

# DIVINE MERCY PARISH

## PARROQUIA DIVINA MISERICORDIA

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

Serving Jesus Christ since 1854 and 1871

232 Central Avenue, Rahway NJ 07065

<https://www.divinemercyrahway.church>



*"A great prophet has arisen in our midst, God has visited his people."*

Lk. 7:16



### *The Perfect Prayer in time of Covid19*

*Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us, and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.  
Amen.*

### *New Mass Schedule*

<b>Weekday</b>	12:00 pm Monday to Friday
<b>Martes</b>	7:00 pm Misa en Español
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00 am, 4:00 pm (Vigil Mass)
<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm Misa en Español
<b>Holydays</b>	6:00 pm (Vigil Mass) 12:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 7:00 pm Misa en Español

**Very Rev. Alexander T. Cruz, VF**  
*Pastor*, extn 103

*Email:* [fr.alex@divinemercyrahway.church](mailto:fr.alex@divinemercyrahway.church)

**Rev. Jozef Krajnak, Ph.D.**  
*Resident Priest*, extn 104

*Email:* [frjozef63@divinemercyrahway.church](mailto:frjozef63@divinemercyrahway.church)

**Joseph Keefe (Trustee)**  
**Arlene Mione (Trustees)**

### *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*February 14, 2021*

### **Parish Membership**

Our members may come from different origins but we are one in faith, in our love and devotion to the merciful Heart of Jesus. Everyone is welcome to join our growing community. Please email or visit our office to register.

### **Parish Office/Rectorry**

**Hours:** Mon to Fri, 9 am - 3 pm

**Email:**

[office@divinemercyrahway.church](mailto:office@divinemercyrahway.church)

Tel (732)388-0082, (732)388-0083

CCD (732)382-0004

Fax (732) 382-4784

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

4:00 pm (V) † Eleanor K. Hudzik

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14***Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 am † Romeo J. Diego  
 9:30 am † Antonio Rodrigues  
 11:00 am (FBL) † William J. Daniel  
 12:30 pm (SP, FBL) † Margaret Reitemeyer

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

12:00 pm Anne Gonzalez (Conversion &amp; Birthday)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

12:00 pm People of the Parish  
 7:00 pm (SP) Gaete Family (Wedding Anniversary)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17***Ash Wednesday*

12:00 pm † Rev. Joseph M. Quinlan  
 6:00 pm † Mary Jane Mulaney  
 7:00 pm † Isabel Palomino Chozas & William Perez Vela (Death Anniversary)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

12:00 pm † Regina Ochadlik  
 7:00 pm (SP) † Albert Reitemeyer

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

12:00 pm † Joseph Rotondo

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

9:00 am † Arline T. Rooney  
 4:00 pm (V) † George Lussa

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

8:00 am † Anthony Robinson  
 9:30 am † Maritez Serdena  
 11:00 am (FBL) † Al Knox  
 12:30 pm (SP, FBL) † John Reitemeyer  
 5:00 pm (F) † Niceta Hernandez

**Legend:** (V) Vigil Mass, (SP) Spanish Mass, (F) Filipino Mass,  
 (FBL) Facebook Livestreamed Mass @ the parish  
 FB page [Divine Mercy Parish, Rahway NJ](https://divinemercurahway.nj)

**MASS INTENTIONS ONLINE**

Mass offerings and available dates for mass intentions are now visible at <https://divinemercurahway.church/mass-intentions>. Credit cards and bank transfers are accepted

**THE INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER for FEBRUARY***"Violence Against Women"*

*We pray for women who are victims of violence, that maybe protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.*

**THIS WEEK AT DIVINE MERCY****SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14****HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

9:30 AM RCIA Make-up Class (Virtual)  
 12:00 PM Food Pantry (Annex Building)

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

7:00 PM Parent Formation Workshop Spanish (Virtual)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

7:00 PM RCIA English Class (104)  
 7:00 PM Guadalupano (Church)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17****ASH WEDNESDAY****THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

7:00 PM John XXIII (Church)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

7:00 PM BLD (Church)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

9:30 AM Lenten Retreat  
 11:00 AM Baptism James Sotomayor

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

12:00 PM Food Pantry (Annex Building)

Check Events & News @ <https://divinemercurahway.church>**Prayer to Saint Joseph (Prayer after the rosary)**

To you, O blessed Joseph,  
 do we come in our tribulation,  
 and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,  
 we confidently invoke your patronage also.  
 Through that charity which bound you  
 to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God  
 and through the paternal love  
 with which you embraced the Child Jesus,  
 we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance  
 which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,  
 and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities. O  
 most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,  
 defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;  
 O most loving father, ward off from us  
 every contagion of error and corrupting influence;  
 O our most mighty protector, be kind to us  
 and from heaven assist us in our struggle  
 with the power of darkness.  
 As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,  
 so now protect God's Holy Church  
 from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity;  
 shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection,  
 so that, supported by your example and your aid,  
 we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness,  
 and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**NEW PROCEDURE ON DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES  
FOR ASH WEDNESDAY, February 17, 2021  
DURING PANDEMIC**

After the blessing of the ashes and sprinkling of holy water in silence.

1. The priest addresses everyone, all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: "Repent and believe in the Gospel" or Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."
2. The priest cleanses his hands, puts on a mask, and distribute the ashes to those come to him, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places.
3. The priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them to each person's head without saying anything. ( No more ashes on the foreheads)

**2021 LENTEN REGULATIONS**

1. The days of both **Fast and Abstinence** during Lent are ASH Wednesday and Good FRIDAY. If possible the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday Night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and the death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully & to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.
2. On a day of Fast, only **one(1) full meal** is permitted, and **two(2) smaller meals**, which, **if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.**
3. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.
4. On the day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence
5. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is serious obligation.
6. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual, may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self denial as penance.
7. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty\*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, February 21 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 30, 2021.

\* Canon920, *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*



**Baptism**

*Friends, let's welcome and pray for the newly baptized of our parish community Roberto Medina.*

• **HOSPITAL VISITS**

For the spiritual needs of your sick family members, please call our hospital Chaplain, Fr. Jozef Krajnak Ph.D. at 732-877-6835.

• **COVID Alert NJ**

Covid Alert NJ is a phone app highly recommended by the Archdiocese of Newark for all the faithful due to the rising cases of Covid-19 and due to exposure to people after the holiday season. It is an exposure notification mobile app that anonymously notifies users of potential exposure to Covid-19 while maintaining user privacy and security. It is free and secure, available to anyone 18 and older who lives, works, or attend a college in New Jersey. The app can be downloaded from Google play store or Apple App store.

• **COVID-19 REMINDER**

COVID19 cases in our parish is rising. Please follow safety instructions inside the church.

**We are asking for full cooperation in this matter. If you traveled recently or you are sick or anyone in your family is sick due to Covid-19, PLEASE STAY HOME and DO NOT GO TO CHURCH!**

• **2021 ANNUAL APPEAL**

The 2021 Annual Appeal will fund essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission in the four counties of the Archdiocese of Newark– namely to proclaim the gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care of the poor and those on the margins. Please consider making a donation. Your gift will make a difference. For all checks and pledges the envelopes will be distributed this week. Checks should be made payable to *2021 Annual Appeal.*

For **donations by mail** (please do not send cash) send it to: *Development Office/Annual Appeal, P.O. Box 9577 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark, NJ 07104*

For **online donation** please follow this link below: <https://www.rcan.org/appeal> or <https://www.rcan.org/ways-to-give> or [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing).

As of Feb 5 the **Total Collection** for this campaign is **\$2,271.00** & the **Total Pledge** is **\$2,750. THANK YOU!**

• **BURIAL**

Starting March 1, 2021, the fee for whole body burial and grave opening at St. Mary's cemetery will be \$2000 .



Please remember to include our parish in your prayers.

Everyone can still send weekly offerings to our Parish by signing up at Parish Giving online. It is fast, secure and easy.

Thank you and be safe. God bless.



**ORATIO IMPERATA AGAINST THE COVID-19**

(Revised 2021)

Merciful and compassionate Father, we come to you in our need to seek your protection against the Covid-19 virus that has disturbed and even claimed lives.

We ask you now to look upon us with love and by your healing hand, dispel the fear of sickness and death, restore our hope, and strengthen our faith.

We pray that you guide the people tasked to find cures for this disease and to stem its transmission.

We thank you for the vaccines developed made possible by your guiding hands.

Bless our efforts to use these vaccines to end the pandemic in our country.

We pray for our health workers that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion.

Grant them health in mind and body, strength in their commitment, protection from the disease.

We pray for those afflicted. May they be restored to health.

Protect those who care for them.

Grant eternal rest to those who have died.

Give us the grace in these trying times to work for the good of all and to help those in need.

May our concern and compassion for each other see us through this crisis and lead us to conversion and holiness.

Grant all these through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

Mother Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.

St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

**Sacramental Schedule**

**Confession** Weekdays after the 12 pm mass  
Saturdays 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm or call the priest for an appointment

**Baptism** Call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest

**Marriage** Couples planning marriage must notify the Parish rectory a year in advance for date and requirement. Call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest.

**Anointing of the Sick** Contact a priest at any time. Hospital visits are still limited due to Covid-19.

**Holy Communion** For anyone who are homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion please contact the parish office or rectory.

**GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

The **Tabernacle Lamp** is being offered for

† Albert F. Reitemeyer.

The **Altar Bread** is being offered for

† John R. Reitemeyer.

The **Altar Wine** is being offered for

† Margaret Reitemeyer

The **Altar Candles** are being offered for

† Albert F. Reitemeyer.

**CDC and Archdiocesan Guidelines in Celebrating Mass during Pandemic**

1. Everyone **MUST WEAR MASK** all the time while inside the church.
2. The front of every **available seat** is marked with a **WHITE TAPE**. Seats without the white tape should be left vacant.
3. To follow and maintain social distancing **70 to 80 people only** will be allowed inside the church.
4. Keep social distancing at all times (**6 feet apart from each other**) Couples and families living in one room may seat next to each other
5. **NO SHAKING OF HANDS** and **NO KISSING** during the giving of the sign of peace. **NOD** and **WAVING OF HANDS** are the acceptable means of giving the sign of peace.
6. Use the **middle aisle** to receive **Holy Communion**. Stay on the floor markings to keep social distancing. Use the left or right aisle to return to the pew.
7. **Communion by hand** is highly recommended and encouraged at this time.
8. Anyone who feels the need to step out of the church during mass for a moment to breath may do so and may return to the seat afterwards.
9. The **Chapel** at the left side of the church will be used as extension of the church during mass and will be open for people with special condition and those in need of space and flexibility. The chapel has a **maximum capacity of 6 people** at this time. Communion will be served to all parishioners by a Eucharistic minister.
10. Please maintain social distancing when leaving the church.
11. **Congregating after the mass** inside the church is not allowed.
12. Please follow all the guidelines religiously.

**Thank you very much for your cooperation and understanding.**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK DIRECTIVES in time of Pandemic**

The Church is open for **SUNDAY Masses**. Only **50% capacity** of the Church or **70 people** are allowed inside the Church.

**STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE CARDINAL'S DIRECTIVE BELOW FOR REOPENING IS WITHOUT EXCEPTION**

1. Dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days will remain in effect.
2. **Social distancing** should be strictly observed while inside the church (**6ft apart from each other**).
3. **NO MASK NO ENTRY**. Mask should be worn inside the church at all times
4. Parishioners should take their temperature before coming to Mass. **Anyone showing symptoms of sickness must stay home.**
5. Parishioners are asked not to congregate after all Masses and should leave the church immediately unless they plan to spend time in quiet prayer/worship.

**SUNDAY REFLECTION****First Reading:** Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

The Law regarding leprosy is given to Moses and Aaron.

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1

Paul urges the Corinthians to imitate him as he imitates Christ.

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 1:40-45

Jesus cures a person with leprosy, who reports his cure to everyone.

**Reflection****PROFOUND HEALING**

On the Sundays of Ordinary Time, the first reading and the Gospel proclaimed at Mass form a unit of readings, with one serving to enrich our understanding of the other. Sometimes, the connection isn't especially obvious. On other Sundays, such as the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we can see a much clearer conversation between these texts. Not only is the connection fairly obvious, the first reading from Leviticus provides the cultural and religious context that are essential in understanding the story we hear from Mark's Gospel.

The Book of Leviticus can be understood as a collection of laws touching on nearly every aspect of life that is grounded in an effort to maintain Jewish cultural and religious values. As biblical scholar J. Edward Owens, O.Ss.T., observes, Leviticus helped do this through "its preservation of liturgical, social, and other prescriptions that acknowledge God's holiness and seek to inculcate such holiness in the people," (from [Leviticus, volume 4 of the New Collegeville Bible Commentary](#)). Part of the way Leviticus does this is by setting the boundaries of what it means to be "clean" and "unclean." This is important because what is at stake here is not just what it means to be holy and righteous before God, but it also speaks about the quality of our relationships with our families and communities.

[Chapter 13](#) of Leviticus (where our first reading is found) is completely devoted to diseases of the skin, none of which can be associated directly with [leprosy \(Hansen's disease\)](#). According to Leviticus, skin diseases, as well as scars and burns, render persons unclean. What is at stake here is the question of contagion and the health of the community. We should notice that there is no association between having a skin disease and being a sinner. Because of their condition, however, the sick person was ostracized from the community. As Owens observes,



"On the one hand, no one wanted to contract the disease by proximity or touching. On the other hand, drawing the afflicted person back into the community was a value. Probably victims of skin disease were more pitied than judged." As a result of all this, lepers, and those with other diseases of the skin became outsiders, surviving at the furthest margins of the community.

As we turn to the Gospel and the story of Jesus healing a leper, this sense of being marginalized should help guide our reading of this passage. For the sick man to approach Jesus was a courageous act. Remember, by law he was expected to maintain a specified distance from those who were judged to be clean or healthy. There is more at stake here than physical health. This Gospel passage certainly speaks to Jesus' power to heal, but the deeper meaning that Mark is trying to communicate is that Jesus has the power to restore relationships as he invites everyone — the rich and poor, the healthy and the sick, the sinner and the saint — into the Kingdom.

When he hears the sick man's request, "If you wish, you can make me clean," Jesus has a deep emotional response. The verb used here is *splanchnizomai*, which literally means to be moved in "the intestines." To say it another way, Jesus has a "gut reaction" to the man's appeal. Instead of turning away from the man, Jesus reaches out to him, touches him, and heals him: "I do will it. Be made clean."

Through his encounter with Jesus, the man is not only restored to health, but he is, in a sense, brought back to life by being able to return to the life of the community and to the practice of his ancestral faith. The end of our passage tells that the man publicly professed what God had done for him through Jesus. This is certainly an invitation for us to reflect on how we express our gratitude for the healing and forgiveness we have experienced in our own lives.

**PRAYER**

*Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend Your sick ones, loving Lord. Rest Your weary ones. Bless Your dying ones. Soothe Your suffering ones. Pity Your afflicted ones. Shield Your joyous ones. Give strength and vigilant awareness for all Your care givers through Christ our Lord. Amen. - prayer by Sr. Mary Christa Korening, OSB*

*Reflection excerpted from*

*<https://www.4lpi.com/> by Bro. Silas Henderson, SDS, <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/>*



*Leviticus 13 : 1 - 2, 44 - 46*

*Psalms 32 : 1 - 2, 5, 11*

*1 Corinthians 10 : 31 - 11:1*

*Gospel from Mark 1 : 40 - 45*



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### What's My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

### #WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of  
Samantha Josephson



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