

DIVINE MERCY PARISH
Sunday, March 29, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent



Established on January 6, 2020, and rooted in Catholic Tradition and Faith, Divine Mercy Parish, made up of the former parishioners of Saint Benedict the Moor, Church of the Epiphany and Saint Mary of Mercy, is located in the heart of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. As such, we aim to root ourselves as a Eucharistic Center, devoted to offering spiritual and physical nourishment to a diverse community, both parishioners and non-parishioners alike. In the coming months, we look forward to building a parish rooted in Christ that will offer an opportunity to encounter Jesus and one another in vibrant Liturgies, frequent confession times offered, time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Catholic Speaker Series, events for youth and young adults, encounters with and for the most vulnerable, outreach ministry, multicultural encounters, and so much more. We are very excited that the Lord has graced us with the protection of His Divine Mercy and look forward to serving you and serving alongside you in the coming weeks, months and years.

DIVINE MERCY PARISH ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

164 Washington Place Pittsburgh, PA 15219

www.divinemercypgh.org

office@divinemercypgh.org

412-471-0257 or 412-281-3141

Office Hours 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday

CLERGY TEAM

Reverend Christopher Donley (Moderator)
cdonley@divinemercypgh.org

Reverend Joe Freedy
jfreedy@diopitt.org

Samuel Toney (Deacon)
stoney@diopitt.org

In Residence

Reverend Edward Bryce
Monsignor Ronald Lengwin
Reverend Edward Muge
Reverend Augustine Wayii

PARISH STAFF

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Sister Pawla Witula ZSJM (Assistant Coordinator)

Mass Intentions

To request a Mass intention, please call or email the Parish Office at office@divinemercypgh.org or visit divinemercypgh.org to complete an online form.

Join our Parish Family

Visit our website at www.divinemercypgh.org or call the parish office.

Bulletin Requests

If you would like to have information included in the bulletin, please contact the Parish Office at office@divinemercypgh.org.

Schedule a Meeting

To make an appointment with Fr. Chris contact Cindy at cagoetz@divinemercypgh.org

Join us on Flocknote



Stay up to date with announcements and news or receive weekly videos, by choosing a group to join on Flocknote! Sign up at www.divinemercypgh.org or text DivineMercyPgh to 84576 to join.

SAINT BENEDICT THE MOOR CHURCH

91 Crawford Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

EPIPHANY CHURCH

164 Washington Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

SAINT MARY OF MERCY CHURCH

202 Stanwix Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<u>CONFESSIONS:</u>	<p>CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY SAINT MARY OF MERCY CHURCH SAINT BENEDICT THE MOOR CHURCH</p>	<p>Monday and Friday 11:15 AM-11:45 AM Monday through Friday 11:00 AM-11:45 AM Sunday 10:00 AM</p>
<u>NOVENAS:</u>	<p>CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY CHURCH OF THE EIPHPHANY SAINT BENEDICT THE MOOR CHURCH SAINT MARY OF MERCY CHURCH</p>	<p>Saint Rita, Mondays after 12:05 PM Mass Sorrowful Mother, Fridays after 12:05 PM Mass Saint Benedict, Begins 9 weeks prior to the Feast Day after Sunday Mass Miraculous Medal, Mondays after 12:00 Noon Mass</p>

Although all public Masses have been suspended at this time. Masses will still be said for the following scheduled Mass intentions through the private prayer of our priests.

Christopher Rugh + (Fitzgerald Family)
 Deceased of John P. Harris Family + (Cynthia Hahn Yothers)
 Dennis P. Murphy+ (Debbie and Dino Ciabattoni)
 Francis P. Bronowicz + (Theresa Bronowicz)
 Helen Capodanno + (Sam and Madilyn Manfredi)
 Jenny Leopardi Shultz (Dino Ciabattoni and Debbie DiBucci)
 John C. Gaita + (Theresa Bronowicz)
 Maylena Walsh + (Battaglia Family)
 Mildred Koritsky + (Lisa Koritsky)
 Mildred Koritsky + (Lisa Koritsky)
 Peter A. Kochian + (Family)
 Peter P. Dimperio and Nick A. Mascaro + (Dimperio and Mascaro Family)
 Rev. Joseph Gajdosk + (B. Gajdosik)

Below is information regarding the celebration of the sacraments in accordance with the guidelines provided by the Diocese of Pittsburgh as of March 20, 2020 and are effective until further notice.

Weekday and Weekend Masses

All weekday and weekend Masses are canceled until further notice. The faithful are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass at this time.

Baptisms

Only small private family baptisms should be held. Multiple baptisms of several children from different families is not permitted. All state and local government imposed restrictions on the number of people at public gatherings are to be obeyed.

Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion

All First Reconciliations and First Communions for the month of March are to be postponed and rescheduled at another date. Dates for First Reconciliation and First Communion after April 1, 2020 will be determined in the future depending on the circumstances surrounding the coronavirus.

Sacrament of Confirmation

All scheduled confirmations for the month of March are postponed and will be rescheduled. Confirmation dates after April 1, 2020 will be determined in the future depending on circumstances surrounding coronavirus.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The *Light is on for You*, scheduled for April 1, 2020 has been cancelled. Parishes will be offering regularly scheduled times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Health guidelines regarding social distancing will be followed.
 3/20/20 UPDATE: Priests are Permitted to Offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Church Parking Lots, following specific guidelines to preserve the sanctity of the sacrament. The guidelines for priests include directions for a set up that allows for anonymity and privacy. Bishop Zubik is also asking that members of the media respect the sacred nature of the sacrament, and the confidentiality of the penitents, and not appear at any parish sites.

General Absolution

The Apostolic Penitentiary recognizes the need in some places for the use of general or collective absolution. However, it is for the diocesan bishop to determine if and when the grave necessity exists for the use of general absolution. Bishop Zubik believes that this necessity does exist in some places in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. *"Therefore, in hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities, where a priest is not allowed to personally interact with patients or staff due to COVID-19 restrictions, he may grant general absolution...If a priest imparts general absolution, he is to inform penitents of the need to confess serious sins at the earliest possible moment,"* Bishop Zubik said.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Communal celebration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is suspended until further notice. Priests will offer Anointing of the Sick on an individual basis following health and safety guidelines related to coronavirus.

3/20/20 UPDATE: Bishop Zubik contacted the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference and asked that they intervene with the Governor, requesting an exemption to clergy from the current ban.

Funerals and Weddings

Until further notice, weddings and funerals may proceed but attendance should be limited to immediate family. All state and local government-imposed restrictions on the number of people at public gatherings are to be obeyed.

Parish Events and Activities

In compliance with the requests of governmental leaders and sound medical practices, parishes must cancel all scheduled events until further notice.

Church Buildings

While churches will remain open for private prayer, including adoration, there will be no scheduled "services" that would bring people together at a specific time. Social distancing must be maintained if people attend church for private prayer.

Obligation to Abstain from Meat on Lenten Fridays with the Exception of Good Friday

Bishop Zubik is dispensing from the obligation to abstain from meat on Lenten Fridays with the exception of Good Friday. *"As you are aware, many of the shelves and cases in our supermarkets are sparse if not empty. This is a time when pastoral necessity has informed my decision effective today,"* the Bishop said.

A Letter From Father Chris Donley and Father Joe Freedy

Dear Divine Mercy Parish Family in Christ,

While we cannot gather together to worship in our Saint Benedict the Moor, Epiphany, or Saint Mary of Mercy locations in person, Fr. Joe and I would like to welcome you to join us for Mass, live-streamed online or watched on television, Sunday at noon. To view our parish Mass online, please visit

<http://christianassociatestv.org/events/mass-at-st-mary-of-mercy/>

Please also join us in Pope Francis' Prayer of Spiritual Communion, found below.

You are in our daily prayers as we do everything we can to get through these days. Please do not hesitate to reach out to either of us to talk if that would help you in these challenging days, by emailing us your name and number and the best time to reach you.

May God bless you and your families,

Fr. Chris and Fr. Joe

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen

Mass and Prayer

Although all Masses and services in the Diocese of Pittsburgh have been cancelled, the daily 12:00 pm Mass at Saint Mary of Mercy Church can be live streamed or viewed on demand, seven days a week on Comcast channel 95 in the Greater Pittsburgh area or at www.christianassociatestv.org. Pittsburgh's Faith and Family channel 40.9 also carries it Monday through Saturday.

Mass can also be accessed through our website at www.divinemercurypgh.org, along with more resources for prayer.

Every day at 3:00 PM, join the Sisters of Merciful Jesus in prayer, as they live stream an Hour of Mercy on Facebook, where they will be praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the rosary for the end of COVID-19. Visit www.facebook.com/DivineMercyPgh to be directed to their page.

Saint Anthony Chapel will live stream the Holy Rosary, Monday through Saturday at 12:00 PM and Stations of the Cross, Sunday at 3:00 PM and Friday at 7:00 PM.

Contributions

We are so very grateful for your continued generous support for our parish community and all the good work that it accomplishes in the name of Jesus Christ. During these times, it will be difficult for our parish to generate income with no regular offertory collections. Please continue to support us with your charitable contributions so that we may continue to keep our churches operational and serve our community by helping those in need. We are working on setting up online giving. Please visit our website for updates.

PARISH NEWS

Divine Mercy Parish



The Divine Mercy Parish Famous Fish Fry has been cancelled until further notice. Thank you to all of the volunteers who donated their efforts and time in making our fish fry possible!



The opening for Brother Andre's Café has been pushed back indefinitely. To stay up to date, visit www.facebook.com/brotherandres or find them on Instagram at [brother_andres_cafe](https://www.instagram.com/brother_andres_cafe)

African American History

Gloria Davy, a rich-voiced (lirico-spinto) soprano had a four decade career as a concert singer. She was born on March 29, 1931 in Brooklyn, New York to immigrant parents from St. Vincent in the Caribbean. In 1958 she broke color barriers when she was chosen for the lead in *Aida* with the Metropolitan Opera. Later moving to Europe, she gained international recognition for singing, acting, and teaching. She married New York stockbroker, Herman Penningsfield in 1959 and together, they had one son. Although most of her professional performances continued to be in Europe, she returned periodically to the United States to perform and to teach. Gloria Davy died at her home in Geneva on November 28, 2012 at the age of 81.

DIVINE MERCY PARISH BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

DeWayne Adams 3/29	Josephine Crame 4/02
Mehret Birru 3/29	Ellen Dawson 4/02
Thabo Cele 3/29	Ezuma Ngwu 4/02
Patty Brymn 3/31	Bradley Thompson 4/02
Ben Farmer 4/01	Beverly Williams 4/02
Father Joe Freedy 4/01	Matthew O'Brien 4/03
John McGrath 4/01	Gary Sundy 4/04
Cecilia Rockovich 4/01	

To be included in the weekly parishioner birthday list, please email your birthday to office@divinemercypgh.org



In an effort to assist Catholics everywhere, FORMED is opening their doors to make the FORMED platform free to everyone for the next 40 days. Sign up today and get immediate access to the best Catholic movies, faith formation videos, audio talks, and great children's videos. Visit www.formed.org to register.

Mass Intentions

We are still taking Mass intentions. All priests in our parish will continue to celebrate private Masses and offering them up for a particular Mass intentions. To request a Mass, visit our website, request by mail, or email office@divinemercypgh.org

*Videos of encouragement and prayer from Father Joe Freedy and Father Chris Donley can be found on Flocknotes, Facebook, and through our website.

ATTENTION!

Please be aware of emails claiming to be from Father Chris Donley and Father Joe Freedy. These are scammers. If you receive such an email, for your safety, please do not give your information or comply with their requests.

Divine Mercy Parish Prayer Board

Betty Bell, Edward Davis, Dolores Denton, Carol Derewcz, Grace Dixon-Kizzie, Patricia Ellis, Debra Foster, Woody Frazier, Ann Fultz, Richard Gazzam, Janet Glass, Brenda Glenn, Mary Graham, Helena Harris, Harold G. Heim, Jr., Osaruyi Osasere Igbneweka, Billy Jenkins, Sandra Johnson, Sean Kraus, Tiffany Livsey, Aisha Lado, Toni Long, Andrew Lyke, Ruth McCartney, Sager McDill FMM, DMK, Sherry McGinnis, Todd Mattei, Betty Muse, Josephine O'Connor, Ira Ritter, Sr. Mary Samuels, Genevieve Sanford, Debbie Sturm, Vincent Tucker, Lyle Williams, Margaret, Leslie Wilson, Regina Zelik, Jerry Barry, Laurie Bozik, Robert Dougherty, William Egger, Richard Gazzam, Katherine Gross, Margaret Hurney, Marva Josie, D.M.K., Barbara Kuhn, F.M.M., Jessie Marsh, Patricia Morra, Daniel Murphy, Dennis Murphy, Justin Murphy, Jean O'Hanlon, Mary Ann Pacini, Clara Jane Roy, Marianne Wisdom Oines, C.Z.R., Sr. Mary Ann Troup, Elsie Urban, Bill Vergot, Derrick Gardener, Leah Lindenfelser, Diane and Jim Foley, Elizabeth Kochin Donna Bradley, Larry Sobek Mary Jane Metz and victims of abuse.

To add a name to our prayer board, please email office@divinemercypgh.org

Contribution Totals

First Collection	\$1,835.00
PARISH SHARE	\$75.00
CARE FOR THE POOR	\$730.00
CHURCH BUILDING UPKEEP	\$125.00
TV MINISTRY	—
DIOCESAN COLLECTION	—
OTHER HOLY DAYS: Ash Wednesday	—
EASTER FLOWERS	\$30.00
HUMAN DEV MISSIONS	\$70.00
TOTAL	\$2,865.00

Prayers

Pope Francis' Prayer to Our Lady Imploring Her Protection Amid the Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Historically associated with plagues, the Madonna of Monte Berico is the perfect intercessor for our current coronavirus outbreak. The following novena may be said and offered for the petition of a swift end to the spread and for a maternal protection for all .

Novena to Our Lady of Monte Berico



O Most Holy Virgin, Mother of God and my Mother Mary, I thank you that you have deigned to appear on Monte Berico and I thank you for all the graces you grant here to those who turn to you. Nobody ever prayed to you in vain. I, too, resort to you and beg you for the Passion and Death of Jesus and for your pains: welcome me, o' merciful Mother, under your mantle, which is a maternal mantle; grant me the particular grace that I ask of You [your petition here] and protect me from all evil and especially from sin which is the greatest evil.

Oh make, oh Mary, my Mother, that I always enjoy your loving protection in life and even more in death and then come to see you in heaven and to thank and bless you forever. Amen.

Madonna of Monte Berico, pray for us.

O sweet Virgin, pious mother of love,

Like this Ave rising from the heart.

Ave, ave, ave, Maria

Ave, ave, ave, Maria

O Virgin, shine as a star in the sky,

Motherly defend your faithful children.

Ave, ave, ave Maria

Ave, ave, ave, Maria

Red Door Ministry: Those in need can receive a bagged lunch Monday through Saturday from **10:30 AM-11:30 AM**

The actual Red Door is located on the Boulevard of the Allies. New Hours Tuesday - Friday 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM and Saturday 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Mother Teresa Conference: Please contact us at 412-204-7446 or svdpstteresaPGH@gmail.com for assistance in the Pittsburgh 15219 & 15222 areas with available social services and other resources. **VOLUNTEERS:** Hearts ready to serve the Lord by aiding our Friends in Need are urgently needed. Please join us as we pray and learn together how to be the face of Christ to those in need through home visits and available social services .