



Divine Mercy Parish

Mass Schedule for the Week of May 28, 2023

Monday, May 29, 2023

8:00 AM DM Living & Deceased Members of Divine Mercy Parish
6:00 PM DM NO CONFESSIONS THIS EVENING

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

6:45 AM DM Violet & Anthony Maksymik by Daughter, Justine

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

6:45 AM DM Eva & Michael Racis by Dorothy & Romolo

Thursday, June 1, 2023

**6:45 AM DM Loving Memory of George Rittle – 4th Anniversary of
Death by Family**

Friday, June 2, 2023

6:45 AM DM Jack Wright by Charlotte & Dave Kriner

2-4:00 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, June 3, 2023

8:00 AM DM No Mass

3:45 PM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet

4:00 PM DM Joseph & Ella Sims by Grandson, Thomas Venusti

Sunday, June 4, 2023

**7:30 AM DM Loving Memory of Michalik, Mentel, Lenkaitis, Zelonis &
Shirvinski Families by Michael & Marie Michalik**

9:40 AM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet

10:00 AM DM Thomas Bachike On His Birthday by Wife

12:30 PM DM Living & Deceased Priests – Diocese of Allentown

En Espanol

“The clergy and religious of the Diocese of Allentown continue to stand ready to provide steadfast support and prayers during this difficult time,” said Bishop Schlert. “Just as St. Joseph protected the Holy Family, we turn to St. Joseph to protect us at this time of uncertainty and pandemic.” We invite all the faithful who are quarantined during this time and unable to receive Holy Communion, to offer their prayers for healing throughout the world. Pray the Holy Rosary, on www.EWTN.com/tv/shows/sunday-Mass-live. Pray this prayer for spiritual communion and set aside time for prayer with the Sacred Scriptures of the day – go to www.wordamongus.org.

An Act of 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, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen



Prayer to Your Guardian Angel

Angel of God,
my guardian dear,
To whom God's love
Commits me here,
Ever this day,
be at my side,
To light and guard,
Rule and guide.

Prayer for Our Country

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of America, please help our country. Help us to return to what is decent, right and proper. Help us to return to respect for ourselves and others, into truth in dealing with ourselves and others, to self-control and self-discipline and, especially, to a deep love for your Son and his teachings. Protect us from those who would destroy us from within. Our Lady, we place ourselves and our country under your mantel. Pray for us and help us. Amen.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

When: Every 1st Sunday of the month

Time: 3:00 PM

Where: St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish,
Mahanoy City

Divine Mercy Collection

5/14 - \$ 3,833.00



**St. Casimir Church will reopen
on Sunday, June 18th for
regular weekend Masses and
Funerals.**



Divine Mercy Church Memorial Fund

Margaret C. Kovalusky
 \$10 Walukiewicz Oravitz Fell F. H.
 \$10 David Drumblusky
 \$10 Len & Dolores Kozlosky
 \$10 Len Kozlosky III
 \$5 Maria & Jo Marie Rittle
Loving memory of Diane M. Kalyan
 \$10 Husband, Ron & family
Joseph Prohibition
 \$10 Mike & Cookie Michalik
Jeffery Letcavage
 \$10 Maloney family
Special intentions
 \$5 Anonymous

Our office will be closed on Monday, May 29th for Memorial Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday, May 30th at 8:30 AM.

The Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit

The twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit are works that we can perform only with the aid of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the performance of such works is an indication that the Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian believer. The twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit are charity (or love), joy, peace, patience, benignity (or kindness), goodness, longanimity (or long suffering), mildness, faith, modesty, contingency, and chastity.

Are We Still Required to Fast Before Communion?

The Code of Canon Law states: "One who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain from any food or drink, with the exception only of water and medicine, for at least the period of one hour before Holy Communion" (Canon 919, par. 1). People who are in ill health or who would put themselves at physical risk if they abstain from food or drink should seek the advice of their physician about whether or not to fast before Communion. Technically, chewing gum doesn't break the fast but it isn't necessarily appropriate during Mass. What do you do with the gum when it's time for Communion? If you swallow it, you are violating the fast. (And you should never stick it under the pew!) Fasting before receiving the Eucharist reminds us of the great difference between earthly food, which sustains only perishable life, and the food of the Eucharist, which is key for eternal life. By observing the fast we approach Communion with a physical and spiritual hunger.

Divine Mercy

Sanctuary In memory of my beloved parents & sister, Angelo & Enrica & Jean Romano by Ann Romano
 Divine Mercy In loving memory of Lucille & Donald by wife & mother
 Divine Mercy Prayers & good health for J.M., S.M., M.S., A.M., T.S. R.G., J.B., L.B., G.M., Z.S. by M/M John Maskornick
 Divine Mercy In memory of M/M Joseph Whalen & Msgr. Joseph Whalen by Damian Birchess
 Blessed Mother In memory of Albert Jr., Albert Sr., Anna, Joseph, George & Regina Discavage by Irene
 Blessed Mother In memory of Albert & Carmen Holburn by Nathan & Rose Holburn
 Blessed Mother In memory of George & Victoria Zarcufsky by Niece, Cookie
 Blessed Mother In memory of Peter & Mary Yockachonis by Granddaughter, Cookie
 Blessed Mother Happy 100th birthday in heaven, Evelyn Hollenbach by Mikita family
 Blessed Mother In memory of Thomas Sr. & Stephen Mundy by Wife & Mother, Anna Mundy
 Blessed Mother In memory of Diane Donovan by mother
 Blessed Mother In memory of Walter & Anna Zarcufsky by Granddaughter, Cookie
 Blessed Mother In memory of Anna & Adie Jankaitis by Sister, Cookie
 Blessed Mother In memory of Joseph Hooker Zarcufsky Jr. by Sister, Cookie
 Blessed Mother In loving memory of Gloria Bellucci by Laudeman family
 Blessed Mother In memory of Joseph Jurewicz – 7th anniversary of death by Sister
 OLMC In memory of Michael Racis by Dorothy & Romolo
 OLMC In memory of James Amato by Daughter, Mary Luscavage & family
 OLMC Special intentions for John Kelly family
 OLMC Special intentions by Ann Marnell Lehman
 St. Ann Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family
 St. Ann In memory of Mary Discavage by family
 St. Joseph In memory of Connell & Karvois families by Marilyn Connell
 St. Joseph In memory of Joseph & Alberta Zarcufsky by Daughter, Cookie
 St. Joseph Good health & God's blessings for Fr. Dene by Pat & Leo
 St. Joseph In memory of Joseph & Joann Aponick by Sister, Cookie
 Sacred Heart Good health & God's blessings for Dave Wilkie by Pat & Leo

St. Casimir

Sanctuary In loving memory of my dad, George Rittle by daughter, Maria
 Czestochowa In memory of Felix Luscavage by Mary Luscavage & family
 Czestochowa In memory of beloved SrA Kohl John Paul Reed by Grammy, Ginni
 Czestochowa Blessings for Benjamin & Morgan for a long, happy & loving marriage
 Czestochowa In memory of our dad, John F. Baginski by Baginski family
 Divine Mercy In loving memory of Frank Macus by Fran & Maria
 Divine Mercy In loving memory of Leonard Mankiewicz by Fran & Maria
 Divine Mercy God's blessings for Fr. Dene - 65 years in the priesthood by Ed & Fran Domkus
 Divine Mercy In memory of John & Helen Pukavige by children
 Divine Mercy Special intentions for Christopher, Hope, Benjamin, Morgan & continued healing for Abby
 Divine Mercy Special intentions by Louis & Donna Kowalski
 Divine Mercy In loving memory of John T. McGuire by wife, Peg
 Divine Mercy Blessings for Benjamin & Morgan for a long, happy & loving marriage
 Blessed Mother Happy birthday in heaven for Charles J. Nowak by Albert & Diane Bindie

Bible Group will meet at the Father Ciszek Center on Thursday, June 8th at 6:30 PM.

For more information, call Sr. Marietta 590-0435 or the parish office 462-1968.

Prayer Group will meet on Thursday, June 1st at 6:30 PM at the Father Ciszek Center

Franciscan Group will meet on Thursday, June 15th at 6:30 PM at the Father Ciszek Center.



Rosary on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima will be held on Tuesday, June 13th at 7:00 PM in Our Lady of Fatima Cemetery at the Grotto. Fatima Rosary will be said on the 13th of every month until October.

Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal Many thanks to those who have made a pledge to the Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$120 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$20 installments. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. Your generosity funds the annual budget for important Diocesan ministries in our area. You can make your gift online at BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

Welcome to Joseph Richard McKay who was baptized on Sunday, May 14th at Divine Mercy. Joseph Richard is the son of George McKay & Jessica (Skubel) McKay. May God bless him and keep him in His care.



All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit! Acts 2.4

- Blessed Mother Health & blessings for Fran by Maria
 - Blessed Mother Special intentions, in thanksgiving, good health for Msgr. Bocian, Stephen Bocian, Brian Rooney, Estelle McLaren, George Huss, Dawn, Abby, Joann P. & Gary Sr.
 - Blessed Mother Blessings for Benjamin & Morgan for a long, happy & loving marriage
 - Blessed Mother Good health & God's blessings for Leona Alterio by Gene
 - Blessed Mother In loving memory of Joe & Joestelle by wife & mother
 - Sacred Heart In memory of Leon Boltz by wife, Lisa
 - Sacred Heart Blessings for Benjamin & Morgan for a long, happy & loving marriage
 - Sacred Heart Special intentions for Christopher & Marc
 - St. Anthony Special intentions for Christopher & Marc
 - St. Ann In memory of Theodore, Catherine & Catherine Mary Guzinski by Barbara Guzinski
 - St. Ann Blessings for Benjamin & Morgan for a long, happy & loving marriage
 - St. Ann Special intentions by Mary Kufro
- Chapel**
- Sanctuary Special intentions by Msgr. B
 - Blessed Mother Prayers & good health for Emily Seigel by uncle Ed & aunt Kerri
 - St. Joseph Special intentions by Msgr. B

Nativity Happenings:

Please join the 2023 Nativity Green Wave Volleyball Team for Nativity Little Girls Volleyball Camp. Camp is for girls entering 3rd through 8th grade and will be held July 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th 2023 at Nativity High School Gymnasium (Girls in Grades 3, 4, 5: 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM and Girls in Grades 6, 7, 8: 6:30 to 8:00 PM). Cost is \$75.00. Camp includes: individual instruction, team concepts, competitions, t-shirt. Instruction is by Nativity coaching staff, former and current Nativity players. Brochures are available at Nativity HS. Please phone Mrs. Jennifer Daubert at 622-8110 for more information.

NATIVITY BVM SOCCER CAMP: This camp aims to strengthen, condition, and improve young soccer players for future play! Who: Boys & Girls Entering Grades 3 through 9; When: June 12th-16th (Grades 3 to 5, 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM and Grades 6 to 9, 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM); Where: Nativity High School Baseball/Softball Field. Cost: \$65.00 per camper (Please make checks payable to Nativity Green and Gold). Camp Includes: individual instruction, team concepts, competitions. Please phone Nativity BVM HS at 622-8110 for more information.

Nativity BVM Little Golden Girls Basketball Camp will be held at the school from July 24th to 27th (grades 2 to 5: 9:00 AM to 12 PM and grades 6 to 8: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM). Cost is \$ 60.00 per camper/ \$ 50.00 siblings rate and includes t-shirt. Camp highlights: basketball fundamental skill development, offense and defense stations, 1 on 1 and group skill instruction, competition and games that incorporate basketball skills and teamwork. Please contact Coach Scott Forney at 570-573-4275 for more information.



Do You Know of a parishioner who will be graduating/or who has graduated from Grade School, High School, Trade School or College? We ask that you please notify the parish office with their name and all the names will be published in a future bulletin.



Bautismos Todos están invitados a bautizar a sus hijos. Aún si usted no está casado en la Iglesia se puede bautizar a su bebé. Sin embargo, le pedimos que seleccione una pareja que se casó en la Iglesia Católica para ser sus padrinos. Si un padrino / madrina es una persona soltera, él / ella puede convertirse en una condición de que, esa persona ha recibido el bautismo. Por favor, tenga en cuenta que una pareja, civilmente casada o una persona que vive junto a otra persona como una pareja no está calificada para ser un padrino/madrina. Si son de fuera de nuestra parroquia, por favor, díles de obtener un certificado de elegibilidad de su pastor al menos dos semanas de anticipación. Padre llevará a cabo clases de bautismo, tanto para los padres y padrinos y administrar el rito del bautismo. Por favor, visite la oficina parroquial (108 W. Cherry St., Shenandoah. Teléfono 570 (462)968) para reservar fechas y rellenar formularios. El proceso es muy fácil.

Diocesan Information

If a Prenatal Diagnosis is Poor... You are not alone. There is help. The Diocese of Allentown has a network of concerned parents and professionals who have experienced or worked closely with issues surrounding poor prenatal diagnosis. For support, contact: Sr. Janice Marie Johnson, . Johnson@allentowndiocese.org or 610-289-8900 x 245.

Victim Assistance Coordinator The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. Victim Assistance Coordinator—**Direct Telephone Number:** 1-800-791-9209. To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown’s Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org and click on “Youth Protection ” in the upper right hand- corner of the page.

**WEEKLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR
JUNE 3RD-4TH
ALL MASSES AT DIVINE MERCY**

Mass Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 PM	Lombard, Gina	Toborowsky, Robert	Blank, Name
7:30 AM	Oravitz Fell, Marguerite	Bronk, Cathy	Daynorowicz, Nolan
10:00 AM	Nowak, Cynthia	Jones, Mary Jo	Rakus, Evan Selbi, Jennifer

Information Regarding St. Casimir Church

Beginning the Sunday of June 18th, all Masses will be held at St. Casimir Church due to a lack of air conditioning at Divine Mercy Church. All Masses include: Saturday, Sunday, Weekday Masses, Funerals, Weddings & Spanish Mass.

We are asking people to help clean St. Casimir Church. Volunteers would be asked to bring a bucket and cleaning supplies. The cleaning will begin on Monday, June 5th at 5:00 PM.

If available, please call the parish office 570-462-1968 or Sr. Marietta 570-590-0435.

Thank you for all you do for our parish. It is greatly appreciated.

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wisdom it is the capacity to love spiritual things more than material ones; also it means the want to understand God; **Understanding** in understanding, we comprehend how we need to live as followers of Christ. A person with understanding is not confused by the conflicting messages in our culture about the right way to live. The gift of understanding perfects a person’s speculative reason in the apprehension of truth. It is the gift whereby self-evident principles are known; **Counsel (Right Judgement)** with the gift of counsel/right judgement, we know the difference between right and wrong, and we choose to do what is right. A person with right judgement avoids sin and lives out the values taught by Jesus: **Fortitude (Courage)** with the gift of fortitude/courage, we overcome our fear and are willing to take risks as a follower of Jesus Christ. A person with courage is willing to stand up for what is right in the sight of God, even if it means accepting rejection, verbal abuse or physical harm. The gift of courage allows people the firmness of mind is required both in doing good and in enduring evil; **Knowledge** with the gift of knowledge, we understand the meaning of God. The gift of knowledge is more than an accumulation of facts, it also helps us to choose the right path through life; **Piety (Reverence)** with the gift of piety/reverence, we have a deep sense of respect for God and the Church. A person with reverence recognizes our total reliance on God and comes before God with humility, trust, and love. Piety is the gift whereby, at the Holy Spirit’s instigation, we pay worship and duty to God as our Father, Aquinas writes; **Fear of the Lord (Wonder & Awe)** with the gift of fear of the Lord/wonder and awe, we are aware of the glory and majesty of God. A person with wonder and awe knows that God is the perfection of all we desire: perfect knowledge, perfect goodness, perfect power, and perfect love. This gift is described by Aquinas as a fear of separating oneself from God. He describes the gift as a “filial fear,” like a child’s fear of offending his father, rather than a “servile fear,” that is, a fear of punishment. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Attention all Safe Environment Coordinators!

Mandated reporter trainings and Protecting God’s Children Workshops will now be available virtually. If you are interested, please contact Pam Russo Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

Servicio de Denuncia de Abusos de Obispos Católicos

Si tiene una denuncia de abuso contra un obispo, comuníquese con el Servicio de Denuncias de Abuso de Obispos Católicos en www.ReportBishopAbuse.org o llamando al 800-276-1562

Attention all Safe Environment Coordinators!

Mandated reporter trainings and Protecting God’s Children Workshops will now be available virtually. If you are interested, please contact Pam Russo Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

Servicio de Denuncia de Abusos de Obispos Católicos

Si tiene una denuncia de abuso contra un obispo, comuníquese con el Servicio de Denuncias de Abuso de Obispos Católicos en www.ReportBishopAbuse.org o llamando al 800-276-1562

Financial Report -- March

Net March Income	\$ 34,184.77	Expenses	\$ 54,077.67
		Insurance	\$ 7,422.00
		Assessments	\$ 4,023.00
Total Income	\$ 34,184.77	Total Expenses	\$ 65,522.67
Expenses over income	\$ 31,337.90	This shows a loss of	\$ 31,337.90

Open Registration for the 2023-2024 Divine Mercy Pre-School Program

Under the Direction of Mrs. Sharon Tobin, B.A. Exceptional Child Study. Pre-school will be held at the Fr.

Walter Ciszek Education Center (Trinity Academy), 233 W. Cherry Street, Shenandoah, PA 17976 - Phone 462-3927.

Children ages 3, 4 and 5 are welcome to attend for half and/or full day Pre-School classes Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM. Our Pre-School Program follows a modified Montessori method to prepare your child for the world of learning and his/her admission to Kindergarten. Attendance five days per week allows your child to benefit by participating in more of the learning opportunities provided.

Registration began on February 21st at the above-mentioned address. Our Registration fee of \$75.00 is non-refundable. You may register from 9:00 AM -2:00 PM each day in school. Please call Sr. Patricia Mount at 462-3927 to set up an appointment or to request a registration packet.

Divine Mercy Parish Pierogies are available at the parish office \$ 8.00 per dozen.



Father’s Day Spiritual Envelopes are included in with your May envelopes. These fathers will be remembered in a special Mass on Father’s Day and also during the month of June. You may place more than one name on an envelope.



Our parish is in need of Lectors, Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are interested in any of these ministries, we ask that you please call the parish office at 462-1968.

God Doesn’t Joke

The residents of Sodom and Gomorrah were so sinful that the Lord decided to destroy the cities. He sent angels to lead Abraham’s nephew, Lot, and his family to safety but the daughters’ fiancées wouldn’t follow and were destroyed because they thought Lot was joking about the wrath of God.

Even today, people think it’s okay to joke about God and sin. Catholics know that God’s wrath is fearful and sin is no joke at all.

St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City will be sponsoring a Rummage Sale on Friday, June 2nd from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and Saturday, June 3rd from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM with lunch, bake sale & 50/50 chances. More information, please call 773-0330 or 773-1457.

Your Turn

No parish can do the work of the Church without support from parishioners. For example, parishioners may bring Communion to the sick or infirm, clean the church, staff parish ministries, teach faith formation and give money to keep **church facilities operating. It is this vital participation that brings the heart of Jesus to His people.**

Happy moments,
Praise God.

Difficult moments,
Seek God.

Quiet moments,
Worship God.

Painful moments,
Trust God.

Every moment,

From Scripture:

Luke 24:46-53, Our mission from God

This passage is Luke’s version of the Ascension when Jesus ascends to His Father in Heaven. Jesus gave his disciples a mission before entering Heaven. First, He reminded them that His suffering, death, and Resurrection were part of God’s plan. These events, called the Paschal Mystery, are so important we recall them at every Mass.

Then, Jesus sent His disciples out to call others to repentance and discipleship. Having heard about Christ’s suffering, death and Resurrection for their salvation, the next logical step would be to repent – literally, to “go beyond their usual way of thinking.” People were and are invited to reconcile with God by the forgiveness of their sins through the Sacraments.

Jesus died for everyone, but not everyone knew about it. The mission of His first followers was to tell everyone how God saved them and to offer them, in Christ’s name, a way forward: repentance and forgiveness. If we know Christ, His sacrifice, His love, and the eternal life He offers us, we are commanded to tell others, whether by word, deed, or living example.



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel with the Annual Novena

will begin on July 6th. The Novena Mass will be at 8:00 AM each day at St. Casimir Church. The final Mass will be held on Sunday, July 16th at 8:00 AM at St. Casimir with Procession following.

**DIVINE MERCY PARISH
SUMMER FOOD SALE**

Will be held on

Friday, July 14th from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Saturday, July 15th from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM and
Sunday, July 16th from Noon to 6:00 PM



In Divine Mercy Parish
Parking Lot

What is the Feast of our Lady of Loreto?

In 1919, Pope Francis set aside a day specially devoted to Our Lady of Loreto. Loreto is the city in Italy where, it is believed, the house where Mary grew up is located. According to tradition, angels carried the house from the Holy Land to Italy in the thirteenth century when the Holy Land was under attack. Whether angels really transported the house, or a devout, wealthy family paid to have it moved, scientific findings have verified that the house itself is not from thirteenth-century Italy. The architectural style, construction, and the pollen granules found in the mortar are not characteristic of thirteen-century Italy, but of first-century Palestine.

We are not bound to belief in the miraculous transportation of the House of Loreto, but the significance of this devotion still applies to us. We are reminded of Mary’s motherhood – first of Jesus and then of us today (John 19:27). We’re encouraged to ask her intercession for families today, and to remember the importance of the family in God’s saving plan.

Do We Really Receive Gifts From the Holy Spirit?

At Baptism, we receive actual, spiritual gifts from the Holy Spirit intended to help us live virtuous lives. Traditionally numbered seven (Isaiah 11:1-3), these gifts make us receptive to grace and the promptings of the Spirit. They grow stronger the more we use them. They are also strengthened by the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Wisdom: This gift helps us stay focused on God’s will and his plan for us.

Understanding: Lets us grasp truths of the faith with our mind *and* heart.

Counsel: Also called “right judgment,” counsel enables us to weigh all the alternatives to make the right (moral) choice.

Fortitude: Courage, or the ability to remain firm in seeking the good against all pressures.

Knowledge: A person with knowledge sees more than one dimension of an issue to determine the right path.

Piety: This gift helps us think of ourselves as children of God and be eager to serve him.

Fear of the Lord: The wonder and awe God inspires encourages us to respect him and all his creations.

