  
Jodi Reuter (JR) at 847-446-0005 or [jreuter@shwschool.org](mailto:jreuter@shwschool.org)  
Judy Pyke (JP) at [jpyke@divinemercynorthshore.org](mailto:jpyke@divinemercynorthshore.org)



# LEADERSHIP: COUNCILS AND BOARDS

## Senior Leadership Team

Rev. Steve Lanza, Pastor  
Kathleen Clarke  
Liz McGowen\*  
Judy Pyke\*  
Patty Sanfilippo\*  
Cathy Stegich

## Parish Pastoral Council

Rev. Steve Lanza, Pastor  
Susan Seeberg, Chair  
Terry Brennan  
Kevin Carlson  
Peter Eck  
Sam Fifer  
Liz Harvey  
Siobhan Hill  
Sara Lanser  
Judy Pyke\*  
Dobson Schofield  
Michelle Wasielewski\*  
Hunter Williams

## Sacred Heart School Board

Fr. Steve Lanza, Pastor  
Jodi Reuter, Principal\*  
Jennifer Harrison  
William Hendrick  
Alison Joseph  
Sara Lanser  
Jennifer Mackey  
Ted Rosinus  
Kristen Totten  
Hunter Williams

## Children's Ministry Board

Rev. Steve Lanza, Pastor  
Kathy Handelman\*  
Kelly Shoup\*  
Lydia Barrett  
Meghan McKinney Miller  
Sandy Norbot  
Stephanie Rick  
Lucie White  
Tim Womack

## Outreach Board

Liz McGowen\*  
Laurie Bauer  
Jim Carey  
Dona Carroll  
Kathleen Clarke  
Fran and Jim Freeman  
Chris and George Kaiser  
Lisa and Tom Lesniak  
Bob Snediker

## School Endowment Board

Fr. Steve Lanza, Pastor  
Jodi Reuter, Principal  
Michelle Wasielewski\*  
Tom Borders  
Tom Craddock  
Matt Schachman  
Hunter Williams

## Finance Council

Fr. Steve Lanza, Pastor  
Michelle Wasielewski\*  
Terry Brennan  
Tim Castellini  
Tim Drehkoff  
Mary Anne Martin  
Gerry Schroeder

## Evangelization Board

Patty Sanfilippo\*  
Kathleen Clarke  
Rita Compton  
John Henik  
Joe McGowan  
Melanie Puljic  
John Russell  
Cathy Stegich

## Liturgy Board

Ron Vanasdlen\*  
Jaina Alexander  
Mary Claps  
Maureen Claps  
Bill Hague  
Mike Scipione

## Pastoral Care Committee

Liz McGowen\*  
Laurie Bauer  
Dona Carroll  
Rita Compton  
John Fay  
Kathy Janega  
Chris Kaiser  
Shannon McSorley  
Ann Mostofi  
Chris O'Donnell  
Mike Pearson  
Susan Seeberg  
Bobbie Weiss

\*Denotes Staff Member



# JOIN US!

To participate in one of our wonderful ministries, register as a parishioner on our website, or scan the QR code.



You can also call the parish office or visit our website.

# PARISH STAFF

Rev. Steven M. Lanza, Pastor,  
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Rev. Robert P. Heinz, Retired Resident,  
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Megan Nolan, Administrative Assistant, x. 101  
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Sacred Heart School, (847) 446-0005  
Jodi Reuter, Principal, jreuter@shwschool.org

# MASS SCHEDULE

## Saturdays

5:00 pm at Sacred Heart

## Sundays

8:00 am at St. Philip

10:00 am at Sacred Heart

4:30 pm at Sacred Heart

## Weekday Masses:

### Mondays and Thursdays

8:00 am at Sacred Heart

### Wednesdays

8:30 am at Sacred Heart - School  
Mass during the school year

8:00 am during the Summer

### Tuesdays and Fridays

8:00 am St. Philip

## Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesdays** 2-3:00 pm  
at Sacred Heart

**Fridays** 8:30- 9:00 am  
at St. Philip the Apostle

# PARISH OFFICE

Divine Mercy Parish  
1077 Tower Road  
Winnetka, IL 60093  
847-446-0856