



Divine Mercy Catholic Parish

Office of the Pastor

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March 27, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

During this time of uncertainty and anxiety, I pray that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. This crisis challenges us to act responsibly by following the social isolation guidelines while striving to stay close emotionally and spiritually to our families, our friends, and our communities. Please join me in praying for those affected by COVID-19, as well as our first responders, health care workers, and individuals who have lost income due to precautionary closures.

Times such as these highlight the need for the spiritual sustenance and community connectivity that Divine Mercy Parish provide every member of our Catholic family. To protect the safety of our community, most pastoral services and ministries are currently being performed virtually. Our priest and deacons are available to minister to all of your spiritual needs. Please contact the parish office at 504-466-5016. I invite you to visit our website, www.divinemercuryparish.org, for up-to-date information on liturgies and other resources.

It is critically important that our parish receives the offertory support to remain operational and sustainable despite the temporary suspension of weekly Masses. Your donations will assist Divine Mercy Parish with ongoing expenses related to ministry, maintenance, utilities, staff, and other pressing needs, that depend on regular offertory support from our parishioners. It will also support members of our community who have been negatively affected by the pandemic. For example, your donations will support our St. Anthony Ministry which is providing the needy with sustenance and financial assistance or other parish communities deeply harmed by the pandemic.

Divine Mercy Parish needs your help!

Online giving provides our parish a stable financial foundation each week.

- If you are a current online giver, thank you!
- If you are not a reoccurring online giver, would you please consider it? It is easy to enroll. For more information, please visit <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/dmp>.

If you would like to continue using weekly envelopes or prefer to write weekly or monthly checks:

- Please drop your collection envelopes in the donation box located in the center of the Narthex of Church or
- Mail them to: Divine Mercy Catholic Church, 4337 Sal Lentini Parkway, Kenner, LA 70065.

I am very aware of the possibility that some of our families may not be able to increase donations at this time because of their own financial situation during this crisis. I am asking you, who are financially able, to consider increasing your weekly or monthly giving to help balance out the shortage we will experience. If the Lord has blessed you financially, please consider making an additional one-time larger donation to help our parish weather this financial burden.

In whatever way you can help, please know your sacrifice is greatly appreciated. As a parish family, we will weather this difficult time together holding true to our Catholic values and to our parish mission to be God's hands and heart for all. This crisis will be forever part of our history as generations forward will tell the story, of this moment in time, when we, the Divine Mercy Catholic Church parishioners, sacrificed dearly for the greater good of our parish family.

Your generosity is needed now more than ever. Our Divine Mercy community has always come together to support one another during times of need, and I ask you to do so again. Please continue to pray for each other, as I continue to pray for you.

It is a privilege to be your pastor. I am forever changed because of the witness of your strong faith and generosity.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Robert T. Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Rev. Fr. Robert T. Cooper

Pastor

RTC/cji