

# DIVINE MERCY PARISH PARROQUIA DIVINA MISERICORDIA

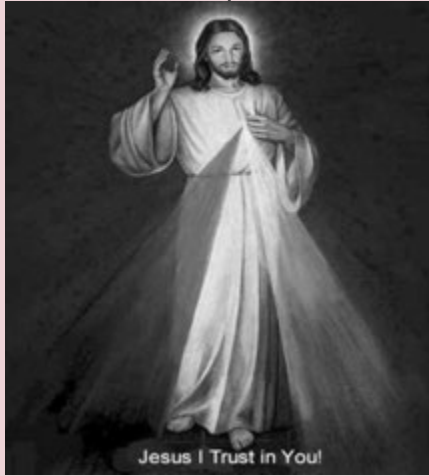
St. Mary's and St. Mark's Roman Catholic Churches

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Parish website <https://www.divinemercyrahway.church>.

Telephone: Parish Office (732) 388-0082, (732) 388-0083; CCD (732) 382-0004



## STAFF

**Rev. Alexander Cruz,**  
*Administrator, Ext. 103*

Rev. Robert A. Lamirez,  
*Resident Priest, Ext 104*

Rev. Jose Saltarin,  
*Weekend Assistant*  
Joseph Keefe  
Arlene Mione  
*Trustees*

## PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday  
9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Please register in the parish and use envelopes for your contributions.

Sponsor certificates are only issued to registered parishioners who attend mass regularly.

Only material emailed to:  
[bulletin@divinemercyrahway.church](mailto:bulletin@divinemercyrahway.church) by  
Noon of the Saturday prior to weekend  
of issue will be published in the bulletin.

**Third Sunday of Advent  
December 16, 2018**

## Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Vigil: 5:00 PM April through October

**4:00 PM November through March**

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM in English & 12:30 PM Spanish

Holydays: Vigil: 6:30 PM English

Noon, 6:30 PM English., 7:30 PM Spanish

Check the bulletin for Christmas & Easter Schedules

Weekdays: Mon. – Fri.: Noon

Saturday: 9:00 AM

**Confessions:** Monday - Friday after the noon Mass, **3:00 PM Saturday**  
and call the priest for an appointment

**Baptisms:** Call the Parish Office to make an appointment with a priest.

**Marriage:** A year in advance, Call the Parish Office to make an appointment with a priest.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Contact a priest at any time.

**Communion calls:** For anyone confined to their home, arrange with the office.

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## Devotions:

**First Friday:** Holy Hour with Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, 11:00 AM

**First Saturday:** MORNINGS WITH MARY, begins with 9:00 AM Mass

**Divine Mercy Chaplet and reading diary of St. Faustina:** 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month before Vigil Mass

**Miraculous Medal Novena:** Monday after Mass

**St. Jude Novena:** Thursday after Mass

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## Societies of the Parish:

**Bukas Loob sa Diyos - BLD:** Fri. 7:30 PM - Parish Center

**Filipino Choir – 3rd Sunday, 5:00 to 6:30 PM Church**

**Worship Apostolate, in Room 104**

## Reuniones Hispanas

Eucaristía Dominical: 12:30 PM

Bautismos: Porfavor llamar la oficina de lunes a viernes.

Matrimonio: Feligreses registrados tienen que presentarse un año antes de la boda.

Reconciliación: Confesiones cada Domingo 12 hasta 12:30 PM

Unción de los Enfermos: Por favor llamar la oficina para visitas a las casa o hospital.

Educación Religiosa: 732-382-0004

Coro: Miércoles 7:30 PM

Movimiento Juan XXIII: – Jueves 8:00 PM – Parish Center, Aula 201

Grupo Guadalupano -Martes 7:00 PM - Iglesia

Grupo Juvenil "Angeles de Jesús" - Sábado 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM Aula 208

Grupo de Oración - Sábado 7:00 PM Connell Hall

Escuela "Jesus el Buen Pastor" Todos los Lunes, 7:30 PM, clases de Biblia, Connell Hall

## **Third Sunday of Advent** **December 16, 2018**

"What's the latest?" we ask, both in times of excitement and joy, as well as those of anxiety and sadness. We are in a place of expectation. If ever there was a word to match the liturgical mood of this "Gaudete" ("Rejoice") Sunday, it is expectation. The rose-colored vestments optionally worn this day, (caused by mixing the purple of penance with the white of joy) symbolize the sentiment. We are nearing Christmas and our expectation is high.

For a list of reasons, not the least of which are happy childhood memories, Christmas usually brings great joy with it. Our spirits are lifted by the bright decorations on houses and in streetscapes that lift our spirits at the very time of winter's longest nights.

However, there is a cautionary note to be had in the midst of all this joy and good cheer. It is to avoid all the temptations there are to think that this feast is somehow all about *us*. It's *our* time to exchange gifts and enjoy the thanks that come with them. It's *our* well-deserved holiday from all the routine and monotony of our work schedules. It's our festive meal to eat and nog to drink because after all, we are special.

The fact is that without God's grace, we would not be special. But because God Himself deemed us worthy of redemption, we are. As descendants of a sinful First Couple, we deserved only God's disdain and a bleak future. The gates of paradise might still be closed. That, after all, would only be right and just.

But our God is a loving God. And a generous One. In fact, He is Love itself. So a plan for reconciliation was in His will simultaneously with our sin. Note the genius of the plan. First a slow preparation centuries long involving a chosen people guided by prophets. Then an angelic announcement to a chosen virgin beautiful beyond words. Her words of acceptance, followed by a mysterious pregnancy and the birth of a Child God who grew to be like us in all things but sin. We kneel in awe and gratitude before the manger that depicts the beginning of the final phase of the Father's plan.

When the crowds, the tax collectors, and the Roman soldiers depicted in our Gospel Reading asked John the Baptist, Christ's precursor, "What shall we do?" it was a natural reaction to the Good News John had given them. It really meant "What shall we do to show our appreciation?"

Here is where we come in because that is really our question too. Yes, we are overjoyed at what God did at the first Christmas and every day since. But how do we respond? What shall we do about it? The simplest answer: to live as Jesus did. Those who have, namely the saints, will tell us that's not easy but well worth the effort.

Half a century ago, I was what we call today a "transitional deacon" waiting in the sacristy to help administer Holy Communion. I happened to overhear the last part of a homily being preached by a long-

forgotten priest whose closing words I have never forgotten. Now, I call it "my annual spelling lesson." Here is how that preacher told his people that joy was spelled: "J" is for "Jesus." "Y" is for "You." And the "O" is for "Nothing in between."

*Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*

### **NEW ELECTRONIC BELLS**

New electronic bells have been installed to call us to worship. The pricetag was \$12,507.00. Anyone wishing to donate a portion of the cost is welcome to contact the Parish Office.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

A potluck Christmas Party will be held in our Parish Auditorium on Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> starting at 12:00 Noon. All are welcome. Please bring your favorite dish to share.



On Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM, The Choral Art Society of New Jersey will be hosting a Messiah Sing-along right here in Divine Mercy Parish Church. Scores will be available to borrow and audience members are invited to join in singing some of the most beloved choruses of the Messiah, or can just sit and listen. Dr. Martin Sedek, Director of the Choral Art Society, will be conducting the event, accompanied on our pipe organ by James S. Little. There will be a \$10 donation accepted at the door.



RELIGIOUS GIVE THANKS. "This money is pure gift," writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. "It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters." Your gift to last week's collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Thank you for your generosity.

Parishioners are invited to give the perfect gift to the the perfect person; Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1 PM there will be an America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally here at Divine Mercy church. Give one hour of your love to Jesus. It's priceless and doesn't cost a thing!

<b>SANCTUARY GIFTS</b>	<b>ST. MARY'S</b>	<b>SUNDAY READINGS</b>
Tabernacle Lamp	Fr. Myers	Zephaniah 3:13-18a
Altar Bread	Fr. Hermanns	Psalm 12:2-3, 4, 5- 6
Altar Wine	Msgr. Buttner	Philippians 4:4-7
Altar Candles	Fr. Kasper	Gospel: Luke 3.:10-18

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Saturday, December 15

4:00 PM Dec'd of the William Gore Family

Sunday, December 16

*Third Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM Lorraine Burnett  
 9:30 AM Mensak Family  
 11:00 AM Doris Morgan  
 12:30 PM Albert F. Reitemeyer  
 5:00 PM Dionisio Family

Monday, December 17

Noon Baltazara P. Caparas

Tuesday, December 18

Noon People of the Parish

Wednesday, December 19

Noon Sean Healy

Thursday, December 20

Noon Simone Jean in Thanksgiving (Living)

Friday, December 21

Noon Joseph Foldhazy

Saturday, December 22

9:00 AM Nilo Villamor Du  
 4:00 PM Rosetta Slater

Sunday, December 23

*4th Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM Lorraine Burnett  
 9:30 AM Anthony Cherubino  
 11:00 AM Ethel & John Fech  
 12:30 PM Guadalupe Zacatula



Please remember the souls of those who have recently died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May perpetual light shine upon them.

**LORD, PROTECT THOSE WHO PROTECT US**



Brian Brenkman, L/CPL  
 Christopher Castro, M/Sgt.  
 Brian Chandler,  
 Trooper William J. Condron, Jr.,  
 Michael Dinis, Airman Paul Domingues, Jr., LTC Kenneth Gawronski, Johannes Hanselmann MSG. Robert Karnas, Lt Bernadette Lack, SSG Osvaldo Lee, Arthur Magaspac, SPC Robert McCartney, Jr., Cpl. Megan Michel, Zack Palmer, SSG Ian Peattie, Thomas Quinn, Corey Rafter, PFC Joseph Reinman, Sr. Airman Davey Rivera, III, Matthew Smith, AB Sean Twerdak, Keith Zalasar.

**DIVINE MERCY KITCHEN & PANTRY**



As we look forward to Christmas, we are in need of funds to continue our mission. We are open every Sunday to serve the needy of our community. Your generosity helps us help the hungry. Thank you for all you have done so far to make this a success. Please help us to continue.

Thank you.



Bill Belig, Edwin and Mary Blazewicz, Ruth Breen, Josephine Brown, Anna Caffrey, Marietta Clark, Kathleen Condron, Kathleen Cremone, Thelma M. Cruz, Nicholas Delmonaco, Marcia Diaz, Santiago Escobar, Eileen Flade, Helen Freshcoln, Rose Geraghty, Christine Gianella, Jose Luis Gonzalez, Nicolette Greco, Margarita Perez Hernandez, Diane Henry, Stephanie Higgins, Mary Ann Hofmann, Solomon Igbinosun, Frank Jacik, Wladyslawa Kalafut, Linda Kasprzyk, Victor Krivitski, Gloria Latherow, Ana Alvarez-Marquina, Kitty McGuire, Janice McEwen, Ida Mele, Lourdes Mendez, Travis Mitchell, Jane Monahan, Ronnie & Guy Morosini, James Mottley, Edward Mowczan, Cesar Nieto, Madison Noguerras, Nicholas Noguerras, Iena Olivo, Gladys N. Rengifo, Gregory Romeo, Ronald Rosivack, John D. Rusin, Jr., Lucille Salvatore, Stewart Santiago, Kelly Scholte, Richard Shackell, Anthony Spadora, Joseph N. Terracina, Sharon Katzenback Wilson, Fr. Peter Vo, Baby Bennett Vogel, Daniel Zur.

Please note: Names can be added or removed at any time by e-mailing: [divinemercurynews@aol.com](mailto:divinemercurynews@aol.com) or calling the parish office at (732) 388-0082

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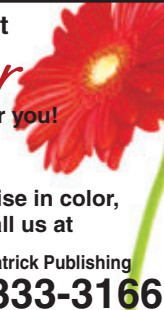


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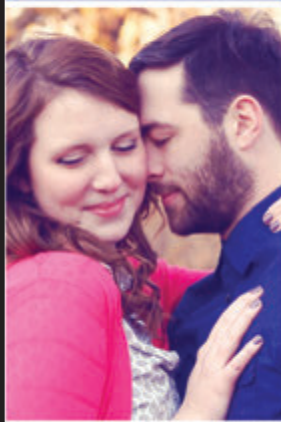
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