



DIVINE MERCY PARISH

SACRED HEART CHURCH · ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

February 7, 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The whole town was gathered at the door."

Mark 1:33



We pray all will gather at our doors, too.

PLEASE MAKE A RESERVATION FOR MASS.

IT TRULY HELPS OUR GREETERS AND OUR RECORD KEEPING TO KEEP YOU SAFE! Visit our website (click here) or call our temporary office number at 847-881-6664.

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

THE NEW "FRONT DOOR"

The coronavirus has afflicted many. It has killed a staggering number of people. If that's not bad enough—and it is—the coronavirus has also had a devastating enforced isolation upon all of us.

Most of the venues by which we experience community are shut down due to the pandemic. Now with some nasty winter weather storms this past weekend the isolation feels even worse.

Those of us in church world often talk about the value of community. It is a value we hold dear. After all, we are created in the image and likeness of God whose characteristic is Trinitarian, three divine persons in one God. That is the ultimate community in whose image we are made. There is built within us the desire for and the urge to be community, that is, union with others and, in heaven, union with God.

The isolation forced upon us as we fight against the spread of the virus saps us precisely because as human created in the image and likeness of the divine we gravitate toward each other. We need each other. Without community we are less than we are meant to be.

So we find other ways to be in community, other avenues for being together and congregating, like Zoom gatherings. This past week alone I participated in five different Zoom meetings.

A number of commentators on church life have remarked that the digital world is becoming the new front door of the church. Yes, there will always be a place for in-person gatherings of committed Christians. As Catholics, the only way we can participate in the sacraments is in-person. Sacraments are tangible, touchable, physically experienced in the here and now. We talk about a spiritual communion, and in fact, there is a prayer which expresses this that is read at all the Masses which are livestreamed for the

benefit of those not physically present. However, to actually receive Holy Communion, one must physically partake of the "meal come down from heaven." There is no substitute for that physicality.

Nonetheless, the pandemic has exposed what is becoming increasingly clear: that the digital, virtual world isn't going to go away and that electronic world may be very important, indeed, critical in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. Websites, social media sites, livestreaming Masses and other church events will increasingly be the way in which we reach out to those who are not necessarily members of the Church but who are interested in us and who are exploring the rich spirituality we have to offer.

ALPHA ONLINE

Another example of a virtual platform that can function as the new front door of the church is the Alpha program. We're offering it again, online. It's not too late to join.

If you are someone you know is interested, please check out the directions at the conclusion of this column to find Alpha online. There is no commitment other than to try it out. If you like what you experience,



attend virtually the next, and the week after.

It may be just the thing you need to combat the effects of isolation brought on by the pandemic. If Alpha can assist you in lifting you up and putting you in the presence of others who are seeking a spiritual uplift, then it will have accomplished one of its goals which is to put us in touch with the Good News.

Happy Alpha-ing to you all! I know I just created a new sort of verb there. Hey, but why not? If people can now talking about Zooming, why not Alpha-ing!

To participate in our Online Alpha, contact Sue Lehocky at 847-881-6664 or slehocky@divinemercynorthshore.org.
To learn more about Alpha, visit the Alpha page on our website, by clicking here:

www.divinemercynorthshore.org/alpha

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2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL COME, FOLLOW ME ... AND BRING HOPE TO THE WORLD

We invite you to spend some time this week reflecting on the Annual Catholic Appeal materials you should have received in the mail or read here. The Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection: It is a pledged commitment to make a gift over time. Your pledge can be made payable in installments.

Each pledge makes a difference because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services to answer the call of Jesus to "Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world."

If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. This year, we also encourage our parishioners to make their Annual Catholic Appeal gifts online: http://annualcatholicappeal.com



Grow in Faith This Lent

Virtual Café for Lent - Five Week Special Series

Join the Divine Mercy Virtual Café special series designed just for Lent. Small groups will meet for five weeks of community and conversation on the Lenten Sunday Gospels beginning February 18 and 19. Choose an evening or morning session:

Thursday Evenings 7-8:00 p.m. or Friday Mornings 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Registration for small groups coming soon!

Contact Sue at slehocky@divinemercynorthshore.org for more information.

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"Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me!" Lenten Retreat Series from Loyola University

Beginning the week of February 14. Choose the day/time that works best for you:

Tuesday mornings (10:00am – 12:00pm); Tuesday evenings (6:30 – 8:30pm); or Thursday mornings (10:00am – 12:00pm). This five week series from IPS Scripture School is designed for the average layperson. All are welcome. No prior academic experience necessary, just an open mind & open heart. \$55 Fee. For information and registration, visit www.luc.edu/ips/continuing-education/ipsscriptureschool/.

Six Weeks with the Bible: Living for a Just Society

Mondays beginning February 22, 9:30 a.m. by Zoom videoconference. This is a study of a dozen selections from Scripture which will help us discover God's vision for justice in society and our role in His plans. Book purchase required. Leaders: Mary Slocum and Pam Coster.

Contact Pam Coster at pcoster@gmail.com to register.

Refugees - A Catholic Response

Two talks by representatives from Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) and Lynn Gordon, founder of Madonna Mission in Chicago. Wednesdays, February 24th and March 10th at 7:00 p.m. Catholic social teaching calls us to concern for all people and to justice and mercy. Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) has been living out this demand of our faith since 1980. Their work is "helping refugees heal, learn and determine their own future."

Contact Pam Coster at <u>pcoster@gmail.com</u> to register.

Picturing St. Joseph in European Art: A Special Presentation for the Feast of St. Joseph

In this Year of St. Joseph, SsJFX parishioner and art historian Leslie Scattone will do an online program on Tuesday, March 16th at 7:00 p.m. on depictions of St. Joseph in art through the ages, with special focus on European art from the 15th to early 19th centuries.

Registration information coming soon.

Alpha Online: Join Us and Invite a Friend!

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ALPHA YET?

If not, now's your chance! Join us from the comfort of your own home and invite a friend!

WHEN: Currently running Monday nights, from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Come and "see" what you think. No obligation to stay with it!
WHERE: Grab your favorite beverage and snack and join us from home!

TO REGISTER: Visit our website to register:

www.divinemercynorthshore.org/alpha

WANT TO LEARN MORE BEFORE YOU ATTEND?

To help you get a better sense of what Alpha is, we have more information below. Visit our website for more resources and video testimonials. If still have questions, feel free to email Sue Lehocky at slehocky@divinemercynorthshore. org or call 847-881-6664.

WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is an opportunity to explore the big questions of life. What is my purpose? Why is there suffering?

WHO'S IT FOR?

Absolutely anybody! it is for anyone at any point in life – no matter what you believe or don't believe. Those who attend Alpha come from all backgrounds, religions, ages, and viewpoints. Whether you consider yourself a skeptic, curious about faith, a growing Christ-follower, or a life-long Christian, Alpha is a place to interact with others and learn from different perspectives. Alpha is where you can grow in your understanding and knowledge of who God is and what the Bible

communicates about His purpose for all of us.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Each session includes a short video followed by a chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic, and discuss in a small group. 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. It's an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective in an honest, friendly and open environment. So grab your preferred refreshment and join us online via Zoom!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

HEAR FROM SOMEONE WHO RECENTLY PARTICIPATED IN AN ONLINE ALPHA!

My name is Sandy Norbot, and I am here today to share my Alpha experience.

I was part of Alpha Online last Spring. Prior to that, I had declined invitations to Alpha. I thought I didn't have time, or couldn't get away from household chores, errands, the kids. How could I sacrifice an hour plus each week, just for myself?

Well, we all know what happened in the Spring of 2020. I had no more excuses!

In case you haven't heard of Alpha, it is a place to explore the Christian faith

with others – and all are welcome –those who have been far away from faith, those who have questions, as well as those of us who want to deepen our faith.

You may have realized some silver linings in the past 10 months.

Alpha, was one of mine. I got to know people I wouldn't have had the opportunity to meet otherwise. Each week we shared thoughts, feelings, stories, and prayer. I learned something from each of them, and I admired something about all of them. I carry the experience with me as I continue to develop my own relationship with God.

Alpha is now running online very successfully. Over 2,000 Alphas have run online around the world. People, especially those with busy schedules or who live in other parts of the country, have enjoyed coming together from the comfort of their own homes.

And this year more than ever, people are looking for hope, peace, love and joy. Alpha is an opportunity to invite your friends, family, neighbors and coworkers to hear the gospel, share faith, ask questions, and explore a relationship with Jesus. And you're invited to join them!

Maybe you are feeling like you need some "self-care" for your spirit. Join us on Monday, February 1st to "come and see" what it's all about. You can check it out and see if it's right for you. Invite a friend and come together!

Thank you for your time this morning.



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

HOSTED BY THE SSJFX YFF BOARD

A Jubilant 2021? You Bet!



Presented by

Dr. Terry Nelson-Johnson
Soul Play Founder
Animator of Faith
at Old St. Pat's Church

Saturday, March 13, 2021 11am - Noon From Your Car (by tuning into FM 95.7)

St. Joseph's School Parking Lot NE Corner of Lake & Ridge in Wilmette

Please join from the comfort of your car to learn about ways to make this year jubilant whilst in the midst of a pandemic!

POPE FRANCIS ON TWITTER

@Pontifex

When we read the Gospel by ourselves with an open heart, a little of its light and beneficial power always reaches us, enlightening, healing, consoling. #GospelOfTheDay

CONFESSIONS AT ST. PHILIP RESUME THIS WEEK

After recuperating from COVID, Fr. Javier will return to St. Philip the Apostle to hear confessions on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00-4:30 p.m. beginning February 10th. Please note there are 2 subsequent Wednesdays Fr. Javier will be unable to join us: March 3rd and April 14th. Thank you!

WORSHIP AIDS FOR MASS

In an effort to reduce costs at the parish during the pandemic, worship aids will no longer be printed. They will be found on our website, which you can download before you come to Mass or scan this QR code with your smart phone camera to access it at church or at home so that you can follow along.

NOTE: all three Masses will appear, so you'll need to scroll to the Mass you are attending.



MASS INTENTIONS

Would you like a Mass said for a loved one? Just call Megan Nolan at our office at 847-881-6664 or 847-446-0856, and she'll be able to help you. You can also email Megan Nolan at megan@divinemercynorthshore.org

RESPECT LIFE PRAYER

That the sick throughout the world may have the strength and wisdom to unite their sufferings to those of Christ, and obtain his peace and healing, we pray to the Lord.

FINANCE





Scan the Code to Donate!

PLEASE MAKE A REGULAR DONATION TO DIVINE MERCY

Whether you join us for Mass in Church, via live-stream on our website or our Facebook page, or from the St. Philip parking lot when we have drive-in Masses, 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 outreach efforts and keep the lights on! We are grateful beyond measure for your support, particularly during this extraordinary year! God Bless You!!

FINANCES AT A GLANCE

We are not reporting collection information this week, as we are working with our finance council to help provide better information to the parish based on the current situation with the pandemic.

If you are not an online donor and wish to sign up, please contact Cindy Atsaves in the parish office at cindyatsaves@divinemercynorthshore.org. If you wish to make a donation via a stock transfer, please contact Cindy as well.

Thank you for your generosity to Divine Mercy Parish!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NITE LITES 2021! MASQUERADE

Nite Lites is upon us once again! Currently scheduled for May 22nd, our 2021 NIte Lites team is seeking donations for this year's upcoming event, benefitting Sacred Heart School. If you have a vacation home, sporting event tickets, gift cards or any other in-kind item you would be willing to donate, we would love to have your help! Perhaps consider supporting our local restaurants or retailers and purchase a gift card to donate. If you are a business owner consider sponsoring the event. We have some great sponsorship packages which are a wonderful way to reach our community and gain exposure for your business. Please direct any responses or inquiries to Tanya Scandariato at tmscandar@gmail.com.

A very big thanks to our sponsors to date:

Chamberlain Advisors,
Merrill Lynch,
Salvi Schostok & Pritchard,
Ryan Building Group,
The Popovici Family,
Dr. Michael J. Lee,
Brady Orthodontics,
Figuerora Orthodontics,
Storino Ramello & Durkin,
Perillo Auto Group; and
Coinflip.

LOOKING TO CATCH UP WITH OTHER PARISHIONERS?

Bring your favorite beverage and join us online on Sunday mornings. All are welcome as we share how we are doing with life, and some spiritual reflection on something you may have heard at Mass (or elsewhere!). It's a great way to catch up with folks you know and meet others in the parish. Give it a try!

We meet online Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for 30 minutes. Join us! If you'd like to participate contact Sue Lehocky at 847-881-6664 or email her at

slehocky@divinemercynorthshore.org and she'll put you on the Zoom call!

THE GRAND FOOD CENTER DISCONTINUES RECEIPT PROGRAM

We wanted to let you know that The Grand Food Center has decided to discontinue its charitable grocery receipt program. Thus, we will no longer be collecting receipts. We thank all of you for so faithfully bringing in or sending us your grocery receipts in the past!

DO YOU LOVE TECH? WE COULD USE YOUR HELP WITH LIVESTREAMING!

We're looking for help with our livestream Masses. If you'd like to assist us by operating the cameras and audio at either one of our churches, we'd happily train you! This may be perfect for teens, too! Contact Michelle Wasielewski at 847-881-6664 or mwasielewski@divinemercynorthshore .org.





BE A HUNGER HERO AND HELP FIGHT HUNGER LOCALLY



Given the forecasted frigid temperatures for this weekend, we will not conduct a collection until next month. We received lots of donations last weekend, despite the snow, so we thank you for your contributions!

If you already purchased items for January and were not able to drop them off, feel free to bring them for our next collection on Sunday, February 28th.

Stay tuned for February's needed items list!

MANY THANKS IN ADVANCE!
Together we can be Hunger Heroes!
Questions? Want to volunteer?
Contact Maureen Valvassori:
mvalvassori@
divinemercynorthshore.org

WHAT'S THE BUZZ, TELL ME WHAT'S A-HAPPENING... (ARE YOU HUMMING JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR?)

Given the current reality in which we live, the only way we can regularly communicate with our parishioners is through email, our website and social media. You wont want to miss these, as they could include important information related to our parish and the Coronavirus.

So! If you're not receiving our e-blasts, get on our mailing list. They are also mobile-phone-friendly now, so please check them out! Please send Judy Pyke your email address, and she'll get you connected. You can email her at jpyke@divinemercynorthshore.org or call our temporary office number: 847-881-6664. THANK YOU!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/PREP)





Dear Families,

Get ready for a special at-home, family based Safe Environment Training (SE) event!

What is SE Training? It's a required program designed to teach children skills to protect themselves and encourages them to disclose any troubling information to a safe adult, particularly their parent(s).

Until last year, SE Training in the Children's Ministry Program was done with a single group for each grade, K-8. But the remote learning due to COVID-19 makes that impossible, and Zoom doesn't really work — our children are already "Zoomed out" from school work!

So the Archdiocese is allowing us to try something different this year: a pre-packaged, 3-step, home-based lesson that can be done a little at a time, or all at once. It's an authorized modification of the Virtus *Empowering God's Children* program.

The program empowers both children and their parents. Here's how:

- It recognizes that parents are the most important and influential person in their child's life.
- It stresses that every child is special in God's eyes and deserves to be safe and protected, wherever they go and whatever they do.
- It uses a short, age-appropriate video to demonstrate the rules and tools children can use to protect themselves wherever they go, including on line.
- It has engaging follow-up activities that reinforce the message of the training.
- It has an adaptable, family-focused discussion guide that gives you, as parent, tools and encouragement to discuss safe environment rules, whether in a quiet conversation with one child, or in a dinnertime conversation with the whole family, regardless of how many children you have and how old they are.
- It has a timeless message that works as everyday guidance, while providing tools for parent and child to draw on in the event abuse is encountered.

We have only one goal — to protect each and every one of our children and to ensure that you have the best tools to communicate this vitally important information. Watch for the lesson materials the week of February 21!

SACRED HEART SCHOOL



LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL!





Our 8th graders all dressed up for their final Sacred Heart yearbook pictures!



A perfect socially distanced volleyball game between the 8th graders was watched via Zoom by the entire school!





WE ARE HAVING SNOW MUCH FUN!!!





The first graders finish their polar bear unit by making a polar bear book and polar bear paintings!





On Tuesday of Catholic Schools Week the theme was "teamwork." Putting that theme in action, the 7th grade religion class played a variety of team building games like the one pictured... the *Flying Pen!* They also played *Follow the Details, Race to 40*, and *Roll the Dice to Break the Ice!*



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

PRESIDER SCHEDULE

February 13, 2021 SACRED HEART CHURCH 5:00 p.m.

Presider: Fr. Dan Cassidy

February 14, 2021 ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH 8:00 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Dean Semmer

February 14, 2021 SACRED HEART CHURCH 10:00 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the
Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive you sacramentally,
please come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you now
as if you were already there
and I unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

MINISTERS OF CARE

Given the various restrictions of nursing homes in the State of Illinois, the constraints of established safety protocols of the Archdiocese, and the fact that the majority of our volunteers fall into the vulnerable category, home visits by Ministers of Care cannot be made at this time. If your loved one 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 or 847-881-6664. One of our priests will respond to your call. Please leave a message!!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTOR SCHEDULE

February 13, 2021 Sacred Heart Church **5:00 p.m. Julie Hartvigsen**

February 14, 2021 St. Philip the Apostle Church 8:00 a.m. Steve Klingan

February 14, 2021 Sacred Heart Church **10:00 a.m. Ludi Mariano**

If you are interested in the ministry of Lector at either Sacred Heart or St. Philip the Apostle, please contact Ron Vanasdlen, via email rvanasdlen@divinemercynorthshore.org

If you are able to assist our Greeter ministry, please contact Michelle Wasielewski via email mwasielewski@divinemercynorthshore.org

No other ministers are being scheduled. If you get an email from Ministry Scheduler Pro, please disregard it.

PLEASE PRAY

For Those Who Are Sick

The following people suffer from illness or chronic conditions.

They have asked for the prayers of our parish family.

Please remember them to the Lord.

Mark Agnew, Jeannie Ambrose, Barbara Anderson,
Michael Anderson, Donald Blair, Elaine Boback, Dennis Braun,
Wendy Braun, Valrie Doppke, John Dory, Lisa Franke,
Paul Greco, Benjamin Grillo, Jack Hogan, Mario Iturino,
Gina Quirk Lazicki, Ruth Martin, Beth O'Brien, Quinn Stepan,
and Lisa Zitella

For Those Who Have Died

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

Martin (Mickey) J. Crowley, Jr.

David Sniader

Herman Roegge, Father of Michelle Wasielewski

MASS INTENTIONS

Note that the Wednesday Mass currently is closed to the public. Only the Sacred Heart School students are allowed to attend. It may be viewed on our website homepage via livestream.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK AT BOTH SACRED HEART AND ST. PHILIP

MONDAY, February 8 (SH) 7:00 a.m. -

TUESDAY, February 9 (SPA) 8:00 a.m. - Michael Hickey

WEDNESDAY, February 10 8:30 a.m. -

THURSDAY, February 11 (SH) 7:00 a.m. -

FRIDAY, February 12 (SPA) 8:00 a.m. - Frank Meade and Greg Binnebose

SATURDAY, February 13 (SH) 5:00 p.m. - The Coradini Family

SUNDAY, February 14 8:00 a.m. (SPA) - Rev. Aleksander Wartalowicz

10:00 a.m. **(SH)** - Mister Peter Collins and Parishioners of Divine Mercy

THIS WEEK AT DIVINE MERCY

All meetings at Divine Mercy Parish are currently suspended until further notice.

SACRAMENTS

Please call the Parish Office temporary number at 847-881-6664 for the most current information regarding Sacraments during this time.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered at both of our worship sites. Sacred Heart Church offers the Sacrament on Saturday mornings between 9:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. and at St. Philip the Apostle Church on Wednesday afternoons with Fr. Javier Del Castillo from 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. And there is no need to make a reservation! We remind everyone to wear a mask, and that you'll be greeted by someone from our reopening team.

Please know that if it has been a while since your last confession, "Do not be afraid!" (Matthew 14:27). *The priest will help guide you*.

A suggested Act of Contrition is:

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. (Rite of Penance, no. 45)

DO YOU HAVE A BULLETIN SUBMISSION?

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

BULLETIN SPECS:

FONT STYLE: Corbel

FONT SIZE:

Headlines: 12 (ALL CAPS & BOLD)

Body text: 10 LINE SPACING:

Before and After Paragraphs: opt

Between Lines: 1sp

Avoid outlining text boxes, if you can.

Continue to create ads for special events like Nite Lites. We simply ask you incorporate the Corbel font style when you are able. Please submit all items to:

divinemercybulletins@gmail.com

DIVINE MERCY OFFICES

Given the constraints of the pandemic, our offices are currently closed. You can still reach us by calling our temporary office number at 847-881-6664.

You can also reach any staff member via email. You can find that directory on the next page.

Thank you for your understanding.

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

Making Disciples • Building Church • Serving Others

PARISH STAFF

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

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

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

Deacon Mike McNulty, mimcnulty@divinemercynorthshore.org

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

Deacon Bob Puhala, bpuhala@usml.edu

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

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

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

Director of Pastoral Care and Outreach - Maureen Valvassori, mvalvassori@divinemercynorthshore.org

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

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

Finance Office - Cindy Atsaves, cindyatsaves@divinemercynorthshore.org

Coordinator of Children's Ministry - Kathy Handelman, khandelman@divinemercynorthshore.org

Administrative Assistant - Megan Nolan, megan@divinemercynorthshore.org