

DIVINE MERCY PARISH PARROQUIA DIVINA MISERICORDIA

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

Serving Jesus Christ since 1854 and 1871

232 Central Ave. Rahway, NJ. 07065

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 by
Noon of the Saturday prior to weekend
of issue will be published in the bulletin.

**4th Sunday of Advent
December 23, 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.

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: 4th Saturday of the month before Vigil Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena: Monday after Mass

St. Jude Novena: Thursday after Mass

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

December 23, 2018



In 1930, Arnold Munk sat down to write the children's story entitled "The Little Engine That Could" under the whimsical pen name "Watty Piper." It was an instant success and has largely remained so. As recently as 2013, it was named by teachers as one of the top 100 books for children. As the title indicates, it is a story used to teach children the values of optimism, hard work, and the fact that small size is not an obstacle to the doing of great things.

On this "Eve of the Eve" Sunday, if you will, we are treated to hearing the prophet Micah's plea to the little town of Bethlehem. Like the little engine that was able to climb that hill with its load of cars because of its trust and acquired self-esteem, so by the plan and grace of God tiny Bethlehem learns of its eternal greatness from a certain holy birth that took place there. Immediately, the little town went from "the least among the clans of Judah" to the greatest. The rulers of Israel "will come forth from her."

Certainly Christmas always carries with it a note of optimism by its very nature. Oppressed for ages by Rome, Israel maintained its hope of a Messiah. Over time, this figure went from being a religious hero to a political one in the minds of many Jews. Yet, to those who knew better, the real Messiah's arrival gave promise of a freer spiritual future out from under the burden of sin.

The insignificance of Bethlehem as His birthplace was a strong indication that the world was about to roll a different way. The children's story of the determined little engine contains a similar child-size dose of hope and optimism.

The significance of little Bethlehem, paired with the humility of the two mothers-to-be, is also an invitation to ponder a question or two. For example, have you ever felt small, perhaps hopelessly so? That feeling can come quickly when we pause to look up at the December sky with its canopy of stars. When the people of science tell us that those lights we see have come from unimaginable distances, it is all we can do but wonder about our place in all this vastness. We seem so small.

So then, do we ever have the right to be puffed up with self-importance? Not if we admit we are small and have the need of a Redeemer! In that case, we can believe in our importance, because no star can offer God's love and tell Him about it. Our humble

submission presents the opportunity for God to do great things for us, not dissimilar to what He did for Elizabeth and Mary.

Returning to our opening image, what explains the appeal of the story of a small steam engine that agrees to pull a long train up a hill after larger engines refuse to help? One answer is provided by three different children's authors. They wrote: "Each of us has reserves of strength, imagination, and intelligence. If we concentrate and focus our attention, we can tap those reservoirs and meet challenges that might otherwise have seemed overwhelming."

I would only add that those reserves come from a loving Creator who never thinks of us as small. Therein lies the root of the optimism Christmas brings. May your Christmas be blest because of it.

."

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 30th starting at 12:00 Noon. All are welcome. Please bring your favorite dish to share."

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24
4:00 PM, 7:00 PM (Spanish) & 10:00 PM

Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25
8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM &
12:30pm (Spanish)

New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31
Vigil Mass at 6:30 PM

New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1, 2016
12:00 Noon
6:30 PM, 7:30 PM (Spanish)



On behalf of Fr. Jose, Fr. Robert and myself, I want to take this time to wish all of you a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year!
Father Alex

SANCTUARY GIFTS	ST. MARY'S	SUNDAY READINGS
Tabernacle Lamp	Fr. Myers	Micah 5:1-4a
Altar Bread	Fr. Hermanns	Psalm 80:2-[3 15-16, 18-19
Altar Wine	Msgr. Buttner	Hebrews 10:5-10
Altar Candles	Fr. Kasper	Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 22

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

Monday, December 24

Noon Baltazara P. Caparas

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Harold Crane
7:00 PM Maria Suarez
10:00 PM Albert F. Reitemeyer

Tuesday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 AM Sean Healy
9:30 AM John Hladinec, Jr.
11:00 AM William G. Davis
12:30 PM Albert F. Reitemeyer

Wednesday, December 26

St. Stephen, The First Martyr

Noon Albert F. Reitemeyer

Thursday, December 27

Noon Joseph Pampani)

Friday, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Noon Albert F. Reitemeyer

Saturday, December 29

9:00 AM Joseph & Helen Hudzik
4:00 PM Victor Krivitski

Sunday, December 30

The Holy Family

8:00 AM Dorothy Staubach
9:30 AM Vincent Badalis, Jr.
11:00 AM Richard Tobin
12:30 PM Paulina Maria Rivas



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 or calling the parish office at (732) 388-0082

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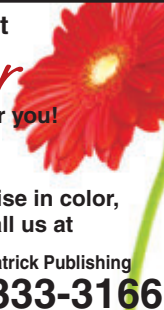


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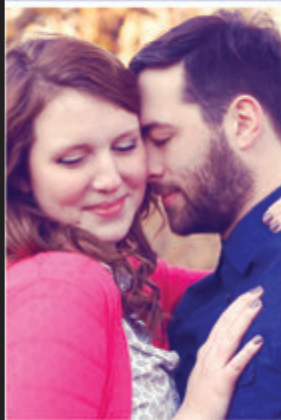
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