



DIVINE MERCY PARISH

SACRED HEART CHURCH · ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

January 10, 2021 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

THE CLOSE OF THE SEASON

At Evening Prayer this Sunday we conclude the Christmas season. Yes, Christmas is not only a day, it is an entire liturgical season.

It should be! We celebrate the Nativity of the Lord by which the eternal God is incarnated and becomes one like us in all things but sin. This is a tremendous mystery, a beautiful mystery upon which hinges our salvation. So how can we not spend an entire season celebrating such a great mystery and such a wondrous event in the life of the world and in our lives?

What a gift we are given in Christ!

Salvation comes to us freely, bestowed upon us, offered to us solely because God loves us. He wants nothing more from us in return than that we love him and love one another.

THE CONCLUSION BRINGS ABOUT THE BEGINNING

We close the Christmas season with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which marks the start of Jesus' public ministry. As we close the celebrations revolving around the Nativity, we begin now over many Sundays, to hear in the gospel passages for Mass the unfolding of his public ministry of preaching, teaching and healing.

May we take his word to heart! May we be enlightened! May that accumulated scriptural word we hear take deep root within and enable us to become disciples of Jesus in word and deed!

THE DESCENT OF THE DOVE

At Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, he saw the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descending upon him like a dove. Every Mass, the priest presider calls upon the Holy Spirit with hands extended over the gifts of bread and wine, asking God to

transform those ordinary gifts into the extraordinary Presence of Christ.

Communicants then come forward and partake of the Eucharistic Presence.

We eat and drink the Lord Jesus through the action of the Holy Spirit. What sort of strengthening or comfort (or challenge) do we need in our own lives as a result of the Eucharist that would make us better disciples, following the Lord by what we say and do, showing God's love to the world around us by our decisions and efforts?

Ten days into the New Year, how can the Holy Spirit help us be the Christians we are called to be, the parish we are called to be, the household of the faithful we are

Fr. Steve



INTERESTED IN TECH?

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

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU TO OUR GREETERS AND USHERS!

Many thanks to all of our greeters and ushers that help us host you for Masses and confessions. They are the devoted parishioners who greet you at the door, share hand sanitizer with you, take your non-contact temperature, and guide you to your seat, Holy Communion and the exit! Special thanks to those who gave so generously of their time for the Christmas Masses at St. Philip the Apostle Church, Sacred Heart Church and the Sacred Heart School Gym. We could not invite people to attend Mass at Divine Mercy without your help. You are essential to our efforts during this pandemic, and we are truly grateful for you!

LOOKING FOR FELLOWSHIP?

Bring your favorite beverage and join us online on Sunday mornings. All are welcome as we share how we are doing and some spiritual reflection on something you may have heard at Mass (or elsewhere!).

We meet online Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for 30 minutes. If you'd like to participate contact Sue Lehocky at 847-881-6664 or slehocky@divinemercynorthshore.org and she'll put you on the Zoom call!



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: Monday nights, beginning February 1st from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Come to the first session and "see" what you think. No obligation!

WHERE: Grab your favorite beverage and snack and join us from home!

TO REGISTER: Ready to join us? Visit our website to register:

www.divinemercynorthshore.org/alpha

Join the conversation.
Try Alpha Online.



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](mailto:slehocky@divinemercynorthshore.org) 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!

RIVER OF FIRE

On Becoming an Activist



SISTER HELEN PREJEAN

Author of *Dead Man Walking*



Book Discussion:
Wednesdays 10 am
January 6, 13, and 20

Sr. Helen's Talk:
Sun., January 24 3 pm

By Zoom video
conference

Book Discussion and Talk

Join us in discussing Sr. Helen Prejean's Book, *River of Fire: On Becoming an Activist* on Wednesdays, January 6, 13 and 20 at 10 am. Sr. Helen will provide journaling questions for us to use during our reading. On Sunday, January 24th, at 3 p.m., Sr. Helen will join us for an online discussion of the book.

To register,
contact
Pam Coster at
pcoster@
gmail.com

Ss. Faith Hope & Charity and Ss. Joseph and Francis Xavier Parishes are honored to once again welcome Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ. Sr. Helen is the author of several books, the first of which, *Dead Man Walking: The Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty that Sparked a National Debate*, was made into a movie, a play and an opera.

www.faithhope.org www.ssjfx.org

THE GREAT GIFT CARD CHALLENGE WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

In the midst of a pandemic, you responded to the needs of the parishioners of our sharing parishes and the challenges they face on a daily basis. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity.

Many thanks to all who participated in this year's Christmas Sharing gift card challenge. Over 200 gift cards were contributed to our sharing parishes, St. Benedict the African and St. Columbanus, which exceeded our goal!

We also received several large donations to be shared with each parish, and we are ever so grateful to those parishioners who gave from their hearts to fulfill the Christmas dreams of so many.

The Great Gift Card Challenge is a wonderful way to see the Corporal Works of Mercy in action!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

AND...If you still need to drop off cards at the parish office, please do so right away! Thanks!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



5 BEHAVIORS TO KEEP US SAFE

As a member of
our community, I will...

1. Wear a mask
2. Keep my distance
3. Wash and sanitize my hands
4. Stay home if I am sick
5. Get tested if I exhibit symptoms

...because protecting others
in our community is
my responsibility, too.

COMMUNITY

DO YOU GET OUR DAILY (SHORT) EMAILS!

Given the current reality, the only way we can communicate with our parishioners is through email, our website and social media. You won't 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!

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

PRAYER AND WORSHIP



RESPECT LIFE PRAYER

That the Christian community, made one by our common baptism, may always welcome the unborn, the stranger, and all who are vulnerable, we pray to the Lord.

CONFESSIONS SUSPENSION AT ST. PHILIP REMINDER

Confessions have been suspended, **now until further notice**. Fr. Javier has been diagnosed by his physician as presumed positive. Once Fr. Javier is able to return, parishioners will be notified. 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.



FINANCE



Scan the Code to Donate!

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS DONATION

Whether you joined us for Mass in Church, the St. Philip parking lot, the Sacred Heart School Gym or your own living room in front of your Tree this Christmas, 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!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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!

OUTREACH

FR. PAUL SRI LANKA OUTREACH MINISTRY

Fr. Paul served us while studying at Loyola University, then returned to his native Sri Lanka and has been supporting widows and orphans, victims of a decades long civil war, and a tsunami that destroyed the fishing industry along with the homes of many. You'll see his Christmas letter and update to the right.

(You can learn more about this ministry on our website by clicking [here](#), and scrolling down to the Fr. Paul section.)

FR. PAUL NEEDS OUR HELP

Fr. Paul tells us that he can support each child in the orphanage for about \$1.50 /per day. He really knows how to stretch a buck. Your donation of \$500 would support a child for almost a year, \$250 for almost 6 months. You can donate to this humanitarian work through Divine Mercy Parish, indicating that the contribution is for the Father Paul Foundation, one of the outreaches our parish supports. You can also click [here](#) and make a direct donation via our Divine Mercy Give Central portal.

On behalf of the Father Paul Foundation, Fr. Paul himself, the widows, orphans and victims of their civil war and tsunami, thank you for whatever you are able to do!

POPE FRANCIS ON INSTAGRAM



Best wishes to everyone,
so that in the new year, humanity might progress
on the path of fraternity, justice and peace.

Franciscus

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Dear Friends in the Lord,

The goodness and the mercy of God is once again more intensely experienced in our hearts during this holy season. I wish you all a Christmas filled with genuine love and New Year full of creative hope opportunities.

God has brought all of us together, united, in pain, suffering, loss and expectant hope for healing. We participated in this whole process of purification, and we like gold purified by fire, have been peeled off our false pretenses and brought to our true center of divine love.

Covid- 19 pandemic challenged us and brought in us the shining creativity. We are at a stage in which the fear of contacting the virus is dispelled through the healing of the magic vaccine and therefore God Emmanuel is with us.

My commitment, dedication and accompaniment of the Vulnerable, continued through out this period, in spite of depressive challenges. My counseling team and I were able to heal a numerous vulnerable people through our compassionate ministries. Disfunctioning families, addicted youth, marginalized women, stigmatized covid 19 virus people, all were embraced in empathy and concern and love.

Constant communication with our loving father, through prayer and spiritual exercises helped us to do committed psychosocial healing services to the affected and emotionally confused people. Social distance affected relationship, quarantine affected communities, and isolated people and economic disaster led the people to irrational behavior. **"We were there with them".**

- Giving dry-ration, communicating with them through phone guidance and counseling.
- Visited children and did activities for emotional coaching, helping them with online education.
- Working with suicide attempters and always being companions of mercy to them.
- Youth addiction to drugs were rehabilitated, disfunctioning families were reconciled.

Yes, our Jesuit MOTO is to accompany the vulnerable, to walk with the poor, to collaborate with like minded partners to build future home of hope and lead all to God.

This heavy, challenging, emotionally straining work was and is possible because of you, people of good will, benefactors, generous friends and people who care for others.

Your contributions, partnership and generosity has been a sustainable strength and energetic motivation for sacrificial acts, in the face of dangers and obstacles.

Thank for your support. Thank you for your care and concern for the people and for the children in need. God blesses you and I bless and continue to bless you for healing reconciliation and happiness.

A peaceful Christmas to you. A hopeful New Year to you.

With esteem and love and affection,
Fr. Paul Satkunanayagam S.J

Family Mass, Thank You to Our Volunteers and More!



Welcome Back Family Mass
Father Dan Cassidy will celebrate this special Mass at
10 a.m. on
Sunday, January 24, 2021
St. Philip the Apostle
Church and Parking Lot
1962 Old Willow Road
Northfield, IL 60093

We will have a sign up for those who wish to be in the church and those who wish to be in the parking lot. Families will pick up our Unit Three Pflaum Gospel Weekly curriculum materials for all students (PK-7). Weather permitting, treats may be served! Don't miss this special Mass designed for our families. All are welcome!

Thank You to All of Our Parent Volunteers!

We've all heard that "it takes a village," and I think many of us realize, especially during this time, that it really does! A very special and loud shout out to **Lucie White** and her team, including **Julie Hartvigsen, Beth Nesbitt, and Stephanie Rick**, who led the huge effort to collect funds from Children's Ministry families to provide our awesome catechists with special and well-deserved gifts—
Amazon gift cards.

Typically, we would have Room Parents lead this effort, but in this strangest of years we never assigned room parents as we never had rooms!

Lucie stepped forward and singlehandedly organized this effort right in the middle of the busy Advent season. It was a blessing and we thank our families for your gracious giving! If anyone wants to help with year-end efforts, please email Kathy Handelman at khandelman@divinemercynorthshore.org.

Upcoming Dates

January 24, 2021 — 10 a.m. Family Mass

January 31, 2021 — Movie Sunday, details to follow

February 7, 2021 — 9 a.m. Sessions resume; 8th grade in person if possible

February 14, 2021 — Service Sunday, details to follow

February 21, 2021 — Regular session; 2nd grade in person if possible

February 28, 2021 — No sessions

March 7, 2021 — Regular session; 8th grade in person, special Confirmation speaker

March 14, 2021 — Regular session; 7th grade special session in person, if possible

March 21, 2021 — Regular session; 2nd grade in person if possible

March 28, 2021 — No session, Spring Break

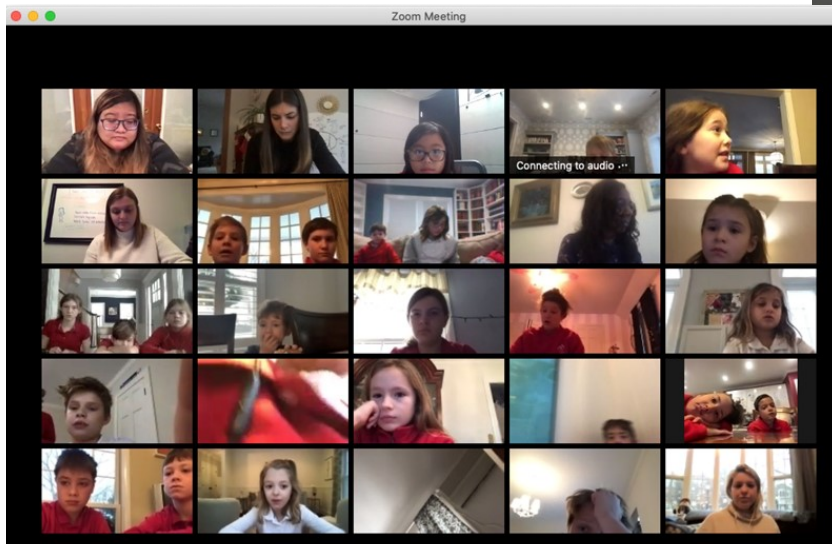
April 4, 2021 — No session, Easter



LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL!



Candles and Carols looked a little different this year. It was outstanding! Thank you to all the students and staff for engaging in such a beautiful program.



The Chicago Archdiocese has instructed all schools to teach remotely until Wednesday, January 20th. So until then...



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

PRESIDER SCHEDULE

January 16, 2021

SACRED HEART CHURCH

5:00 p.m.

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

January 17, 2021

**ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE
CHURCH**

8:00 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Dan Cassidy

January 17, 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.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTOR SCHEDULE

January 16, 2021 Sacred Heart Church **5:00 p.m.**

Bill Hague

January 17, 2021 St. Philip the Apostle Church **8:00 a.m.**

Jim Dietz

January 17, 2021 Sacred Heart Church **10:00 a.m.**

Kathy Janega

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, 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.

James Stewart, Nephew of Renee Richart

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, January 11 (SH)

7:00 a.m. -

TUESDAY, January 12 (SPA)

8:00 a.m. - Pat Doherty

WEDNESDAY, January 13

Remote Learning / No Mass

THURSDAY, January 14 (SH)

7:00 a.m. -

FRIDAY, January 15 (SPA)

8:00 a.m. -

SATURDAY, January 16 (SH)

5:00 p.m. - The Coradini Family

SUNDAY, January 17

8:00 a.m. (SPA) - Cecilia Rodrigues

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

THIS WEEK AT DIVINE MERCY

All meetings at Divine Mercy Parish are currently suspended

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: 15p

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:
divinemercurybulletins@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@divinemergynorthshore.org

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

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

Deacon Mike McNulty, mimcnulty@divinemergynorthshore.org

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

Deacon Bob Puhala, bpuhala@usml.edu

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

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

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

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

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

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

Finance Office - Cindy Atsaves, cindyatsaves@divinemergynorthshore.org

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

Administrative Assistant - Megan Nolan, megan@divinemergynorthshore.org