



DIVINE MERCY PARISH

SACRED HEART CHURCH · ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

March 14, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

For God

so loved the world that He
gave his only Son, so that
everyone who believes in
Him may not perish but
may have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16



† LENT † PRAY † FAST † GIVE †

You Can Now Make Your Holy Week & Easter Mass Reservations on our Website.

Please Notify the Parish if You, or Anyone in Your Household, Have Been Diagnosed with COVID19, and You Recently Attended Mass at Divine Mercy. Thank you!

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

TIME CHANGE

I am sure you are all aware that this weekend we begin Daylight Savings Time. If you've got a calendar put up in your home work station or in the kitchen or wherever this news item is duly noted right there on the calendar.

Most of us with smart phones don't even have to really know that Daylight Savings Time begins this weekend. It just happens automatically through the "magic" of modern technology. Our phones switch over on their own.

Whoever thought we could take photos using our phones, check and send emails using the same device. Or how about making a phone call using a wristwatch? Hello? Dick Tracey?

There are a lot of wonderful things associated with technology. But here's something that's not: the internal conversion of our hearts and minds to Jesus Christ and his Way.

I guess what I'm saying is that there's a difference between a time change and changing times. Every now and then we all need a reset, a course correction. We realize that sometimes in life, we are staring at an invitation to take hold of a time for personal or communal change.

That's Lent.

Every year we're graced with this special season, forty days plus that invite us to go deeper, to cultivate a stronger relationship with the living Lord Jesus and his community, the Church, the household of all the faithful. I hope this Lenten season has been fruitful for you to date.

Two more weeks and we are at Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week. Whatever it is you are doing to engage with this Lenten time for change, I urge you to keep doing it, keep at it.

Perhaps you are spending a few more minutes a day in prayer with the Lord. Perhaps you've taken on a particular activity doing good works, helping others in need. Perhaps you've availed yourself of the sacrament of Reconciliation. Perhaps you've taken the opportunity to reconnect with an old friend or a distant family member realizing these relationships are all gifts given to you by God. Perhaps you've donated to a worthy cause or charitable outreach program with almsgiving.

Whatever it is you are doing this Lent, don't stop. We all have a ways to go yet. We'd also do well to remember that once we are into Easter, and the fifty days of that lovely season, we don't have to stop all of our Lenten practices; we can adjust them to celebrate the joy of the resurrection!

CHANGING TIMES

I hope that because of Jesus Christ you are able to envision your life as progressing in an upward trajectory. In the spiritual journey there will always be setbacks. We know that we take a few steps forward and then one step back. I've been there. You have, too.

Make use of Lent as it is meant to be used. Assess where you are at in life. Ask the Lord in prayer to help you move forward. Identify what needs changing and set to it, taking one bold small step at a time.

Whatever you do, don't let this pandemic drag you down. It certainly has the potential for doing just that.

We are overall, however, in a much better place than folks in previous centuries that had to deal with epidemics, pandemics



like the Black Plague. That's not to say there hasn't been horrible heartache for those who have lost loved ones due to the virus. Some who have recovered are still dealing with awful symptoms and conditions.

But we've got so much going for us. We've got better tools in our toolbox than previous generations for dealing with everything that comes with a nasty pandemic. Medicine, medical advances, scientific efforts, technology that has helped us stay connected, strong communities, parishes pivoting and trying new things—these resources have helped us get this far and will bring us out of his pandemic.

So will the grace of God, grace that works through our human nature. And that's precisely what we're talking about this Lent, allowing the grace of God into ourselves to transform our nature.

Blessings on you this Lent.



ADULT FORMATION

POPE FRANCIS' HISTORIC TRIP TO IRAQ

The following is an article from the Catholic News Agency from last Sunday, March 7, 2021.

Pope Francis entrusted the rebuilding of Christian communities in the Nineveh Plains to the protection of the Virgin Mary at a church that was once desecrated and burned by the Islamic State.

The Pope prayed the Sunday Angelus on March 7 with Christians at a church in Bakhdida, also known as Qaraqosh, a town 20 miles southeast of Mosul occupied by ISIS from 2014 to 2016. "Our gathering here today shows that terrorism and death never have the last word. The last word belongs to God and to his Son, the conqueror of sin and death," Pope Francis said in the Syriac Catholic Immaculate Conception Church. "Even amid the ravages of terrorism and war, we can see, with the eyes of faith, the triumph of life over death."

The Pope said he was moved by the testimonies shared of Christians from the region once devastated by the Islamic State, particularly that of Doha Sabah Abdallah. "On the morning of August 6, 2014, the city of Bakhdida was awakened by the din of the bombing. We all knew that ISIS was upon us, and that three weeks earlier it had invaded the towns and villages of the Yazidis and treated them with cruelty. So we fled the city, leaving our homes; after two or three days we returned, supported by our strong faith and in the conviction that, being Christians, we are ready for martyrdom," she said. "That morning we were busy with the usual things and the children were playing in front of our houses, when an accident happened that forced us to go out. I heard a mortar shell and ran out of the house. The children's voices fell silent as the screams of the adults increased. They informed me of the death of my son and his cousin, and

of the young neighbor who was preparing for marriage." The Iraqi woman added: "Our strength undoubtedly comes from our faith in the Resurrection, a source of hope. My faith tells me that my children are in the arms of Jesus Christ our Lord. And we, the survivors, try to forgive the aggressor, because our Master Jesus has forgiven his executioners. By imitating him in our sufferings, we testify that love is stronger than everything."

A local priest shared how God protected him amid gunfire and a car bomb in Mosul, which exploded a few feet away. Pope Francis said that Doha Sabah Abdallah's words on forgiveness touched him deeply. "The road to a full recovery may still be long, but I ask you, please, not to grow discouraged. What is needed is the ability to forgive, but also the courage not to give up," Pope Francis said.

The church where the Pope met the local Christians was recently completely restored after it was burned by the Islamic State. A new Marian statue sculpted by a local Christian artist was placed atop the bell tower of the Immaculate Conception Church in January. "Now is the time to rebuild and to start afresh, relying on the grace of God, who guides the destinies of all individuals and peoples," the Pope said. "You are not alone! The entire Church is close to you, with prayers and concrete charity."

Before the Pope's remarks, Syriac Patriarch Ignatius Youssef III Younan of Antioch thanked Catholic

charitable organizations that worked to rebuild destroyed churches and homes in the region, enabling Christians to return. He mentioned Aid to the Church in Need, L'Œuvre d'Orient, the Knights of Columbus, and the Hungarian government.

..."Here, in the Nineveh Plains, a biblical land, in that month of August 2014, thousands of Christians, with their bishops, priests and religious, were, because of their faith, uprooted from their land and forced to seek refuge in Kurdistan," he said, (adding) "We are proud that, despite the horrors of the persecution, the faithful present here with their refugee and distant families have remained faithful to their unwavering love for the Gospel of peace and justice, following the example of their heroic ancestors."

Pope Francis said that this was the time "to restore not just buildings, but also the bonds of community."

The Pope prayed the Angelus with the local Christians, and added... "As I arrived on the helicopter, I saw the statue of Mary on this Church of Immaculate Conception. To her I entrusted the rebirth of this city. Our Lady does not only protect us from on high, but comes down to us with a Mother's love," the Pope said. "Her image here has met with mistreatment and disrespect, yet the face of the Mother of God continues to look upon us with love. For that is what mothers do: they console, they comfort and they give life."

The Pope encouraged Iraqi Christians to "not lose hope," urging them to "never tire of asking the saints for their intercession. Let us pray tirelessly for the conversion of hearts and for the triumph of a culture of life, reconciliation and fraternal love between all men and women, with respect for differences and diverse religious traditions, in the effort to build a future of unity and cooperation between all people of goodwill," he said.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE: SAVE THE DATES!

Visit our Website to Make a Reservation for
any of these Liturgies or click [here](#).

(Palm Sunday is found on the regular reservation page.)



holy week

Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021

Regular weekend Mass Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 1, 2021

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Via Livestream **only** at
www.divinemercynorthshore.org)

7:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Philip the Apostle
(will be livestreamed)

Good Friday, April 2, 2021

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Via Livestream **only** at www.divinemercynorthshore.org)

3:00 p.m. The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at St. Philip the Apostle

7:30 p.m. The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at Sacred Heart (will be livestreamed)

Holy Saturday, April 3, 2021

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Via Livestream **only** at www.divinemercynorthshore.org)

Noon - Blessing of Easter Food Baskets at St. Philip the Apostle in front of Church (inclement weather will
prompt a drive-by blessing in the same location)

7:30 p.m. The Easter Vigil In the Holy Night at St. Philip the Apostle (will be livestreamed)
(Note there will be no 5:00 p.m. Mass at SH.)

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021 (8am and 10am Masses from both Churches will be Live-streamed.)

8:00 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Sacred Heart School Gym, and
St. Philip the Apostle

10:00 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart, Sacred Heart School Gym, and
St. Philip the Apostle *with Drive-In*

Noon Mass at St. Philip the Apostle

RESERVE NOW FOR
Easter Sunday



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED FOR TRIDUUM LITURGIES

This year we plan to have 11 liturgies during the Triduum (Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday), April 1 through April 4. Given the increase in the number of Masses for Easter Day, we are in desperate need of Communion Ministers to assist at them. Is there anyway you can help?

We'll train you, and have you prepared to distribute communion to our parishioners.

If you're able to help us out this year, please contact Ron Vanasdlen at 847-630-7486 or you can email Ron at rvanasdlen@divinemercynorthshore.org

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.

Register at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a45aba82da6ff2-saints>

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

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.



PRAY FOR OUR ALPHA PARTICIPANTS DURING THEIR RETREAT

Please say a special prayer for all those participating in our Alpha series, including the Alpha Team members as they encounter the Holy Spirit during this weekend's retreat!

Come Holy Spirit and bless these people who seek to know Jesus!



FINANCE

For online donations, our Parish uses



Sign up for online giving at givecentral.org



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

MASQUERADE: NITE LITES 2021

Nite Lites is ON and we're selling Nite Lites Raffle Tickets before all the Masses this weekend!

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, airline miles, 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. Contact the Nite Lites Team at our new address: nitelites@shwschool.org with questions, inquiries or donations!

A very big thanks to our sponsors: [Chamberlain Advisors](#), [Merrill Lynch](#), [Salvi Schostok & Pritchard](#), [Ryan Building Group](#), The Popovici Family, [Dr. Michael J. Lee](#), [Grace Flatt Realtor](#), [Brady Orthodontics](#), [Figuerora Orthodontics](#), [Storino Ramello & Durkin](#), [City Kids Dental Northshore](#), [Perillo Auto Group](#), [B's Gourmet Nuts](#) and [Coinflip](#).

HELP US IMPROVE OUR LIVESTREAMING!

We're looking for parishioners to help with our livestream Masses, be it managing camera moves behind the scenes or engaging in welcoming chat with our online visitors. We'll happily train you, don't be intimidated! Some people have already come forward and are on their way! We're grateful for their service!

This may be perfect for your teens who love technology-ask them and see what they think! If you're game, contact Michelle Wasielewski at 847-881-6664 or mwasielewski@divinmercynorthshore.org. THANK YOU!!



SATURDAY • MAY 22, 2021

1ST PRIZE
\$5,000 CASH

2ND PRIZE
\$2,500 GIFT CARD LESTER LAMPERT JEWELERS



1 TICKET \$50 • 5 TICKETS \$200 • 10 TICKETS \$350
Winner must not be present to win

Sponsored by

THE BROSCHE FAMILY

LESTER LAMPERT
LESTERLAMPERT.COM

SHWSCHOOL.ORG • NITELITES.GIVEMART.COM

8th Grade Confirmation Retreat, Reconciliation and More!



Confirmed into a Life of Love

Our 8th graders had a very special morning with Dr. Terry Nelson –Johnson. Terry reminded us that through Confirmation we are proclaiming that we are loved by God, that everything we have is a gift, that we all have different gifts and different limitations, and that we are committed to living a life of love. At Reconciliation last week, each 8th grader received a Confirmation journal and pen — and a personal note from their parents — to congratulate them for all they are doing on their Confirmation journey. We have completed the important step of Reconciliation — now Confirmation is only six weeks away!

Our First Reconciliation Children Continue the Traditions Despite the Pandemic

Our 2nd graders worked hard to create their special First Reconciliation vigil lights (as shown below). The children glued tissue paper on the votives — we then shellac them for safety and longevity. This normally would be done in a session or at a First Reconciliation Retreat; though we can't meet in person, the beauty of this tradition continues on, bringing the light of Christ to our youngest children as they prepare for sacraments. We are looking forward to celebrating First Reconciliation with them on March 22. They are preparing with their catechists



Reconciliation for our Confirmation Candidates/Bible Blessing for Our 7th Graders



Father Steve used a golf club to explain to the 8th graders that sometimes you have to practice to get better. And if you practice confessing when you have let yourself and others down, you'll be better and better at

it — and closer and closer to Jesus!

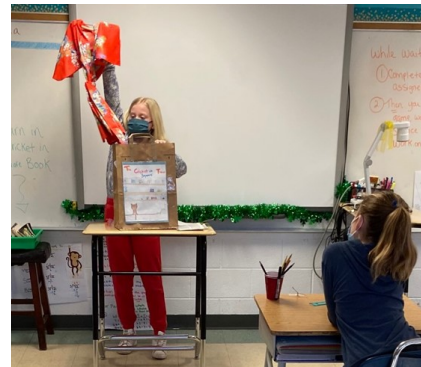
This **Sunday, March 14**, Father Dan Cassidy will lead a special Bible Blessing Prayer Service for our 7th graders at 9:15 a.m. at St. Philip the Apostle Church. We are excited to begin this new Divine Mercy tradition of presenting our 7th graders with a Bible as an important step in their Confirmation journey.



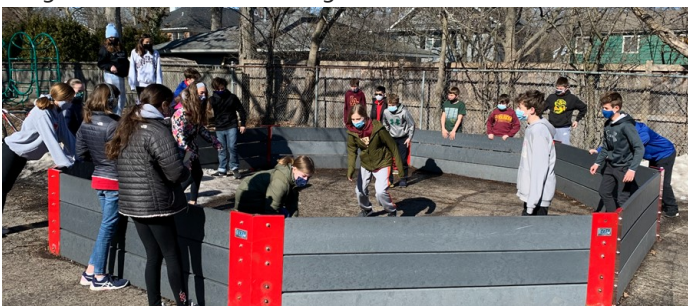
LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL!



The 4th graders presented their completed Cricket in Times Square Book in a Bag Projects to the class! They did a fantastic job of highlighting specific literary elements and then choosing 5 items to pull from their bags that represent scenes or characters from the story. Great job 4th grade!



For the first time in 2021 our 6th graders were all back 100% in-person! We celebrated by enjoying a friendly class gaga-ball competition during our mask break on Friday! It is so great to have a full class again!



Each 8th grader colored crosses and filled out what sacrifice or good deed they are doing during Lent. Each cross is unique as everyone has their own cross to bear, but we can come together and overcome any obstacle as long as we have faith in Jesus.




1st grade paints pictures of the rainforest during Friday Fun time!



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

PRESIDER SCHEDULE

March 20, 2021

SACRED HEART CHURCH

5:00 p.m.

Presider: Fr. Dean Semmer

March 21, 2021

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE
CHURCH

8:00 a.m.

Presider: Fr. Steve Lanza

March 21, 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 restrictions of nursing homes in the State of Illinois, the constraints of 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!!

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, John Dory, Lisa Franke, Paul Gerlach,
Paul Greco, Benjamin Grillo, Jack Hogan, Mario Iturino,
Christine Kengott, Gina Quirk Lazicki, Ruth Martin,
Sister Peggy McDonnell, Beth O'Brien,
and Lisa Zitella

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTOR SCHEDULE

March 20, 2021 Sacred Heart Church 5:00 p.m.

Julie Hartigsen

March 21, 2021 St. Philip the Apostle Church 8:00 a.m.

Steve Thordarson

March 21, 2021 Sacred Heart Church 10:00 a.m.

Mary Newton

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.

For Those Who Have Died

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

Robert Erzinger

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, March 15 (SH)

7:00 a.m. -

TUESDAY, March 16 (SPA)

8:00 a.m. - The Meade, Kelly and Morris Families

WEDNESDAY, March 17 (Closed to the public)

8:30 a.m. -

THURSDAY, March 18 (SH)

7:00 a.m. -

FRIDAY, March 19 (SPA)

8:00 a.m. - Andrew Berghoff

SATURDAY, March 20 (SH)

5:00 p.m. - David Doyle

SUNDAY, March 21

8:00 a.m. (SPA) - Pat Doherty

10:00 a.m. (SH) - Joseph Kelly 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@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, rvasdlen@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