



# Divine Mercy Parish

## Mass Schedule for the Week of February 11, 2024

### *Monday, February 12, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Gino Bruni by Maryann & Family  
2:00 - 4 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
6-6:30 PM DM Confessions

### *Tuesday, February 13, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Ann Spaar by Son, Jason

### *Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Albert Sterner by Wife & Son  
12:30 PM DM Living & Deceased Members of Divine Mercy Parish  
5:30 PM DM Joseph Heiler by Wife, Bonnie

### *Thursday, February 15, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Lillian Puza & Ann Mescavage by Bob

### *Friday, February 16, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Jack Wright by Charlotte & Dave Kriner  
2:30 PM DM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
3:00 PM DM Stations of the Cross/Benediction  
7:00 PM DM Stations of the Cross (En Espanol)

### *Saturday, February 17, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Anne Zeplin  
3:45 PM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet  
4:00 PM DM Dr. Joseph Zienkiewicz by Mother, Loretta

### *Sunday, February 18, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Ed Daynorowicz by Son, Brandon  
9:40 AM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet  
10:00 AM DM Henry Kosiorowski by Zofia Panek & Family  
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](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**

2/4 – \$ 9,006.91

### **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.**

<b>Divine Mercy Memorial Fund</b>	
<b>Diane Kalyan</b>	
\$10	Husband, Ron & family
<b>William Tubbs</b>	
\$15	Janet, Diane, Mary Kay & family
\$10	Theresa Tunilla
<b>Ann Kelly</b>	
\$100	Brother, John & Louise Kelly & family
\$100	M/M Walter Sebastian & family
\$100	Tom & Pam Twardzik
\$100	Peggy & Jack Kweder
\$50	Rosemary Mohutsky & family
\$50	Diane Lazur
\$50	Denise & Charles Sincavage
\$50	Glen & Karen Souchuck
\$50	Francis Caulfield & Donna Lally
\$50	Linda & Holly Unger
\$0	Cousin, Karen & Godson, Tim Haddigan
\$25	Pat & Laura Mealia
\$25	Joseph & Jean Donahoe
\$25	Mary Rose Masternack
\$25	Bill & Midge Fell
\$25	Ann Gottstine & daughters
\$25	Wildes family
\$25	Louis & Donna Kowalski
\$20	Ed Donovan
\$20	Tedesco family
\$20	Melissa & Dave Malloy & family
\$20	Souchuck Lumber Co.
\$20	Beverly Mahutsky
\$20	Carol & Tim Twardzik
\$20	Dan & Joan Shustack
\$20	Bill & Betty Hogan
\$20	Mary Lou Pillus
\$20	Len "Buff" Ciszek
\$20	Steve Sajda
\$20	Michael & Maria Mohutsky
\$20	Patrick & Susan Halcovich
\$20	Bonnie & Al Malacusk
\$20	Maryann Ushock
\$20	Joe & Jean Sherako
\$15	Joanne & Gary Bronsburg
\$10	Buchinsky family
\$10	Bob & Maryann Budd
\$10	Carol Zitka
\$10	Peggy Biscoe
\$10	Joe Link & son
\$10	Deb Abrachinsky
\$10	Theresa & Diane Paruch
\$10	Tom & Diane Pavlosky
\$10	Dan & Diane Monlish
\$10	Paul & Debbie Sosna
\$10	Joe, Joanne & Jamie Cugusi
\$10	Helene Gaborek
\$10	Walter Barlow
\$10	Fran & Maria Macus

<b>Divine Mercy</b>	
Sanctuary	In memory of my beloved Parents & Sister, Angelo & Enrica & Jean Romano by Ann Romano
Blessed Mother	In memory of Diane Donovan by Ed Donovan & family
St. Ann	Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family
St. Joseph	In memory of Karvois & Connell families by Marilyn Connell
St. Joseph	In loving memory of Hank Faleski by Wife, Julie
St. Joseph	In loving memory of our dear "Pop" Buchinsky by family
OLMC	Special intention for John Kelly family
OLMC	Special intentions by Ann Marnell Lehman
<b>St. Casimir</b>	
Sanctuary	In loving memory of my Dad, George Rittle by Daughter, Maria
Czestochowa	In memory of Mary Barnick by Terry & Joe Richardson
Czestochowa	In loving memory of Michalik, Mentel, Lenkaitas, Zelonis, Shirvinski & Sekela families by Michael & Marie Michalik
Divine Mercy	In loving memory of Frank Macus by Fran & Maria
Divine Mercy	Special intentions for Christopher, Hope, Marc, Donna, Benjamin & Morgan
Divine Mercy	In loving memory of John McGuire by Wife, Peggy
Divine Mercy	In memory of John & Helen Pukavige by children
Divine Mercy	Special intentions by Joan Madaffari
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	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 & Christa Beecroft
Blessed Mother	In loving memory of Joan Cekaitis by Fran & Maria
Sacred Heart	Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa
Sacred Heart	Special intentions by Mary Kufro
St. Anthony	Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa
<b>Chapel</b>	
Sanctuary	In loving memory of Gino Bruni by Wife & Family
Blessed Mother	Prayers & good health for Emily Seigel by Uncle Ed & Aunt Kerri
St. Joseph	Special intentions by Msgr. B



**Paschal Candle for 2024** for Divine Mercy Parish is now available. If anyone is interested, please notify the office as soon as possible. You may memorialize this candle as you wish. **Cost of candle: \$342.00.**

**Additional Christmas Flower Memorial**

\$25 In memory of Matthew & Helen Mikosz by Sandra & Dorothy

**Nativity High School**

The Green & Gold Booster Club is having a Galentines Day Bingo on Feb. 17th at Nativity BVM High School. Doors opens @ 6:00 PM and bingo starts at 7:00 PM. For more information please call the school at 622-8110.

**During Lent, there will be NO adoration in the chapel on a Wednesday or Friday due to Adoration, Confessions, Benediction & Stations of the Cross held on Tuesday evening beginning at 5:00 PM and Adoration and Stations of the Cross & Benediction held every Friday at 3:00 PM all held at Divine Mercy.**

**Ann Kelly**

- \$10 Carol Zitka
- \$10 Joe Hall & family
- \$10 Roseanne Malinoski
- \$10 Al & Cathy Bronk
- \$10 Joe & Donna Gawrylik
- \$10 Paula Roller
- \$10 Elaine Fell
- \$10 Marie & Stan Wowak
- \$10 Robert Shustack
- \$10 Peter Ulicny
- \$10 Ed & Fran Domkus
- \$5 Ron & Sally Gennarini
- \$5 Donald & Karen Donchak

**Catherine Baginski**

- \$5 Donald & Karen Donchak

**Walter Hall**

- \$10 Val Sajone

**Anthony Bobbin**

- \$50 Cathy, Al & Alfie Jr. Bronk
- \$20 Roseanne Malinoski

**Living & deceased Bernardine Sisters**

- \$5 Tricia Palubinsky

**Special intentions**

- \$5 Anonymous

**Father Walter J. Ciszek Chapel**

**Memorial Fund**

**Ann Kelly**

- \$20 Bob & Joan Racis

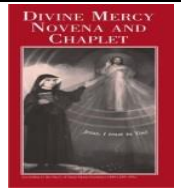
**Gloria Choplick**

- \$50 Larry & Judy Moore

**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 (462)1968) para reservar fechas y rellenar formularios. El proceso es muy fácil.

**Divine Mercy Novena**

will be recited every Sunday for nine weeks which began on Sunday, February 4th. The Divine Mercy pamphlet will be available in the church vestibule. The Novena will be recited before the Chaplet every Sunday.



**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**

**Mass Book of 2024**

**There are many days not taken with Mass intentions for this year.**

**If you would like additional Masses, please contact the office.**

The **Diocesan Mass Stipend is set at \$10.00.** When requesting a Mass for 2024, the stipend must be paid before it can be written in the Mass Book.

**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.



**Divine Mercy Parish Homemade Pierogies**

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

**Join Father Maas for a Walkthrough of the Mass**

We will learn how to understand and pray the Mass with Rev. Philip Maas, Parochial Vicar, St. Thomas More and Interim Catholic Chaplain at Muhlenberg College, Allentown

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 17, 2024

**WHERE:** ICC Parish Hall (One Caroline Ave., Diener’s Hill)

**TIME:** 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Continental breakfast will be provided -- RSVP to 429-0370 no later than Wednesday, February 14th

**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](http://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](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

**WEEKLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR**

**FEBRUARY 14TH, 17TH & 18TH – ALL MASSES AT DIVINE MERCY**

Mass Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
<b>Ash Wed. 12:30 PM</b>	Oravitz Fell, Marguerite	Heckard, Louise	Blank Name
<b>Ash Wed. 5:30 PM</b>	Grochowski, Jennifer	Phillips, Kathy	Rakus, Evan
<b>4:00 PM</b>	Elchisak, Michele	Webb, Jackie	Blank,Name
<b>7:30 AM</b>	Bronk, Cathy	Selvocki, Joseph	Snitzer, Isabella
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Grochowski, Anne	Domkus, Frances	Donovan, Joseph

**Celebrate God’s Goodness** The Bernardine Franciscan Sisters invite you to their gala, Bernardine Bonanza, on Friday, March 8th to support their retired and infirm Sisters. To purchase tickets or for more information about this fun-filled event, held at Alvernia University’s Plex, visit [www.bfranciscan.org](http://www.bfranciscan.org) or call Sr. Maria Bartos at 484-334-6815.



**A Spiritual Lesson from Father Walter J. Ciszek, S.J.**

“Humility is nothing more or less than knowing our place before God.”



Don't Miss the **DEADLINE!**

**Easter Memorials & Easter Flower Memorials** This year the booklet for the Easter Memorials and Easter Flower Memorials will be printed again by our bulletin company. You will find an envelope for each one in your packet of March envelopes. Dated: March 17th. **The deadline for having your Easter Memorials & Easter Flower Memorials sent to the office will be Monday, March 18th. All memorials must be sent to the publishing company early. Any memorials received after Monday, March 18th will NOT be included with the Easter Bulletin. They will be published in a later bulletin. Please keep in mind, this date may change. If any change, it will be published in bulletin.**

**Do You Want a Memorial or Candle in Bulletin for Easter? Please read the following for the deadline date.**

All Information for Easter Sunday Bulletin .... Candles, memorials etc. will be due on Monday, March 18th. Any information received after that, will be published in a later bulletin.

**Don't Miss the Deadline!**

Next Prayer Group will meet at the Father Ciszek Center on **Thursday, March 7th 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.

Jesus, I Trust In You!

LOOK BACK AND

Thank God

LOOK FORWARD AND

Trust God

Mary, Mother of God, Pray for Us.

**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](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.

**Our Lenten Obligation**

Church law considers every Friday and the season of Lent as penitential days and times. The practice of penance is a part of our faith and Christian life. When we do penance, we imitate Jesus, who Himself recommended it as necessary to His followers, and gave them the example of His prayer and fasting.

The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that fasting be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The law of abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.

**Who must fast?** All Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The obligation ceases when one begins his/her 60th year on his/her 59th birthday.

**Who must abstain?** All Catholics who are 14 years and older. **What does fasting mean?** The observance of fasting means that those obliged may take only one full meal on the day of fast. Two lighter meals (not equal to another full meal) may be taken to maintain strength according to one's needs. **What does abstinence mean?** The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat, including poultry. Voluntary abstinence refers to refraining from lawful pleasures in a spirit of penance.

**Can anyone be dispensed or excused from fast and/or abstinence?** Individuals for a just cause may be dispensed by their pastor or by a priest with the faculty to do so. In our Diocese all priests may dispense individuals who are committed to their pastoral care. Those who are ill or have a similar serious reason are excused from the observance of fast and abstinence. Catholics are reminded that they should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation. **Are there other obligations which we should fulfill?** Catholics are obliged to fulfill what has been called their "Easter Duty." They are required to receive Holy Communion during the Easter time. In the United States this obligation can be fulfilled from the First Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday (February 18th until May 26th). Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins once a year. Catholics are also encouraged to make Lent a time of more intense prayer and to practice almsgiving and other works of charity. Parishes are encouraged to continue participation in Operation Rice Bowl.



**Reasons to be Hopeful Right Now**

It's hard not to worry these days with reports of viruses and financial concerns. Yet we in God's family have more reasons to be hopeful no matter how uncertain the world ... **God, our Father, knows what we need.** "If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask him" (Matthew 7:11). He will take care of us when we trust him. **He can work miracles when we ask.** "Know that the Lord works wonders for the faithful; the Lord hears when I call out" (Psalm 4:4). "Be strong and of good courage, do not fear ... for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31:6). Just when life looks bleak, God can surprise us. **He will never abandon us.** "You, Lord, are near to all who call upon you ... (Psalm 145:18). Know that he is always close.



When struggling with something difficult, don't give up because others say you should. Ask God to deepen your resolve. Almost every great idea faced experts who said it couldn't be done. "Strengthen me, as you have promised" (Psalm 119:28).

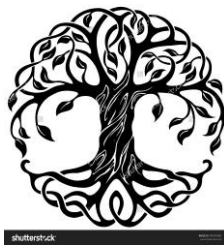


**Did You Change Your Address Lately?**

The parish office would like to ask our parishioners, if they have a change in their address, to please notify the parish office as soon as possible. Every time we send mail out and the address is incorrect, the parish must pay for this piece of mail. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**Nuestra obligación de Cuaresma**

La ley de la Iglesia considera todos los viernes y el tiempo de Cuaresma como días y horas de penitencia. La práctica de la penitencia es parte de nuestra fe y vida cristiana. Cuando hacemos penitencia, imitamos a Jesús, quien mismo lo recomendó como necesario a sus seguidores, y les dio el ejemplo de su oración y ayuno. La obligación de Cuaresma, según lo determinado por nuestros obispos para los católicos en los Estados Unidos, requiere que se observe el ayuno el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo. La ley de abstinencia debe observarse el Miércoles de Ceniza y todos los viernes de Cuaresma. **¿Quién debe ayunar?** Todos los católicos que tienen entre 18 y 59 años de edad. La obligación cesa cuando uno comienza los 60 años en su 59 cumpleaños. **¿Quién debe abstenerse?** Todos los católicos mayores de 14 años. **¿Qué significa ayunar?** La observancia del ayuno significa que los obligados pueden tomar una sola comida completa el día de ayuno. Se pueden tomar dos comidas más ligeras (no equivalentes a otra comida completa) para mantener la fuerza de acuerdo con las necesidades de cada uno. **¿Qué significa abstinencia?** La ley de abstinencia prohíbe comer carne, incluidas las aves de corral. La abstinencia voluntaria se refiere a abstenerse de placeres legales en un espíritu de penitencia. **¿Qué significa abstinencia?** La ley de abstinencia prohíbe comer carne, incluidas las aves de corral. La abstinencia voluntaria se refiere a abstenerse de placeres legales en un espíritu de penitencia. **¿Puede alguien ser dispensado o excusado del ayuno y / o abstinencia?** Las personas por una causa justa pueden ser dispensadas por su párroco o por un sacerdote con facultad para hacerlo. En nuestra Diócesis, todos los sacerdotes pueden dispensar a personas comprometidas con su cuidado pastoral. Aquellos que estén enfermos o tengan una razón similar grave están exentos de la observancia del ayuno y la abstinencia. Se recuerda a los católicos que no deben excusarse a la ligera de esta obligación. **¿Hay otras obligaciones que debemos cumplir?** Los católicos están obligados a cumplir con lo que se ha llamado su "Deber Pascual". Deben recibir la Sagrada Comunión durante el tiempo de Pascua. En los Estados Unidos esta obligación se puede cumplir desde el primer domingo de Cuaresma hasta el domingo de la Trinidad (18 de febrero hasta el 26 de mayo). A los conscientes de un pecado grave se les recuerda la obligación de confesar sus pecados una vez al año. También se anima a los católicos a hacer de la Cuaresma un tiempo de oración más intensa y a practicar la limosna y otras obras de caridad. Se anima a las parroquias a seguir participando en la Operación Plato de Arroz.



**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.

