

**DIVINE MERCY PARISH**  
**Sunday, April 5, 2020**  
**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**



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](http://www.divinemercypgh.org)

[office@divinemercypgh.org](mailto: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](mailto:cdonley@divinemercypgh.org)

Reverend Joe Freedy  
[jfreedy@diopitt.org](mailto:jfreedy@diopitt.org)

Samuel Toney (Deacon)  
[stoney@diopitt.org](mailto:stoney@diopitt.org)

### In Residence

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

## PARISH STAFF

Administrative Assistant/Safe Environment  
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Administrative Assistant  
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The Red Door  
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Heidi Potter (Coordinator)  
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[thegate@divinemercypgh.org](mailto:thegate@divinemercypgh.org)  
Sister Pawla Witula ZSJM (Assistant Coordinator)

### Mass Intentions

To request a Mass intention, please call or email the Parish Office at [office@divinemercypgh.org](mailto:office@divinemercypgh.org) or visit [divinemercypgh.org](http://divinemercypgh.org) to complete an online form.

### Join our Parish Family

Visit our website at [www.divinemercypgh.org](http://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](mailto:office@divinemercypgh.org).

### Schedule a Meeting

To make an appointment with Fr. Chris contact Cindy at [cagoetz@divinemercypgh.org](mailto: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](http://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

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

**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.**

John C. Gaita + (Theresa Bronowicz)  
 Jenny Leopardi Shultz (Dino Ciabattoni and Debbie DiBucci)  
 Mildred Koritsky + (Lisa Koritsky)  
 Peter A. Kochian + (Family)  
 Mr. Marcelino Cardozo + (Family)  
 Donald F. Kowalecki + ( Donna Sebesta)  
 Dougherty Family Living and Deceased (The Kroner Family)  
 In memory of John and Rita Kokai + (Daughters)  
 David Klasnick + (7:30AM Mass Group)  
 Peter P. Dimperio (Family)  
 Sam Manfredi + (Sam and Madilyn Manfredi)

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 Communion 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



### **eGiving with Faith Direct**

During this time of uncertainty, Divine Mercy Parish needs your support now more than ever! I want to introduce a new and secure way for you to support our parish offertory and second collections, *Faith Direct*. *Faith Direct* enables parishioners to make Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. You can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car, or tuition payments.

*Faith Direct* also offers you personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket for when we are finally able to come together again for Mass. This way of giving will continue to be a stable and effective way for the parish to receive your gifts.

Please join me in enrolling by responding to the email you have received or visit [faith.Direct/PA1051](http://faith.Direct/PA1051) to enroll securely online.

God Bless You!

Rev. Christopher Donley

### **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](http://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](http://www.divinemercurypgh.org), along with more resources for prayer.

Saint Mary of Mercy is open for private prayer Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm and on Saturday and Sunday from 8 am to 11:45 am.

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](http://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.

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/brotherandres) or find them on Instagram at [brother\\_andres\\_cafe](https://www.instagram.com/brother_andres_cafe)

### African American History

Robert Vann House, 7337 Monticello Street, Homewood: Robert Vann, one of only 5 black lawyers in Pittsburgh, became legal counsel of a new Hill District newsletter, the Pittsburgh Courier, in 1910, becoming editor and publisher soon after. He attracted wealthy investors and gradually built the Courier into one of the most influential black newspapers in the country. In 1911, he bought his house in Homewood, later buying the house next door as well. Within a decade, Monticello street became home to many African Americans. Although boarded up, his house is still standing and can be seen today.

### DIVINE MERCY PARISH BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Judith Evans 4/06	Olawake Elegure 4/10
Jon-Anthony McGrath 4/06	Daisy Kayitesi 4/10
Janna Plowman 4/06	Gina Nicoella 4/10
Kaaren Radecki 4/06	Marissa Randall 4/10
Nancy Wuenstel 4/06	Margaret Sherwood 4/10
Dorothy Brisbane 4/07	Todey Doerue 4/11
Paul Svirbel 4/08	Avayah Freeman 4/11
Farrah Holmes 4/09	Owen Rubin 4/11
Keith Pavick 4/09	Carl Satira 4/11
Kenneth Scherer 4/09	

To be included in the weekly parishioner birthday list, please email your birthday to [office@divinemercypgh.org](mailto: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.

### 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](mailto:office@divinemercypgh.org)



This site is filled with various resources for the whole family to learn more about our Catholic faith. FORMED offers apps for smart phones and tablets. 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](http://www.formed.org) to register.

### 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 Igbineweka, 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](mailto:office@divinemercypgh.org)



The North Hills Ebony Women, Inc., announces the annual scholarship awards for 2020. The Norma Jean Ware Duncan Scholarship provides (1) \$1,500 award to a graduating African American or Black high school senior who exhibits excellence in academics, service in their community, and is enrolled in a school in one of the North Hills school districts. Additionally, the

North Hills Ebony Women, Inc., scholarship application is available for an academically excellent and community service minded African American or Black high school senior attending a Pittsburgh Public School aspiring to attend college in the Fall. A \$750 minimum will be awarded.

The DEADLINE for completed applications is **April 15, 2020**. For information and complete scholarship packets for download, visit our website: <https://nhewinc.tripod.com> or for questions, contact parishioner, Janice Simmons, at (724) 443-5589 or [forbears@consolidated.net](mailto:forbears@consolidated.net) (SBTM)





This weekend, we celebrate Palm Sunday. The celebration marks the beginning of Holy Week, a special time of prayer and fasting as we dive deeper into our Lord's Passion. "The Passion narrative points out the fidelity of Christ, contrasted with human infidelity. In the hour of his trial, while the disciples and even Peter abandon Jesus (cf. Mt 26,56), He remains faithful, willing to pour out His blood to bring to fulfillment the mission the Father has entrusted to him. Beside him is Mary, silent and suffering." These words offered by Saint John Paul II remind us of the importance of Holy Week, they remind us of the reason we pray over and contemplate our Lord's Passion.

Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and follow Jesus through death to new life!

**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.

**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](mailto: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 .