



# Divine Mercy Parish

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

### *Monday, August 12, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Albert Sterner by Wife & Son  
6 – 6:30 PM DM Confessions

### *Tuesday, August 13, 2024*

7:30 AM DM For God's Blessings & Healing for Lorraine Kaleda

### *Wednesday, August 14, 2024*

7:30 AM DM George, Agnes & Mayme Zitkus by Jules & Pat Stremba  
1-4:00 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
5:30 PM DM For All Those Who Are Remembered In Our Memorial Fund

### *Thursday, August 15, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Joseph & Gloria Bellucci & Son, Joseph by Gloria Laudeman & Family  
7:00 PM DM Living & Deceased Priests – Diocese of Allentown  
*En Espanol*

### *Friday, August 16, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Ginny & Joseph Jurewicz by Rosemarie Jurewicz

### *Saturday, August 17, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Anthony & Clara Yanonis & Son, Tony by Diane Walsh  
3:40 PM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet  
4:00 PM DM Thomas Mundy – 90th Birthday by Wife, Anna & Family

### *Sunday, August 18, 2024*

7:30 AM SC William & Mary Wandzilak by Nephews, Dan & Bob  
9:40 AM SC Divine Mercy Chaplet  
10:00 AM SC Philip Ferraro by Mother, Helene & Family  
12:30 PM DM Living & Deceased Priests – Diocese of Allentown  
*En Espanol*

### **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. Amen.



### **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.

### **Important Phone Numbers**

Divine Mercy Pre K  
Sister Patricia Maureen Mount, IHM  
570-462-3927  
Divine Mercy PREP  
Sister Mary Glackin, IHM  
1-484-888-1358

### **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** **August 4th - \$5,661.90**

### **New Chapel Hours**

Due to the lack of attendance in our Chapel on a Monday and Friday, we are setting a new time for adoration.

**Every Wednesday Only from**  
**1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.**



A second collection will be taken up on the weekend of August 17th and 18th to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the First Mass offered at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. This collection will be used to pay for the Shrine Infrastructure renewal that will begin in 2024. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Divine Mercy Memorial Fund**  
**Loving memory of Diane M. Kalyan**  
 \$10 Ron Kalyan & family  
**John & Tushie Burns**  
 \$10 Son, Michael & family  
**Special intentions**  
 \$5 Anonymous

**Healing Mass** will be held on Friday, August 30th at 7:00 PM at Most Blessed Trinity, 113 Cherry St., Tremont, PA. Our celebrant will be Rev. Christopher Zelonis, Pastor of SS Peter & Paul Parish, Leighton. Confessions will start at 6:00 PM. There will also be an anointing with Holy Oil after Mass.



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 2nd for Labor Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday, September 3rd at 8:30 AM.



**The Combined choirs of All Saints Church and St. Ambrose Church** will present the Homeland Cantata to honor all of our veterans and active military, on Sunday, August 11th, at 3:00 PM in All Saints Church, McAdoo and then again on Sunday, August 25th, at 3:00 PM on the Island in Schuylkill Haven. This is a free event and open to everyone so bring your family and friends and give thanks to our veterans and active military.



**Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. John Bankus** who were united in marriage on Saturday, August 3rd. Mrs. Bankus is the former Abigail Kayes. May God bless them with many more years of health & happiness together.

**Devotional Candles**

**Divine Mercy**

Sanctuary In memory of my beloved Parents & Sister, Angelo & Enrica & Jean Romano by Ann Romano  
 Divine Mercy In memory of Mom & Dad, Raymond & Florence Filozof by Raymond Jr. & Marilyn Filozof  
 Blessed Mother Good luck & God's blessings to Sister Marietta on her new assignment by Dan & Diane Monlish  
 Blessed Mother Good health & God's blessings for Dorothy Laureti by Madeline Buchinsky & family  
 Blessed Mother Good health & God's blessings for Anne Grochowski by Madeline, Julie & Joann  
 St. Ann Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family  
 St. Joseph In honor, praise & thanksgiving  
 St. Joseph In loving memory of Hank Faleski by Wife, Julie  
 St. Joseph In loving memory of our dear "Pop" Buchinsky by family  
 OLMC In memory of Irene Cicioni by Friend, Madeline  
 OLMC Special intention for John Kelly family  
 OLMC Special intention by Ann Marnell Lehman  
 Sacred Heart In memory of Lizabeth Taylor on her birthday in heaven by family

**St. Casimir**

Sanctuary In memory of the deceased Lithuanians by Cindy Tancredi  
 Czestochowa In memory of deceased Barnick & Guzinski Grandparents by Terry & Joe Richardson  
 Czestochowa In memory of our Parents, John F. & Kitty Bagienski by Baginski family  
 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 for Christopher, Hope, Benjamin, Morgan, Marc, Donna, Aubree, Eleanor, Owen, Oliver & Reni  
 Divine Mercy Special intentions by Louis & Donna Kowalski  
 Divine Mercy In memory of John & Helen Pukavige by children  
 Blessed Mother In loving memory of Joe & Joestelle by Wife/Mother  
 Blessed Mother Successful surgery for Liz by Theresa & Diane  
 Blessed Mother Special intentions, in thanksgiving & good health for Msgr. Bocian, Stephen Bocian, George Huss, Estelle McLaren, Joann Pribish, Mrs. Buchinsky, Scarlet Henry, Frankie Pettinato, Christa Beecroft & Donna's uncle  
 Blessed Mother In loving memory of Leo & Kitty Breznik by Son, Mickey  
 Blessed Mother Blessings for SIR  
 Blessed Mother Special intentions by Pat  
 Blessed Mother In memory of Florence Filozof by Son, Ray & Daughter-in-law, Marilyn  
 Sacred Heart In memory of Florence Filozof by Son, Ray & Daughter-in-law, Marilyn  
 Sacred Heart Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa  
 Sacred Heart Special intentions by Mary Kufro  
 Sacred Heart In loving memory of my Dad, George Rittle by Daughter, Maria  
 St. Anthony Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa

**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



pixtastock.com - 90097089

**Why do Catholics Pray to Saints?**

Prayer is raising our hearts and minds to God, so we actually don't pray to saints. However, we know that saints are people who lived lives of extraordinary virtue on Earth and are rewarded by being in Heaven with God. So we ask for their intercession when we need it or for their help to get to Heaven, too. Recently, Timothy Cardinal Dolan put it this way, "In prayer, we always go to Jesus. Sometimes we bring friends with us."



**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.



**Rosary -- Our Lady of Fatima** will be held on Tuesday, August 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.

**Food Truck Again at Divine Mercy Parish.....**

Catholic Charities' Community Café Food Truck will be on site at the Divine Mercy Church Parish parking lot on Thursday, August 22nd from Noon to 1:30 PM. All are welcome to join us for a complimentary hot lunch! Meet Catholic Charities' staff and volunteers and enjoy a delicious meal! The food truck will be visiting Divine Mercy each month, so keep an eye out for further dates. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the food truck ministry, please contact Pam Russo at [prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org) or 610-871-5200, ext. 2204. Anyone is welcome to come and receive a free meal .... No questions asked or no payment or donation is requested.



**2025 Mass Book for Divine Mercy Parish will open on Tuesday, October 22nd.** The **Diocesan Mass Stipend is set at \$ 10.00.** When requesting a Mass for 2025, the stipend must be paid before it can be written in the Mass Book. Each parishioner will be allowed **one weekday Mass and one weekend Mass.** **Please note: For every Mass for 2025 we will be asking for a contact name, address and phone number. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter! Remember, the Mass Book fills up quickly!** Candles will also be taken for 2025 at this time. If you would like to have a candle lit on a special day in any of the parishes, it is important that you notify us as soon as possible. The dates fill quickly.

**Financial Information/ OLMC Procession & Summer Food Sale**

<b>Total amount collected from OLMC Procession</b>	<b>\$ 3,071.00</b>
<b>Expenses for OLMC Procession:</b>	
Flowers	\$ 660.00
(4 vases of roses @ \$ 165.00 each)	
Marching Band	\$ 1,200.00
Profit	\$ 1,211.00
<b>Summer Food Sale Profit:</b>	<b>\$19,686.81</b>

Thank you to everyone who supported our summer food sale and to those who participated in the OLMC Procession. Your help and support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

**Why do Catholics Pray to Mary?**

Catholics don't pray to Mary, but instead ask her to pray for us. For example, the Hail Mary prayer asks the Mother of God to stay close to us in prayer. While we don't worship Mary, we honor her as Jesus' mother. On the Cross, Jesus gave her to us as our own mother (John 19:27). We can approach her with our needs and concerns and ask her to present them to Her Son. Mary always leads us to Him.



**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 ASSUMPTION OF MARY, AUGUST 14TH & 17TH & 18TH**

Mass Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
8/14 – 5:30 PM @ DM	Taylor, Anne	Twardzik, Tom	Caesar & Jose Estrada
4:00 PM @ DM	Elchisak, Michele	Heckard, Louise	Hernandez, Omar
7:30 AM @ SC	Oravitz Fell, Marguerite	Selvocki, Joseph	Snitzer, Isabella
10:00 AM @ SC	Grochowski, Jennifer	Sadusky, Joseph	Estrada, Jose & Caesar

**Payments for Parish Funerals**

Funeral fees must be paid 24 hours prior to the burial. We ask that the family of the deceased come to the parish office and pay directly to the church. Please make no payment to the funeral directors. If payment is not received within 24 hours of burial, there cannot be any burial in the parish cemetery. Also, all Lot Care (Perpetual Care/Cemetery Care) must be current including current burial.

**Information for PREP Registration**



**Registration for Divine Mercy Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) 2024-2025**

**Divine Mercy Parish Religious Education Program**

Registration for Divine Mercy Parish Religious Education Program was held during the week of July 22 – 28, 2024.

If you have not registered and want your child to receive religious instruction this year, please call Sister Mary at 1-484-888-1358 to set up an appointment.

Classes begin in September. You need to be registered **before September 1, 2024.**

Thank you,  
 Sr. Mary

**Classes** will take place on the following evenings from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM  
**Grades 1 to 6** – Thursdays beginning on **September 12th**  
**Grade 7** – Sundays beginning on **September 8th**  
**Grade 8** - Confirmation Class – Tuesdays from September 10th to October 8th

**Run, Don’t Walk**

If you think you don’t sin and don’t need the Sacrament of Reconciliation, run – don’t walk – to the nearest confessional. “*If we say, ‘We are without sin,’ we deceive ourselves*” (1 John 1:8). Unconfessed sin, especially when it goes unnoticed, forms a barrier between us and God. Penance, absolution, and life amendment helps to break it down.

**A Novena**

Do you have a particular concern or an upcoming challenge? A novena – a prayer offered over nine consecutive days in preparation for a feast day or a special need – is a great way to ask for God’s particular help.

**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.

**August 9th – St. Edith Stein (1942).** Born Jewish, she was a brilliant atheist intellectual in Germany. Edith converted to Catholicism after studying St. Teresa of Avila, and became a Carmelite nun. Although her order tried to shelter her from the Nazis, she was arrested and executed at Auschwitz.

**August 15th – Solemnity of the Assumption.** Declared a dogma of faith in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary’s being taken up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life.

**Aug. 24th – St. Bartholomew the Apostle (1st Century).** Bartholomew is thought by some scholars to be the apostle, Nathanael (John 1:46). After Jesus’s ascension, Nathanael spread Christianity to India and Armenia, where he was martyred.



**Financial Report --June**

Net June Income	\$ 21,362.26	Expenses	\$ 28,145.98
		Insurance	\$ 7,422.00
		Assessments	\$ 4,023.00
Total Income	\$ 21,362.26	Total Expenses	\$ 39,590.98
		<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>\$ 18,228.72</b>



**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..**

**Works of Mercy**

The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are actions we can perform that extend God’s compassion and mercy to those in need.

**The Corporal Works of Mercy** are these kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs.

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Feed the hungry           | Visit the sick       |
| Give drink to the thirsty | Visit the imprisoned |
| Clothe the naked          | Bury the dead        |
| Shelter the homeless      |                      |

**The Spiritual Works of Mercy** are acts of compassion, as listed below by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs.

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Counsel the doubtful  | Forgive offenses                 |
| Instruct the ignorant | Bear wrongs patiently            |
| Admonish sinners      | Pray for the living and the dead |



**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.

**Discerning God’s Will**

Do you have a big decision to make? It can be difficult to hear God’s voice just when you need it most. Asking the right questions and looking for signs you are on track can help you make the right choice.

**“Will it help me get to Heaven?”** Answering this question first will weed out extraneous options quickly. Then, when deciding between two good choices, consider which one makes best use of your strengths, gifts, and your state in life.

**Deep peace.** In heartfelt prayer, you’ll likely experience a deep peace for one of your options. Only God gives this kind of peace (John 14:27). It’s a good sign when that peace lasts throughout the decision process. Lack of peace is usually God saying, “no.”

**Good fruits.** These are easiest to see after you have taken steps toward your decision. If you see spiritual fruits like generosity, joy, patience, and self-control growing in your soul, you’re on the right track. Anxiety, turmoil, anger, tension are signs that you made a misstep.



### Our Daily Lives Prove Our Love For Jesus

Negative behaviors often rob us of the peace God intends for us to have. Some can even lead us to sin. A good way to overcome bad habits is to replace them with good ones. Try these ideas: **Worry.** Worry can be a sign that we don't trust God. When things don't go your way, ask for God's help to bear his will patiently. True peace only comes to those who don't waste time or effort on what they can't change. **Finding fault.** The only acceptable reason to point out another's faults is to help the guilty party grow in holiness. Don't encourage back-biting by joining in or listening to it. Instead, excuse yourself or change the subject as tactfully as possible. **Knowing-it-all.** Some people have such a desire to impress others that they try to look like they have all the answers. It's more important to impress God. Know and do what is necessary to live a more useful and holier life. **Neediness.** Depending too much on other people will lead to disappointment. Only God can answer all your needs. Make God your first stop when you need help, instead of your last resort. Our daily lives are witnesses of just how much we love Jesus. A constant, genuine effort toward holiness can prove our love for him.

### Can You See God?

Are you aware of God's presence in your life? Looking for ways in which he blesses us rather than thinking about prayers he hasn't yet answered make us more aware of how he moves in our lives. Of course, God is always with us whether we see him or not. Ask him to give you eyes to see him.



“Trust always in your God. He does not lose battles,” St. Josemaría Escrivá.

### What are the “Four Marks of the Church?”

When Jesus founded the Church, he gave it four characteristics called, “The Four Marks of the Church:” it is **one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic.** The Nicene Creed we profess during Mass repeats these Marks.

First, the Church is **one**, united by the Trinity, and all members are united in their belief, worship, sacraments, tradition, and leadership. For example, Catholics all over the world believe the same truths and celebrate the same Mass. The Church is **holy** because Jesus established it and made it holy. He continues to share his grace with the Church and the Church helps her members live holy, Christ-like lives. It is **Catholic**, meaning “universal,” and unites the faithful on earth with those in Heaven and in Purgatory. And, Jesus intended the Church for all of human kind – for all people, everywhere. Finally, the Church is **apostolic** because Jesus gave authority to St. Peter, the first Pope, and the other apostles, the first bishops. This authority has been handed on to their successors throughout the centuries.

### What Are The Three Pillars Of Christianity?

The three pillars, or foundations, of Christianity are: prayer, penance, and almsgiving. **Prayer comes first.** That is how we communicate with God. It is difficult to have a relationship with anyone without strong communication. In the family, if we are silent with each other or speak only when absolutely necessary, and then in one syllable words, we drift apart. The same is true in our relationship with God. To develop closeness with him requires speaking with him. **Next is penance.** Sin damages or destroys our relationship with God. Sin means turning our backs on God. Penance repairs that relationship. It expresses our sorrow at what we've done to him. When we go to confession because of repentance, God forgives us our sins and returns us to a state of grace. **As for almsgiving,** Christ did say the poor would be with us always. But he stressed the importance of helping those less fortunate. He said that when we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned, we do it for him. Fulfilling Christ's words means being generous with what we have.

### And the Lord Said, “Let It Go ...”

“It is good sense to be slow to anger, and an honor to overlook an offense” (Proverbs 19:11). Human nature entails taking offense when someone says or does something we don't like. When it happens often, however, being offended doesn't just hurt our feelings, it compromises our happiness and wellbeing. Try these ideas to let it go ... **Assume the best.** Most people aren't out to get us. Unless proven otherwise, believe that others have good intent and don't mean to offend. They're just living their lives. **Step back.** We often get upset because others disagree with or don't share our opinions. Opinions are separate from identities. Someone can disagree with what we think but still enjoy who we are. **Don't make it about you.** Thinking that what others do or think reflects on you is fertile soil for being easily and often offended. Most of what happens around us has nothing to do with us. Allowing others to live their own lives regardless of you and yours takes a huge burden off your shoulders. **Break the habit.** Taking offense easily is a habit that, fortunately, can be broken. Instead of noticing what others are doing “to” us, we can choose to note what is done “for” us by God and others. Practicing gratitude is more pleasant than feeling hurt.

### Why do We Use Incense During Mass?

In the temple in Jerusalem in Old Testament days, animals were offered on the altar as sacrifices to God. Priests used incense around the altar as a visual cue to symbolize their prayers rising to Heaven.

The Mass is the sacrifice of Jesus for our sins. The incense reminds us that our prayers are heard by God in heaven. As we watch the smoke of the incense rise, it symbolizes that sacrifice and the rising of our prayers to God.