



Divine Mercy Parish

Mass Schedule for the Week of January 5, 2025

Monday, January 6, 2025

7:30 AM DM Rev. Charles Dene
6-6:30 PM DM Confessions

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

7:30 AM DM Sister Maria Rose by Mary Ann Bruni

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

7:30 AM DM Joseph Sims Jr. by Nephew, Thomas Venusti
1-4 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, January 9, 2025

7:30 AM DM Michael, Anna & Joseph Caulfield by Francis Caulfield

Friday, January 10, 2025

7:30 AM DM Dorothea Lord Bocian

Saturday, January 11, 2025

3:40PM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00 PM DM Sue Prohibition by Sisters of I.H.M.

Sunday, January 12, 2025

7:30 AM DM Rose Marie Daly by Sister Patricia
9:40 AM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet
10:00 AM DM Mary Kay Cray by Puglia 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

12/22 – \$6,462.00

Thank You to all the faithful & dedicated choir members and also to our special guests who joined our choir on Christmas Eve, Stephen Toth Jr., Luke Toth & Ted Twardzik for their musical performances. And to all parishioners & friends who attended the services in honor of our Savior's birth and their generosity to our parish.



To those who purchased a scented candle.

Income \$1,389
Cost \$1,096
Profit \$ 293

Your generosity & support of the Parish is greatly appreciated.

OFFICE CLOSED....

Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 21st at 8:30 AM.





From Msgr. Bocian I would like to thank the parishioners and friends of Divine Mercy Parish for their gifts and Christmas wishes. I will continue to keep all of our parishioners, friends & families in my daily prayers.

Divine Mercy Memorial Fund

Diane M. Kalyan

\$20 Husband, Ron & family

Mary Jane Nestor

\$15 Cynthia Nowak

\$10 Ray & Marilyn Filozof

Rita Boczkowski

\$20 Elaine Trachim & Larry

\$10 Joan Wallace

\$10 Margaret Twardzik

Melvin Martin

\$10 Georgine Sinkus

Good health & God’s blessings for Msgr. Bocian

\$50 Tom & Sherry Squierdo

Special intentions

\$5 Anonymous

Father Walter J. Ciszek Chapel Memorial Fund

Derek Dillman

\$5 Ed Prybolsky

\$5 Terry & Mike Gilliam

Ellen Markus

\$5 Terry & Mike Gilliam

You may schedule additional Masses for 2025

and book is open to non-parishioners.

The Diocesan Mass Stipend is set at \$10.00.

Thank You

To everyone who donated items for our Giving Tree for Catholic Charities. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.



Devotional Candles

Divine Mercy

Sanctuary In memory of my beloved Parents & Sister, Angelo & Enrica & Jean Romano by Ann Romano

Blessed Mother Good health & God’s blessings for Hunter Zellin by family

St. Ann Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family

St. Joseph In honor, praise & thanksgiving

OLMC Good health & God’s blessings for our families by Gina & Jim Lombard

OLMC In memory of Rickardo & Catherine Nasuti by Nasuti family

OLMC In memory of of Anna & Frank Shumski by Robert & Phyllis Shumski

OLMC Special intention for John Kelly family

OLMC Special intentions by Ann Marnell Lehman

St. Casimir

Sanctuary In loving memory of my Dad, George Rittle by Daughter, Maria

Divine Mercy Special intentions by Louis & Donna Kowalski

Divine Mercy Prayers & good health for J.M., S.M., M.S., A.M., Z.S., T.S., C.M., G.M., J.B., L.B., R.G. and G.S.

Divine Mercy Healthy recovery for Louise Kelly by Ed & Fran Domkus

Divine Mercy In memory of John & Helen Pukavige by children

Divine Mercy Special intentions for Christopher, Hope, Marc, Gen, Benjamin, Morgan, Aubree, Eleanor, Owen, Oliver & Reni

Divine Mercy In loving memory of John McGuire by Wife, Peg

Blessed Mother In memory of Dorothy Karpovich by Brother, Albert

Blessed Mother God’s blessings & healing for R.J.S. by Pat & Leo

Blessed Mother Special intentions, in thanksgiving & good health for Msgr. Bocian, Stephen Bocian, Estelle McLaren, Joanne Demko, Joann Pribish, Scarlet Henry, Frankie Pettinato, Christa Beecroft, Joe & Chris

St. Anthony Special intentions by JKS

St. Anthony Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa

Sacred Heart Special intentions by Mary Kufro

Sacred Heart 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

Mt 5:1-12a, Paths to Happiness

God wants us to be happy. When he created us, he put into our hearts the desire to be happy (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1718). During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave us the Beatitudes – guaranteed ways to obtain peace here and happiness in Heaven.

“*Blessed are the poor in spirit ...*” Recognize that we need God to compensate for our weakness. Depend upon his help.

“*Blessed are they who mourn ...*” God knows what you need even better than you do. Trust him to strengthen you and bring you comfort.

“*Blessed are the meek ...*” Jesus is meek and gentle. Imitate him and you will have everlasting peace.

“*Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness ...*” Peacefully accept whatever happens knowing that Jesus promises to give you courage to face it.

“*Blessed are the merciful ...*” Mercy is love in the face of sin and injury. If we show mercy, we are guaranteed mercy.

Perhaps the true secret to happiness is remembering that when we follow Jesus, the destination is wonderful.

**A New Group
for Divine Mercy Parish**

A few parishioners would like to form a group dedicated to spreading devotion to Divine Mercy. Various groups called Cenacles are active throughout the U.S. and the world. The Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy (EADM) is a lay Apostolate of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception based in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. The ministry promotes the Divine Mercy Message as given to St. Faustina Kowalska, prayer for the sick & dying, the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, pro-life, and more. There will be an organizational meeting for those wishing to learn more about the message of Divine Mercy shortly after the New Year. All are invited and encouraged to attend if you want to learn more about this devotion. Any questions, please contact Barbara Pukavige 570-789-4926 or Virginia 570-205-9417.

True Charity is challenging because it's combined with patience. As St. Therese put it, "True charity consists in putting up with all one's neighbor's faults, never being surprised by his weakness, and being inspired by the least of his virtues." If someone irritates you, instead of complaining about it, say something positive instead.

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)968) para reservar fechas y rellenar formularios. El proceso es muy fácil.

Lighten Up With the Good News

If we spread the Gospel and are always deadly serious and anxious, wouldn't our appearance seem to imply that the Good News isn't very good? Even the saints had a laugh now and then.

Humor can give us a new perspective. St. Phillip Neri was a holy priest with a knack for bringing people to God in unusual ways. When a penitent asked permission to wear a hairshirt – an irritating garment worn next to the skin – as a penance St. Philip agreed but ordered the man to wear it over his clothes. The penance was to bear the jokes and ridicule that resulted.

Humor heals. St. Teresa of Avila is said to have complained to God of the rough road he had chosen for her. She was said to have scolded him by saying that if asked his friends to endure so much suffering, "No wonder you have so few." Joking with God didn't make St. Teresa's road any smoother, but it may have made her feel a little better.

Additional Christmas Memorials

- \$20 Deceased of the Taylor & Ulicny families by M/M Robert Taylor Tom Talerico, Bindi & Talerico families by Geraldine Talerico Raymond & Florence, Andrew & Stella & Alfred Filozof, Annie Spaar, John & Nellie & Loretta Karahuta, Wilfred & Lois Maurer by Raymond Filozof
- \$15 Rose Moyer & Earl T. Moyer by Karen & Paul Gavala Steve, Blanche & Stephen Gavala by Paul & Karen Gavala
- \$10 Stremba & Mankiewicz families by M/M Eugene Stremba Marnell, Lehman & Sunderland families by M/M William Lehman Rudisill, Oliver & Swirsky families by Ann Marie Swirsky Kegolis, Zupny & Cieslukowski families by M/M Paul Cieslukowski
- \$5 Chesonis family by Rosemarie Chesonis Leonard Kamarousky Sr. by Dorothy Kamarousky Kowalski & Moore families by Geraldine Moore Anna Marie Bobrowsky by Anna Rose Bobrowsky

Additional Christmas Flower Memorials

- \$20 Tom Talerico, Eleanor & Joe Talerico & Emily & Neil Bindi by Geraldine Talerico Walter Hall by Rosanne Hall
- \$9 Anna Marie Bobrowsky by Joseph Bobrowsky
- \$5 Helen, Anita & Albert Kegolis, Bertha Cieslukowski, John Cieslukowski, Anthony Makarczyk & Dorothy & John Gliniski by M/M Paul Cieslukowski Anna Marie Bobrowsky by Anna Rose Bobrowsky Kowalski & Moore families by Geraldine Moore Leonard Kamarousky Sr. by Dorothy Kamarousky

Marian Catholic High School

Open House, Sunday, January 26th, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM.... Tour the school, meet faculty and administration, and learn how to make a Marian education possible. For more information, contact Mary Milosh at 570-467-3335 ext. 117 or mmilosh@mariancatholics.org



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 JANUARY 11TH & 12TH

Mass Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 PM @ DM	Brophy,Marty	Straka,Paul	Hernandez,Omar Arias,Paco Jesus
7:30 AM @ DM	Daynorowicz,Nolan	Selvocki,Joseph	Daynorowicz,Nolan
10:00 AM @ DM	Grochowski, Anne	Phillips,Kathy	Donovan, Joseph

Other Than Attend Mass, What Else Must I Do?

We are also called to perform works of mercy. “The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities.” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2447).

There are seven spiritual works of mercy: to admonish the sinner, to instruct the ignorant, to counsel the doubtful, to comfort the sorrowful, to bear wrongs patiently, to forgive all injuries, to pray for the living and the dead.

There are also seven corporal works of mercy. They are: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those in prison, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, bury the dead.

How important is it for us to perform these acts? Jesus said, “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me” (Mt 25:35-36). That makes it very important.



"The Epiphany of the Lord"

The Epiphany of the Lord celebrates the epiphany (manifestation) of Christ to the Gentiles, symbolized by Christ's manifestation to the Magi (Wise Men). The feast originally was more closely connected to Jesus' baptism, the primary theme of the feast in Eastern Churches to this day. In addition, other manifestations of Christ were often commemorated during Epiphany, including the miracle at Cana. In fact, it has been asserted that the Baptism of the Lord, the adoration of the infant Jesus by the Magi, and the miracle at Cana all historically occurred on January 6. Whether this is true is contested, but either way, the Epiphany solemnity is celebrated on January 6, which falls within Christmastide. In some Catholic regions, the feast is translated to a Sunday. The Eastern Churches often call the holiday *Theophany*, which means "manifestation of God." Eastern Christians also refer to the Epiphany as "Holy Lights" because they baptize on this day, and baptism brings about illumination. Traditionally, Epiphany marked the end of the Twelve Days of Christmas. The story of the Magi traveling from the East to see the Christ child appears only in the Gospel According to St. Matthew. The word Magi, in Greek *magoi*, comes from the Latin word meaning "sage." These particular sages were possibly Zoroastrian astrologers from Persia. Upon seeing a star rising in the East (the Star of Bethlehem), they realized it was a sign that the king of the Jews had been born. According to St. Ignatius of Antioch (d. AD 107), the star shone with an inexpressible brilliance, and the sun, moon, and other stars all formed a chorus around the special star (Letter to the Ephesians, 19). The wise men followed the star to Bethlehem of Judea, and to Jesus' dwelling there. Having arrived, they worshipped the infant Jesus, and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

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.
All Summer flowers must be removed!

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.



Financial Report - October			
Net October Income	\$ 31,361.98	Expenses	\$ 32,642.38
		Insurance	\$ 7,422.00
		Assessments	\$ 4,023.00
Total Income	\$ 31,361.98	Total Expenses	\$ 44,087.38
		Net Loss	\$ 12,725.40



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 |

Three Tips to Boost Your Prayer

Prayer fuels our spiritual life, but praying effectively can be challenging. Even the saints had dry spells. Among these was the mystic and Carmelite reformer, St. Teresa of Avila. Try these suggestions from her to enliven your prayer:

Become aware of God’s presence. It may feel as if God is distant, but He is so close. St. Teresa began by enjoying God’s nearness. Know that He is with you and wants your company.

Bring a good book. St. Teresa, who struggled with dryness in prayer, kept a book with her. Scripture, *Lives of the Saints*, or a book about the Faith can help us focus and spark conversation with Him.

Be honest. It is said that St. Teresa once fell into the mud and told God bluntly, “If this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so few of them!” God wants you to share all your experiences with Him – good and bad. Entrust your cares to Him and “*Do whatever he tells you*” (John 2:5).

What Will You do for a Friend in Need?

Most of us will do anything we can to save a friend who we observe is heading for trouble. However, taking indirect action may be the best thing we can do in many situations. Consider these three ways to help.

Pray. Bring God in right from the start – not as the last resort. Who can handle it better than he can? Plus, praying for others brings grace to us and to those for whom we pray.

Set an example. The best way to tell someone what to do is to do it ourselves. You can help others live a holier and happier life by showing them how. After all, your first task is to save your own soul.

Keep silent. Learn to hold your tongue unless your duty obliges you to speak. Keeping silent prevents the flaring of tempers or the spreading of gossip. Also, it is in the silence of the soul that we hear God’s voice, but we can’t hear him if we’re doing all the talking.

Parish Dues for 2025 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, 2025, dues are \$ 50.00 per individual. If paid after January 31, 2025, dues are \$ 60.00 per individual.

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.

Adopt a Three-Point Plan for Holiness in the New Year

All Christians are called to holiness. *“Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect”* (Matthew 5:48). There are three tools on which every Catholic can rely to attain greater holiness.

Daily prayer. God meets us in a very real and present way when we come to him in prayer. Start in the morning and pray throughout the day.

Weekly Mass. The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. We receive Jesus’ body and blood as real food for our souls. He said, *“For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him”* (John 6:55-56). That’s why we call it, “Communion.”

Monthly Confession. Jesus created the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) because he knew we would stray. He also knew we would want to come back. Frequent participation in this Sacrament sharpens our sense of sin, holds us accountable for our errors, and gives us the grace to keep trying for holiness.



Nativity Happenings

Members of the Interact Club collected winter clothing during the month of November. Members of the club also collected diapers and all items were donated to Catholic Charities. The Interact Club sponsored a Red Cross Blood Drive on November 4, 2024. We met our goal and collected 35 units of blood. The club will sponsor this event again in the spring. The next event will be the writing of Christmas cards to the students in Pre-K through 2nd grade in our partner schools.

Nativity is currently accepting inquiries for enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year. Individual meetings, school tours and shadow days are being scheduled for possible enrollment. Please contact Mrs. Jenifer Daubert in the Development office with any enrollment questions.

OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION:

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year at Nativity is scheduled for Sunday, January 26, 2025 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.



Many parishioners have asked about having past bulletins on our website: www.dmparish.com. Good news, we now have the past 6 months of bulletins on our website. All you have to do is go 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.

Can You Suggest a New Year’s Resolution to Grow in Holiness?

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The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.



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God Stays the Same

Although the world changes constantly, God stays the same. He can be trusted to provide love, support, and strength when we need it. All we have to do is ask him. *“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed”* (Malachi 3:6).