

DIVINE MERCY PARISH
Sunday, May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter



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

Administrative Assistant/Safe Environment
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Administrative Assistant
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Coordinator of Communication and Special Events
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Ray Krivanek

The Red Door
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Heidi Potter (Coordinator)
Sister Emily Lepage ZSJM (Assistant Coordinator)
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 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

CONFESSIONS

Location: Epiphany Church, Upper Parking Lot

Day: Monday through Saturday

Time: 2:00pm to 4:00pm

ADORATION

Location: Epiphany Church, Administrative Office Parking Lot

Day: Everyday, Sunday through Saturday

Time: 7:30am to 7:30pm

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.

Stella and Joseph Leopardi + (Dino Ciabattoni and Debbie Dibucci)
John Schmelzer + (Mike and Teri Fitzgerald)
In Memory of Joseph Orlich (Daughter)
Mary Lou Bova (Patrick Passanante)
David Klasnick +
William Fitzgerald Sr. + (Mike and Terri Fitzgerald)
Jim and Millie Morgan + (Bud and Karen Burke)
Deceased of John P. Harris Family + (Cynthia Hahn Yothers)
Marie Ballash + (Sam and Madilyn Manfredi)
Rev. Theodore Rutkowski (Rev. Christopher D. Donley)
Angelina Salerno + (Sam and Madilyn Manfredi)



eGiving with Faith Direct

Divine Mercy Parish needs your support now more than ever! Join the parishioners who are using Faith Direct for automated giving to Divine Mercy Parish. Faith Direct offers a safe and secure way to donate to our parish in this time of uncertainty. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish. Sign up today by visiting our website, www.divinemeracyphg.org, or text 'Enroll' to (412) 415-7067.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

God Bless,

Father Chris

Fourth Sunday of Easter



Readings

First Reading Acts 2:14, 36-41

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel John 10: 1-10

Mass Intentions

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

*The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall
want.*

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.divinemercypgh.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.

PARISH NEWS

African American History

Nella Larsen, nurse, librarian, and, writer, was born in Chicago in 1891. She entered a three-year course of study at Lincoln Hospital Training School for Nurses in New York City and practiced nursing from 1915 to 1921. On May 3, 1919, Larsen married physicist, Dr. Elmer Samuel Imes. She began writing her first novel, *Quicksand* in 1928. Combining personal accounts and fiction in order to explore the psychology of racial dualism and marginality on black middle class women, *Quicksand* won Larsen the Harmon Foundation's bronze medal and she became an important literary figure of the Harlem Renaissance. The stock market crash of 1929 reduced the financial assistance available to support black artists and because of this, Larsen never completed a third novel she had begun writing. She returned to her nursing career, working at Bethel Hospital in Brooklyn until she died in 1964.

DIVINE MERCY PARISH BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Amarai Benning 5/03	Ann Sundy 5/05
Maliq Oladimeji 5/03	Sherry McGinnis 5/06
Matthew Cox 5/04	Marsha Kulpa 5/07
Donna Levitt 5/04	Deji Talabi 5/07
Annette Mahoney 5/04	Martin Warren 5/07
Ray Ngandwe 5/04	Kathleen Schmitt 5/08
Saverio Caruso 5/05	Mark Sutt 5/08
Nnamdi Chielu 5/05	Christine English 5/09
Karen Dering 5/05	Aaron Marcario 5/09

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

ATTENTION!

Please be aware of emails claiming to be from Father Chris Donley and Father Joe Freedy. These messages are part of a phishing campaign. If you receive such an email, for your safety, please do not give your information or comply with their requests. Any emails from Father Chris or Father Joe will either come from an @divinemerccypgh or @diopitt email account.

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@divinemerccypgh.org

Contribution Totals

First Collection	\$2,912.00
PARISH SHARE	\$1,060.00
CARE FOR THE POOR	\$200.00
CHURCH BUILDING UPKEEP	\$80.00
TV MINISTRY	\$65.00
HOLY THURSDAY	\$10.00
GOOD FRIDAY	\$10.00
EASTER	\$90.00
DIOCESAN COLLECTION	—
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	\$10.00
RED DOOR	\$2,975.00
DONATIONS	\$95.00
TOTAL	\$7,357.00

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



Diocese of Pittsburgh
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Office of the Bishop

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP ZUBIK

As we enter another week enduring the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, our physical, financial and spiritual health continues to be challenged. I hold all of you in daily prayer, asking God to bring protection and comfort to you and your families as we navigate through this time.

In my reflections, I've been focusing on where we have been, where we are and where we are going in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. We are being challenged. How will we respond?

We continue to respond in faith. When we look at the history of the Church, particularly the Church at her beginnings described in the Acts of the Apostles, we realize that disciples of the Lord Jesus managed and grew in faith through many difficulties and challenges. Isn't that the story we continue to reflect upon during our readings at Mass every day of this Easter Season? They remained united in their love for the Lord and one another. "Now the company of those who believed were of one heart and soul...and with great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all." (Acts 4:33-34) We are like the members of the early Church living through our own difficult times. Although we cannot yet come together in our churches for the sacraments and other prayers, we remain strong and united in our faith in God and in the hope of coming together again soon and recognizing Him in the breaking of the bread at Mass. Christ our Savior who suffered and died for us remains always with us and shares with us the glory of His resurrection. We trust in Him. We are His disciples. We are a people of hope!

Based on public health and safety models, our local, state and federal government leaders have been guiding all of us with directives meant to protect the wellbeing of our communities. In accordance with those directives, and with input from my senior staff, I made the decision to suspend Masses on March 15, 2020, which was one of the most heart-wrenching decisions of my life. It has been a struggle for all of us as priests and deacons to be separated from you, our faithful, particularly in celebrating the sacraments at a time most needed, as it has been difficult for you, the faithful, to be separated from the sacraments and your priests and deacons.

Although physical doors have been closed, we have worked to create a variety of online spiritual resources including live stream Masses, prayer services and community discussion through social media channels in an effort to help people feel more connected and less isolated. None of this could ever replace the physical connection through receiving the Eucharist in public Masses, but engaging livestream, we have received many positive responses from people who have received spiritual nourishment from these efforts.

Diocesan staff members have been working remotely and non-stop to continue operations of the diocese. My senior staff and members of a Project Management Team, including outside consultants, have been evaluating the financial health of our diocese in terms of our parishes, our schools and our central administration staff. Our pastors, priests, principals and their staffs have also been working creatively to stay connected with their parish and school families and have shared beautiful stories of the faithful supporting one another.

We have instituted online giving opportunities through the "Bishop's Coronavirus Emergency Relief Fund," as well as at the parish level, and we greatly appreciate the financial support we have received, especially at a time when financial situations are uncertain for so many. The suspension of Masses has resulted in a sharp decline in offertory collections. Our parishes had been feeling the strain of lower attendance and funding well before COVID-19. The far-reaching negative impact of the pandemic related to the health and employment of the community as a whole has intensified the strain. Our schools rely on our parishes for financial support that subsidizes their operations. With a decrease in offertory, this does affect our parishes and schools.

As I have shared with you previously, the current reality is that the severe loss of funding means that it is necessary to consider a variety of cost-cutting measures on all levels that may include reduction of positions and programs. Over the course of the next several weeks, we will be addressing each of these areas, and I anticipate more difficult decisions will need to be made.

As we work through these challenges, be assured of my commitment as Pastor of the Church of Pittsburgh to the mission of the Church, which has not and will not change: bringing people to Christ and creating disciples. Although moving forward, we may be smaller in terms of numbers of schools, parishes and staffs, we are focused on protecting a foundation that we must build upon—that foundation is Jesus Himself.

I know from experiences in my own life that change can be difficult and the unknown future is sometimes worrisome. Yes, change is hard, but we hold hope together that our collective efforts will bring us closer to God's heavenly reign here on earth. I ask for you to join me in a prayerful trusting of Jesus to guide us as we stay focused on maximizing the resources we have and in being very intentional in making decisions to best serve our entire Church and beyond.

I will update you on decisions and progress as we move through this transition.

Grateful for our continued efforts together in being *On Mission for The Church Alive!*, and for our belief that "Nothing is Impossible with God," I am

Your brother in Christ,

Most Reverend David A. Zubik
Bishop of Pittsburgh