



Divine Mercy Parish

Mass Schedule for the Week of January 28, 2024

Monday, January 29, 2024

7:30 AM DM Brian Rooney Jr. by Wood, Smith & Besnefskie Families
2:00 - 4 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6-6:30 PM DM Confessions

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

7:30 AM DM Joseph Maloney Sr. by Maloney Family

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

7:30 AM DM Leo & Kitty Breznik by Mike & Cheryl Breznik & Family
5:30 - 7 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, February 1, 2024

7:30 AM DM Living & Deceased Members of Divine Mercy Parish

Friday, February 2, 2024

7:30 AM DM Bill Racis by Dorothy & Romolo
2:00 - 4 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, February 3, 2024

7:30 AM DM Ronald Lusavage by Wife & Children

3:45 PM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00 PM DM Vincent Ryan Jr. by Wife & Children

Sunday, February 4, 2024

7:30 AM DM For All Those Remembered In Our Memorial Fund
9:40 AM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet
10:00 AM DM Barbara Byrne
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 Collections

1/21 – \$ 6,216.00

Do You Receive Church Envelopes?

If you are not receiving church envelopes and would like to be put on the list, please contact the parish office at 462-1968. Thank you.



Parish Office will be closed

Monday, February 19th for Presidents' Day.

The office will reopen on **Tuesday, February 20th at 8:30 AM.**

Divine Mercy Memorial Fund	
Diane Kalyan	
\$10	Husband, Ron & family
Gertrude Pitts	
\$25	Tom & Pam Twardzik & sons
Ann Louise Conroy	
\$25	Tom & Pam Twardzik & sons
Frances Yanonis	
\$10	Louis & Donna Kowalski
Gloria Choplick	
\$25	Mike & Gloria Burda
Carol Reilly	
\$10	Rita Sherakas
Brian Rooney	
\$10	Georgine Sinkus
\$10	Peter Ulicny
\$10	Cathy & Al Bronk
Catherine Baginski	
\$10	Kathy Ference Donovan
Walter Hall	
\$10	Cathy & Al Bronk
Special intentions	
\$5	Anonymous
Father Walter Ciszek Chapel Memorial Fund	
Gloria Choplick	
\$50	Marian & Ed Savitsky
\$50	John & Rita McCarthy
\$50	Bonnie & Al Malacuskus
\$20	Jim & Gerri Rusin
\$20	Joe & Leanne Hall & family
\$20	Ed & Dianne Bereschak
\$20	Tom & Tekla McCabe
\$20	Ed & Bernadette Levitsky
\$20	Ray & Cathy Sajone
\$20	Colleen Moyer
\$10	Wally & Janet Masinick
\$10	Karen & Leo Kayes
Roy “Dave” Becker	
\$5	Mike & Terry Gilliam

The Face of God

God doesn't want us to sacrifice our own wellbeing, but does want us to willingly bring his love to other people. It can be uncomfortable being his loving face to others. This means being patient with those who annoy us, kind to those who are demanding, and forgiving to those who haven't asked.



Divine Mercy	
Sanctuary	In memory of my beloved Parents & Sister, Angelo & Enrica & Jean Romano by Ann Romano
Blessed Mother	In memory of Dorothy Wisniewski on our wedding anniversary by Husband, Ray
St. Ann	Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family
OLMC	Good health & God's blessings for our Daughter, Jenna by Mom & Dad
OLMC	Special intention for John Kelly 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	In memory of John & Helen Pukavige by children
Divine Mercy	Good health for Joe Richardson by Terry & Joe Richardson
Divine Mercy	Special intentions for Christopher, Hope, Marc, Donna, Benjamin & Morgan
Divine Mercy	Prayers & good health for J.M., S.M., M.S., A.M., Z. S., T.S., R.G., G.M., L.B. & J. B.
Divine Mercy	Special intentions by Louis & Donna Kowalski
Blessed Mother	In loving memory of Joe & Joestelle by Wife/Mother
Blessed Mother	Blessings for successful surgery & recovery for Sandra Gera by Ed & Fran Domkus
Blessed Mother	Special intentions, in thanksgiving & good health for Msgr. Bocian, Stephen Bocian, George Huss, Estelle McLaren, Joann Pribish, Julie Buchinsky, Scarlet Henry, Mary Lou Scardino & Jeff B.
Sacred Heart	Special intentions for Christopher & Marc
St. Anthony	Special intentions for Christopher & Marc
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



Congratulations and God's Blessings upon our Dear Bernardine Franciscan Sisters as they celebrate this year their 130th Anniversary of service in USA, and 125th Anniversary serving people of Shenandoah !

The Bernardine Sisters came from Poland to the USA 130 years ago. Five years later, which is 125 years ago, the Bernardine Sisters were missioned to Shenandoah to minister to the people of St. Casimir Parish and then to the people of St. Stanislaus Parish. The Sisters taught in the schools of both parishes and then at the Father Walter Ciszek Elementary School.

While in Shenandoah, the sisters also visited the sick, took care of the Sanctuary of the Churches and assisted the pastors in the care of the people. While all this was being done, over 100 girls and young women went to the Bernardine Sisters Mother House in Reading to consider a vocation to this dynamic and vibrant religious community.

We, the people of Shenandoah, continue to be blessed with the presence of the Bernardine Sisters as they minister to the needs of the people of Shenandoah and assist in the promotion of the cause of canonization for Fr. Walter Ciszek.

We thank God for the many blessings that have come to us through the work of all the Bernardine Sisters who have been in Shenandoah and continue to be blessed by their presence and ministries.

Tune Out the World and Tune Into God

In our noisy world, it can be hard to hear God’s voice over the din. Yet, listening is as important as talking during prayer. *“By waiting and by calm you shall be saved, in quiet and in trust your strength lies”* (Isaiah 30:15). Try these ideas for some quiet listening in your day:

Quiet sight: during daylight hours, go to a window and look out. Ask God to help you see the familiar sight with new eyes. Discover something you hadn’t noticed before.

Quiet reading: Bring your Bible or devotional reading to a quiet spot. Read at least 10 verses and take 15 minutes to meditate on them. Be still and allow God to speak to you by whatever means he chooses.

Quiet retreat: several websites offer mini retreats as a way to enter into quiet prayer during your day. This is especially helpful if you spend a lot of time during the day in front of a computer screen. See www.loyolapress.com and click on 3-minute retreat, for an example.

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 parroquia(108 W.Cherry St., Shenandoah. Teléfono 570 (4621968) para reservar fechas y rellenar formularios. El proceso es muy fácil.



DONUT, CAKE & COFFEE SOCIAL

Come and join us for donuts, cake & coffee on **Sunday, February 11th** after the 10:00 AM Mass at Trinity Academy School. No admission fee.

Lenten Day of Prayer Wednesday, February 21st

8:00 AM immediately following 7:30 AM Mass to 6:00 PM - Chapel

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus - Philippians 4:6-7

“God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer.” – *Mother Teresa*

- 8:00 AM (Right after 7:30 AM Mass) to 6:00 PM - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Adoration in Chapel

Sign in sheets will be available in the vestibule closer to our Lenten Day of Prayer

You may schedule additional Masses for 2024

and book is open to non-parishioners.

The Diocesan Mass Stipend is set at \$10.00.



Blessing of the candles will take place during Mass on Friday, February 2nd at 7:30 AM at Divine Mercy. Candles will then be available after Mass, available on weekends and also at the parish office. Candles are for home use – **All Blessed Candles \$ 4.00 – two candles per box.**

St. Blaisé – Blessing of Throats will take place on the following days:

Saturday, February 3rd – 7:30 AM Mass – there will be individual blessing
 4:00 PM Mass – there will be a general blessing

Sunday, February 4th – 7:30 AM Mass & 10:00 AM – there will be a general blessing

Tax Time is approaching us very quickly. Need a copy of your contribution sheet? Again, this year we will not be mailing out the contribution sheets to every parishioner of our parish. Therefore, if you would like a copy for tax purposes, it is necessary for you to call the parish office at 462-1968 in a request for your contribution sheet for 2023. We will mail this sheet directly to you.



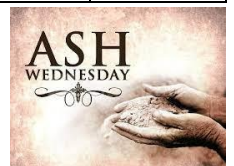
Christmas Collection

A special thank you to the parishioners & friends of Divine Mercy Parish for their generous holiday contributions.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Divine Mercy	25,348.00	25,024.00	25,562.88	23,304.24	23,931.00

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule will be as follows:

Wednesday,	2/14	7:30 AM	Divine Mercy
		12:30 PM	Divine Mercy
		5:30 PM	Divine Mercy



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.

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

**WEEKLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR
FEBRUARY 3RD & 4TH – ALL MASSES AT DIVINE MERCY**

Mas Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 PM	Maskornick, Sherri	Elchisak, Michele	Blank, Name
7:30 AM	Selvocki, Joseph	Grochowski, Jennifer	Snitzer, Isabella
10:00 AM	Taylor, Anne	Sadusky, Joseph	Donovan, Joseph

Nativity Happenings:

Nativity is currently accepting inquiries for enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. Individual meetings, school tours and shadow days are being scheduled for possible enrollment. Please contact Mrs. Jennifer Daubert in the Development office with any enrollment questions.

OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION:

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year at Nativity is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the school. Faculty, staff, administration and coaches will be available to answer questions. Tours of the school will be given and tuition assistance drawings will be available that afternoon for those who register. Please contact Jennifer Daubert @ 622-8110 with any questions.

Nativity BVM High School

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK- 2024 Schedule

Sunday, January 28, 2024 – Celebrating Our Future

We celebrate the future of our school with our Open House and Registration for the 2024-2025 school year. School tours, presentations and displays will begin at 1 PM. Members of the entire Nativity community will be available to answer questions. No pre-registration is required. All are welcome!

Monday, January 29, 2024 - Celebrating Our School Community

We celebrate our community by bringing it together to celebrate the holy sacrifice of the Mass as we open the week. There will be doughnuts distributed to bus drivers, van drivers, and parents to thank them for their help with our students during the school year. (AM SCHEDULE)

Tuesday, January 30, 2024 - Celebrating Our Wonderful Students

We will be celebrating the gift of our wonderful students by treating them to a free dress down day. There will be activities scheduled for the students in the afternoon including games and a movie. (SPECIAL SCHEDULE)

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 - Celebrating Our Nation

We will be celebrating the United States and our Nativity Nation by having a special flag raising ceremony with our new flag donated by Student Council and singing of our National Anthem. There will be a free dress down day themed with the colors of your country for all students, faculty and staff. In the morning, we will unite as a school family to watch a basketball game between our Nativity Hilltoppers and St. Joseph Center students. (AM SCHEDULE)

Thursday, February 1, 2024 - Celebrating the Gift of Vocations

We will celebrate vocations with a special gift of thanks to our chaplain, Fr. Kevin Bobbin. There will be visiting religious speaking to the theology classes about the gifts of their vocations. We will join together in the afternoon for Nativity’s version of Family Feud (PM ASSEMBLY)

Friday, February 2, 2024 - Celebrating our Faculty and Staff

We will be treating all of our devoted faculty and staff to donuts and coffee in the morning and to lunch during their lunch periods to thank them for their hard work and dedication to Nativity. Faculty and staff will also be able to have a dress down day and a have a good day sticker. Throughout the day there will be an ongoing Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament with the finals of the tournament being held in the afternoon. (directions will be given prior) (SPECIAL SCHEDULE).

Next Prayer Group will meet at the Father Ciszek Center on **Thursday, February 1st at 6:30 PM.**
Next Bible Group: Thursday, February 8th at 6:30 PM at the Father Ciszek Center.
Next Franciscan Group: Thursday, February 15th at 6:30 PM at the Father Ciszek 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.

Just Adore

Do you ever run out of things to say during your prayer time? Or worse, do you ever get weary of saying the same things over and over? Why not just sit in silent adoration of the one who loves you more than you can imagine? What words can be better or more appropriate than that.



Assumption BVM Catholic School – Pottsville – Catholic Schools Week

- Sunday 1/28 Open House – noon to 2:00 PM
- Monday 1/29 Rock Paper Scissor Challenge
- Tuesday 1/30 Student Appreciation Day
- Wednesday 1/31 School Mass with Bishop Schlert
- Thursday 2/1 Crazy hair/crazy hat day & School wide Scavenger Hunt
- Friday 2/2 Teacher Appreciation Day

Financial Report --December

Net December Income	\$ 54,114.87	Expenses	\$ 46,546.05
		Insurance	\$ 7,422.00
		Assessments	\$ 4,023.00
Total Income	\$ 54,114.87	Total Expenses	\$ 57,991.05
Expenses over income	\$ 3,876.18	This shows a loss of	\$ 3,876.18



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.



Many parishioners have asked about having past bulletins on our website: 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 and click on About Us and Bulletin Archive and you can click on whichever one you would like to read.



St. Patrick Preschool @ Assumption BVM in Pottsville is accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year. We offer 2, 3 and 5 day programs both full and half days. Contact us for more information at 622-0106 or saintpatricks.prek@gmail.com. Check out our Facebook page Saint Patrick's Preschool @ Assumption BVM. Open house is January 28th from Noon to 2:00 PM.

Marian Catholic High School -- Open House

Sunday, January 28th - 2:00-4:00 PM
 Come learn how to make a Marian education possible.
 To RSVP, please contact Mary Milosh at mmilosh@mariancatholics.org or 467-3335 ext. 117.

Does Being a “Good Catholic” Mean Following All the Rules Exactly?

The ancient Jews had a lot of rules. Jewish Law dictated what you could eat, how to stay ritually clean, and how to spend Saturdays. Yet, when asked what the most important commandment was, Jesus’ answer brought his listeners back to the basics: *“You shall love the Lord, you God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind...you shall love your neighbor as yourself”* (Matthew 22:37).

Jesus didn’t give rules so much as he laid down principles. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave his disciples a New Commandment: *“Love one another as I love you”* (John 15:12). This New Commandment gives us the whole Law in its simplest form: Catholicism, at its heart, is about love—Christ-like love for God and others. Being a good Catholic isn’t about following all the rules perfectly for perfection’s sake, but about falling in love with God. Once that happens, following the Commandments and the Beatitudes takes care of itself. They cease to be rules and become a lifestyle.

“You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever” Psalm 16:11.



What Does the Image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mean?

The image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a symbol of Christ’s love for us. It is often a heart surrounded by flame, pierced by a lance, topped by a cross, and circled by a crown of thorns.

Jesus’ love for us burns bright and intense like a flame. His heart is pierced by the lance representing our sins and the crown of thorns and the cross remind us of the death he suffered to bring us life.



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.



Our parish office reached out to Deppen’s Farm about having a pie sale in March. However, we received a letter from Deppen’s Farm saying that due to being short staffed and hampered by more than their share of medical issues, they are not scheduling any fund raisers for the winter/spring timeframe. They are hoping to get back up to speed and will be able to schedule a fundraiser soon.

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).

Intercessory Prayer – A Double Blessing

When we pray for others, we offer powerful help for someone in need. It’s the best action we can take for others. Intercessory prayer is also a gift for the one who prays. **Prayers of friends can save.** Remember when a group of friends lowered a paralyzed man through a roof so Jesus could cure him (Mark2:1-12)? Jesus was clearly touched by their devotion. His usual response when asked for healing was, *“your faith has saved you.”* This time he said, *“The faith of your friends has saved you.”* **Place friends’ needs before Jesus.** In the Gospel story, Jesus changed the man’s life and amazed all who watched. Imagine the kind of difference we can each make when we ask Jesus to help our friends. **Prayer blesses both the one who prays and the one prayed for.** Those for whom we pray are blessed by the positive effect of our prayers. We are also blessed by the connection prayer gives us to God and by seeing the results of our prayers.



Divine Mercy Parish Homemade Pierogies

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