



## Divine Mercy Parish

### Mass Schedule for the Week of November 26, 2023

*Monday, November 27, 2023*

**Julius, Nellie & Larry Stremba** by Jules & Pat Stremba  
**Confessions at Divine Mercy**

**6:45 AM** DM  
**6 – 6:30 PM**

*Tuesday, November 28, 2023*

**Living & Deceased Members of Divine Mercy Parish**

**6:45 AM** DM

*Wednesday, November 29, 2023*

**John & Helen Pukavige** by Daughter, Barbara  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**6:45 AM** DM  
**5:30-7 PM** Chapel

*Thursday, November 30, 2023*

**Francis Muraczewski** by Pat & Leo Treshock

**6:45 AM** DM

*Friday, December 1, 2023*

**Georgette Moyer** by Family  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**6:45 AM** DM  
**2-4:00 PM** Chapel

*Saturday, December 2, 2023*

**Joseph Guziewicz** by Family  
**First Penance**

**8:00 AM** DM  
**10:00 AM** DM

**Divine Mercy Chaplet**

**Mary Jo (Maley) Piekarski** by Loughlin/Piekarski Families

**3:45 PM** DM  
**4:00 PM** DM

*Sunday, December 3, 2023*

**Stanley “Buck” & Virginia Bokuniewicz** by Colleen Moyer & Family

**7:30 AM** DM

**Divine Mercy Chaplet**

**Matunis & Elliott Families** by Matunis Family

**9:40 AM** DM

**Living & Deceased Priests – Diocese of Allentown**

**10:00 AM** DM

**12:30 PM** DM

**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](http://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](http://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 Collections**

Due to Thanksgiving, collections will be announced at a later date!

#### **Thanksgiving Holiday Parish Office Hours**

The office will be closed from noon on Wednesday, November 22nd, Thursday November 23rd, Friday November 24th and Monday, November 27th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, November 28th at 8:30 AM.

#### **God’s Timing**

Sometimes it seems like no matter how much we pray, God doesn’t hear us. It can be tempting to give up hope, but remember, *God always answers prayer* in his time. Each day, decide to trust God; his timing is perfect.

**Divine Mercy Memorial Fund**  
**In loving memory of Diane M. Kalyan**  
 \$10 Husband, Ron & family  
**Dr. Joseph Zienkiewicz**  
 \$10 Jackie Webb  
 \$10 Barbara Hardy  
 \$5 Catherine Toborowski  
**Walter Hall**  
 \$10 Jackie Webb  
 \$5 Catherine Toborowski  
**Virginia Bokuniewicz**  
 \$10 Jackie Webb  
 \$5 Catherine Toborowski  
**Special intentions**  
 \$5 Anonymous



For

## Daily Mass ONLY!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the daily Mass Schedule needs to be changed. The new mass schedule will begin on the **first Monday of Advent, December 4th. Daily Masses will be at 7:30 AM Monday through Saturday.**

### Trust God

If we let him, God will work in our lives. Because he's perfect, God can't make mistakes. When we trust him completely, we feel a sense of personal well-being, security, and peace. Forgiveness is a gift for you. Right or wrong, when we hold onto an injury, we get trapped in the pain of it indefinitely. Forgiving frees us to move on. Forgiveness is something we do for ourselves: **Start with a sign.** Even if you are the one injured, let the other person know you are ready to forgive by offering something tangible: flowers, a card, a hug. *"Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord"* (Isaiah 1:18).

### Separate the offense from the offender.

God doesn't abandon us when we sin. He loves us no matter what and asks that we do the same for each other. **Forgive and forget.** You can't have one without the other. Forgiveness entails cancelling a debt, whether by God or another person. *"(Love) does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things ..."* (1 Corinthians 13:5-8). **Celebrate.** A mended relationship is stronger than one that has never been tested.

### Devotional Candles

#### 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** In memory of Fr. Dene by Jackie Webb  
**Blessed Mother** In memory of Albert Jr., Albert Sr., Anna, Joseph, George & Regina & Irene Discavage by family  
**Blessed Mother** In loving memory of my dad, Eugene Straka on his birthday by Paul Straka  
**Blessed Mother** Special intentions by Jackie Webb  
**St. Ann** Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family

#### St. Casimir

**Sanctuary** In loving memory of my Dad, George Rittle by Daughter, Maria  
**Divine Mercy** In loving memory of Frank Macus by Fran & Maria  
**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 John & Helen Pukavige by children  
**Divine Mercy** Special intentions by Louis & Donna Kowalski  
**Blessed Mother** In loving memory of Joe & Joestelle by Wife/Mother  
**Blessed Mother** In memory of John McGuire by Wife, Peg

### 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

### What Does it Mean to be Like Jesus?

One reason Jesus came among us was to tell us about God and to lead us to Heaven. Jesus hoped we would do what he did. For example, Jesus asked us to love one another as he did. Some ways Jesus showed love were lending an attentive ear, showing patience in irritating situations, helping people make good decisions. Demonstrating love every day is imitating Christ. Jesus had few possessions himself and sent his disciples out to preach with almost nothing. He didn't want them to get distracted. He knew that the more goods we have, the more we'd think about them and the less we'd think about God. Consider getting rid of what you don't need, and buy only items that replace what is worn out or broken. Jesus often went off to be alone with God. Take time each day to keep company with God. Even as few as 15 minutes will keep you connected to your loving Father. Doing these things are steps toward living like Jesus.



### Truth or White Lie?

When a friend asks your opinion, have you hesitated to tell the truth because you fear hurt feelings? When asked, a true friend always speaks the truth. It is gentler to hear a hard truth from a caring friend.



### Chosen, Blessed & Shared

Make sure to remember the retired priests of our Diocese by making a gift to the Endowment Fund for the care of retired priests. This special fund is used to directly support retired priests in good standing including the future costs of their healthcare, insurance, and housing and sustenance. Please return your gift using the envelope you received in the mail. These envelopes may be returned in the mail or in the collection basket at Mass. For more information, visit the website [www.weloveourpriests.org](http://www.weloveourpriests.org). Your generosity supports retired priests from all 5 counties of our Diocese.

### An Advent Message Advent Day of Prayer

During the secular holiday season, we are bombarded with messages on TV, on the internet, in stores, in magazines and other sources that blare out the commercialism of the holidays. What a perfect time to escape from the cacophony, go to our quiet and beautiful chapel to pray, reflect and discover the true meaning of Christmas – the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ

**Our Advent Day of Prayer will be held on Wednesday, December 6th with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration in the Chapel from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.**

“Keep Christ in Christmas”

**The Tree of Life has been placed in the vestibule of Divine Mercy Parish in the corridor leading to the former crying room. Take a moment and stop by to look at it. If anyone is still interested in making a donation to the new chapel in memory of someone or a special intention that you may have, please contact the parish office at 462-1968 as soon as possible. Your choices are: Leaf \$ 300.00, Acorn \$ 500.00, Foundation Stone \$ 1,000.00 and Mini-Tree \$ 1,500.00. Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the chapel.**



### OPLATKI/CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Will be available beginning Saturday, December 2nd and Sunday, December 3rd before & after all the Masses at Divine Mercy or at the Parish Office, 108 West Cherry St. during office hours. **Donation for a 6 piece pack will be \$ 5.00.**



**Christmas Memorial & Christmas Flower Memorial Envelopes** are placed in your December envelopes. You may place your Christmas Memorial & Christmas Flower Memorial in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. The memorials will be published for Christmas. **The deadline will be Monday, December 11th.**

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE FOR 2023

#### Christmas Eve Schedule

Sunday, December 24th	6:00 PM	Divine Mercy
Sunday, December 24th	9:00 PM	Divine Mercy

#### Christmas Day Schedule

Monday, December 25th	7:30 AM	Divine Mercy
Monday, December 25th	10:00 AM	Divine Mercy
Monday, December 25th	12:30 PM	Divine Mercy Spanish

#### Misa En Espanol

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, January 1st	7:30 AM	Divine Mercy
Monday, January 1st	10:00 AM	Divine Mercy

### Catholic Charities – Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program - Diocese of Allentown - Christmas Giving Tree

This year during Advent, our parish will participate in the Christmas Giving Tree sponsored by the Catholic Charities – Diocese of Allentown. Catholic Charities focuses its Christmas giving on respect life efforts by providing counseling and material assistance to expectant and new mothers and their children. This year, the current administration in Harrisburg decided to not renew the annual government contract with Real Alternatives, the non-profit organization that funds our program. Because of this, your support is more needed than ever. Donations include: diapers, wipes, clothing, bottles, baby bathtubs and training potties. Additionally, gift cards to baby selling stores will be accepted. These items will be used to support pregnant and new mothers throughout the five counties of the Diocese of Allentown. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated. Items may be dropped off at church in the vestibule or at the parish office.



**Immaculate Conception** is considered a holy day of obligation.

Masses will be scheduled as follows:

Thursday, Dec. 7th	6:15 PM	Divine Mercy Church
Friday, Dec. 8th	7:30 AM	Divine Mercy Church
Friday, Dec. 8th	7:00 PM	Divine Mercy Church

En Espanol



### Divine Mercy Parish Homemade Pierogies

are now available. Cost: \$ 8.00 per dozen.





**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)1968) 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](mailto: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](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) and click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right hand- corner of the page.

**Parish Dues for 2024 for Divine Mercy Parish** are now payable for any registered parishioner 21 years of age and older at the parish office, 108 West Cherry St. If dues are paid by January 31, 2024, dues are \$ 50.00 per individual. If paid after January 31, 2024, dues are \$ 60.00 per individual.



#### Did You Request Extra Envelopes to Pay Your 2024 Dues Monthly?

If you receive collection envelopes monthly, envelopes for your dues are included in that packet of envelopes. It is the very first envelope of every month. Please use that envelope to pay your dues monthly. If you have any questions, please call the office.

**You may schedule additional Masses for 2024 and book is open to non-parishioners.**

**The Diocesan Mass Stipend is set at \$10.00.**

#### Nativity Happenings

The month of November, Nativity's Green and Gold Club will be selling Gift Card Calendars. Anyone who would like to donate a \$25.00 gift card it would be greatly appreciated. The Club will be mailing out 5 calendars to each Nativity family to sell and additional calendars will be available in the main office. The cost of each calendar is \$10.00.

#### Assumption BVM Catholic School

Assumption BVM will be holding a Raffle for \$500.00 worth of fuel for the winter months. This fundraiser will directly benefit the school and its students. Tickets are \$5.00 each (small games of chance license #9524). Drawing will be held on December 21st. Chances can be purchased from any ABVM family or from the school (school phone: 622-0106 or e-mail: [eschoepflin@assumptionbvmschool.net](mailto:eschoepflin@assumptionbvmschool.net)). Thank you for your help in making our Fuel Raffle a success!

#### "Be Not Afraid"

When someone we love is dying, we may want to help but don't know what to do. We can feel powerless. Yet when they are transitioning from this life to the next, we can make a significant difference to our loved ones.

**Bring love.** Jesus never turned away from the sick and dying. He always had a loving hand to comfort them and their families. Sometimes just holding a hand says more than words.

**Bring attention.** Ask him stories about his life. Let him know he has inspired you. You'll treasure these moments after he is gone.

**Bring comfort.** Remind her how much God loves her and is waiting to welcome her. Encourage her to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

**Bring peace.** Although someone may lose his ability to speak, he can still hear. Pray out loud, read from scripture or a favorite book.



Many parishioners have asked about having past bulletins on our website: [www.dmparish.com](http://www.dmparish.com). Good news, we now have past bulletins on our website. All you have to do is to our website, [www.dmparish.com](http://www.dmparish.com) and click on About Us and Bulletin Archive and you can click on whichever one you would like to read.

**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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) o llamando al 800-276-1562

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**WEEKLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR  
DEC. 2ND-3RD – ALL MASSES AT DIVINE MERCY**

Mass Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 PM	Lombard,Gina	Elchisak,Michele	Blank,Name
7:30 AM	Bronk,Cathy	McGauley,Delmy	Snitzer,Isabella
10:00 AM	Taylor,Anne	Phillips,Kathy	Estrada,Jose & Caesar

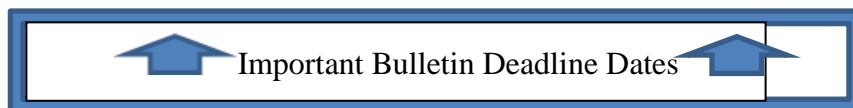
**Shenandoah Area Free Public Library Events**

The library will be participating in Francesco's Dine In or Take Out during the months of October, November and December. Tickets are \$35.00 each and are valid for 1 Veal, Chicken or Seafood dinner and cannoli. Expiration date for tickets: December 31, 2023. Tickets can be purchased at the library 462-9829 or DSI Office, 116 North Main St. Shenandoah.

**Bulletin Deadline Dates**

Below you will find a listing of when bulletin information is due. The holidays are very busy, so I ask that you please use this as a reference guide as to when bulletin information is due. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Bulletin for Sunday.....	Bulletin Information is due on ...
Sunday, December 10th	Monday, November 27th
Sunday, December 17th	Thursday, December 7th
Sunday, December 24th	Monday, December 11th
Sunday, January 7th	Tuesday, December 26th



**October Lotto Winners**

Patricia Bright	10/1	Day	\$ 50.00	# 210
Peg McGuire	10/2	Day	\$ 50.00	# 341
P & K Gavala	10/4	Eve	\$ 25.00	# 217
Carmen Cicioni	10/5	Day	\$ 50.00	# 125
Nikki Zarcufsky	10/10	Day	\$ 25.00	# 166
Barb Guzinski	10/31	Eve	\$ 25.00	# 227
Pat Treshock	10/31	Day	\$ 25.00	# 251

**Christ the King**

What does it mean to say Christ is King? Do we give him our Sundays only, or the whole week? Set aside ten minutes for God. Offer him the events of your day and say, "Your will be done."

**Did You Change Your Phone Number?**

The parish office has many incorrect phone numbers for the parishioners. We are asking that if you changed your phone number, please notify the office with your new phone number. Thank you!

Next Prayer Group will meet at the Father Cizek Center on **Thursday, December 7th at 6:30 PM.**

**Next Bible Group: Thursday, December 14th at 6:30 PM at the Father Cizek Center.**

**Next Franciscan Group: Thursday, December 21st at 6:30 PM at the Father Cizek Center.**

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

### Redner's "Save – A- Tape" Receipts

**Divine Mercy Parish** is still collecting the "Save-A-Tape" from Redner's Markets. Please drop off your receipts in the collection or mail box or bring them to the parish office during regular office hours. The parish will receive a check for 1% of what is collected. Please support your parish and collect the receipts. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year. It is greatly appreciated. **Please do not cut any of the receipt away.**

### A Little Reminder For Cemetery Lot Owners

in order to keep bringing all our Parish Cemeteries in line with the guidelines and regulations of the Diocese the following will still be enforced: all bricks, fine & crushed stone, plants, fresh & plastic flowers not in containers, fences, borders of all types will be removed & discarded immediately due to the fact that they cause a problem for maintenance of your lot. Again, anything that interferes with the mowing & trimming of grass will be removed at the family's expense. Containers should not interfere with the care of the cemetery grounds. If they do, the containers will be removed immediately. No planting of flowers, trees, or shrubs allowed. Plastic flowers must be in containers also.



### Financial Report -- October

Net October Income	\$ 46,029.59	Expenses	\$ 56,368.73
		Insurance	\$ 7,422.00
		Assessments	\$ 4,023.00
Total Income	\$ 46,029.59	Total Expenses	\$ 67,813.73
Expenses over income	\$ 21,784.14	This shows a loss of	\$ 21,784.14



**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.**



It is with a heavy heart that I must tell you that we will not be doing the Cookie Sale this year. With the gangs that have taken over control in Haiti, Cross Catholic Outreach hasn't been able to get food aid into Haiti. There are no elected officials in office, no government services and police stations are empty because the police officers haven't been paid in months. If our partners can ship in food, as containers of aid and food leave the port, they are promptly hijacked by gangs. The contents of those containers are used by the gangs to gain control over the people of Haiti. Schools are closed so we can't do school feeding programs, which we feel is the hallmark of our Cookie Sale. Simply put, if you're with the gang, you get fed otherwise you starve. The last shipment of food that The Cookie Sale funded was sent to St. Joseph School and was hijacked on September 16, 2022. The result was that thousands of children that benefited from our feeding program went hungry.

**Our Problem ...**The unfortunate paradox is that the poorest of the poor in Haiti need us more than ever and we are absolutely unable to help. Our position, from the sources that we have, is that anything we ship to Haiti will be hijacked by gangs and used as a weapon. Since there is no police or security, putting people in Haiti to help would border on insanity as murders and kidnappings have skyrocketed beyond imagination. According to the UN, in the last half of 2022, there have been 260 murders in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Cite Soleil alone.

We are working with our partners who are trying to find other areas and means to get the food into Haiti, but at this time it's risky for them and the people trying to transport it to those in need.

We want to honor your loyalty by being as transparent as possible and we want to be good stewards of the funds we have received. As a legal non-profit entity, we believe we have 3 obligations: 1. The poorest of the poor in Haiti, 2. Combating world hunger and 3. Our organizations that sold the cookie trays.

We hope and pray that we can do The Cookie Sale in 2024 but until the gangs are under control we need to suspend it.