

+ Divine Mercy Parish Bulletin+

Jesus, I Trust in You!

Divine Mercy Rectory, 2267 Main St., (413) 283-6030

Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Hall, (413) 283-4320

Three Rivers, Mass.

Rev. Stefan Niemczyk, pastor

Pastoral Staff:

Parish Council president: John Yurkunas

Religious Education director: Jean Brigham

Organists: Mark Narreau, Mary Besko

Secretary: Lydia McKee

Sacristans: Michael Wostena, Maryann Wostena

Custodian: John Dziedzic

Office hours: Mon. & Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Email address: stspeterpaulanne@gmail.com

Website: www.churchofdivinemeracy.org

Confessions: Sat, 3:00 p.m. (also before daily Mass)

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the rectory to make arrangements

Schedule of Holy Masses:

The Lord's Day ---

Vigil on Sat., 4:00, 5:15 p.m.

Sun., 8:00 a.m. (Polish), 9:30 a.m.

Daily (except Tues.), 7:00 a.m.

Tues., 5:30 p.m. with B.V.M. Novena

Holydays: as announced

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wed., 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sat., 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sick calls: anytime

New, But Rich in Tradition:

A Brief Overview of Divine Mercy Parish

Sts. Peter & Paul Parish was founded in 1905 to serve the needs of Polish immigrants. **St. Adalbert Parish**, Bondsville, began as a mission of Sts. Peter & Paul in 1910, was erected a parish in its own right in 1917, and closed in 2004. **St. Anne Parish** was founded in 1882 to serve the needs of French Canadian immigrants. By a decree of the Bishop of Springfield issued on Nov. 23, 2009, Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Anne were merged to form **Divine Mercy Parish**. With its combination of a typical New England exterior and a beautiful Baroque interior, Sts. Peter & Paul Church is the designated worship place for Divine Mercy.

December 7, 2014

Second Sunday in Advent

(Roman Rite, ordinary form & extraordinary form)

Divine Mercy Parish Bulletin ~ Vol. 1 No. 14 / Dec. 7, 2014

Telephone Numbers: RECTORY (283-6030) Mark Narreau (583-8541) Jean Brigham (283-4232)
Items for bulletin must be submitted by Tues. morning for publication in the next Sunday's issue.
Thank you! All submitted items are subject to editorial discretion and may or may not be used.

N.B.: The *Parish Bulletin* is currently in transition. Some issues, or a part of them, may not be available online until further notice. *Thank you for your patience and understanding.*

The Most Blessed Sacrament ~ ~ ~

The Most Blessed Sacrament is reserved in our church, located in the tabernacle on the High Altar, beneath the statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul. We ask that you maintain a respectful silence when you are in the church. This is especially important before and after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Your reverent attitude is not only an example for all, but is respectful of those who are praying. *Thank you!*

Parish Events This Week in *December*

Sun., Dec. 7th PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

Religious Education classes, grades 6-10 – 10:30 a.m., parish hall
Chalice of Strength Prayers for Priests & Vocations, 4:00 p.m., church

Mon., Dec. 8th

HOLYDAY of OBLIGATION: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

~ please refer to Mass schedule on opposite page

Rosary for World Peace, 4:00 p.m., church

Wed., Dec. 10th

Sts. Peter & Paul Men's Guild meeting, 6:30 p.m., parish hall.
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 7:00 p.m., St. Maximilian Kolbe Room.

Sat., Dec. 13th

Religious Education classes, grades K-5, 9:00 a.m., parish hall.
Confessions, 3:00 p.m., church
Sts. Peter & Paul Men's Guild DINNER beginning at 6:30 p.m., parish hall.

Mother of Mary Prayer Force

If anyone would like their intentions prayed for by a dedicated group of parishioners, please email them to jmjdrsr2007@yahoo.com . We have a network of prayer warriors who will pray for you.

Apostles of Prayer

If you're requesting prayers for anyone or you'd like to join the Prayer Line, please call Cindy Leveillee @ 283-7836.

Palmer Food Share

Please continue to assist with your donations to the Food Share program. You may drop off donations in the baskets located in the church. *Thank you for your generosity!*

NEW PARISHIONERS

If you have questions, or are considering joining our parish, *you are most welcome!* Please see Father after Mass or contact the rectory during regular office hours.

Masses & Devotions This Week

*Praised be Jesus Christ! Niech będzie pochwalony Jezus Chrystus!
Laudetur Iesus Christus!*

Vigil of Sunday

- 4:00 p.m. +Fred Mastalerz – int. of his wife Julie & daughter Carol
 +Stanley & Mary Jasak – int. of their family
 5:15 p.m. +Edward Zerdecki – int. of his wife & family
 +Helen & Fred Krawczyk – int. of their daughter Sue & son-in-law Leslie

7. Sunday ~ Second Sunday in Advent

- 8:00 a.m. za d.sp. Stanley i Maryi Milewski – od corki
 9:30 a.m. +Cecelia Matera – int. of Sts. Peter & Paul Rosary Sodality

8. Monday ~ IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- 7:00 a.m. for the parishioners
 5:30 p.m. +Doris Piechota – int. of Elizabeth Lasky

9. Tuesday ~ St. Juan Diego, hermit

- 5:30 p.m. Novena & Mass: +Stanislaus Kryczka – int. of Teresa Sucharska & family

10. Wednesday ~ Advent feria

- 7:00 a.m. +Joseph Swist – int. of John & Irene Dyl

11. Thursday ~ St. Damasus I, pope

- 7:00 a.m. +Bill & Wanda Barry – int. of their daughter Charlotte

12. Friday ~ Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 7:00 a.m. +Carol Lavigne – int. of her husband Richard

13. Saturday ~ St. Lucy, virgin & martyr

- 7:00 a.m. +Cecelia Matera – int. of John Machnik

Vigil of Sunday

- 4:00 p.m. +Madeleine & Cecile Camerlin – int. of Carl & Irene
 +deceased members of the Frank Kargol family – int. of the family
 5:15 p.m. living & +deceased members of the Antoni Frydryk family
 +Wilfred & Helen Bonneville – int. of son Leslie & daughter-in-law Susie

14. Sunday ~ Gaudete Sunday; 3rd in Advent

- 8:00 a.m. za d.sp. Vera Gilbert – od Michael Wojnilowicz
 9:30 a.m. +Stanley Wojtowicz – int. of his sons Paul & Stanley
 +William, Sr., Anna, & Billy Snyder – int. of Robert & Terry Snyder

PRAY FOR PRIESTS/DEACONS ~ Each day of the month is set aside to pray for a specific priest or deacon. *Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Fr. Stanley Sokol	Fr. James Scahill	Fr. Timothy Campoli	Fr. Ryan Rooney
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Fr. Robert Coonan	Fr. Stefan Niemczyk	Pope Francis (ordination date)	

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Please refer to the front cover for the hours of Adoration.

Since 1996, our parish has been **blessed to have the Blessed Sacrament exposed for the Adoration of the faithful**. However, **the Blessed Sacrament cannot be exposed in the monstrance on the altar unless one is willing to sacrifice one (1) hour**. *Will you be that person?? Time spent with God is never time wasted!* If you would like to substitute or commit to a specific hour in this important ministry of prayer, **please contact Diana Roth @ 283-8709. We need your help. God is never outdone in generosity!**

School of Religious Education *NEWS*

Please refer to **PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK, page 2, for class days & times.**

We ask that parents faithfully send their children to these important classes on our Catholic Faith, and that the whole family regularly attend Sun. Mass (or Sat. Vigil). Any questions or for more information, contact Jean Brigham (283-4232).

LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS DONATIONS ~ Like last year, **students will be bringing donations** for the Lion Club Christmas baskets. **Parishioners who would like to donate are also welcome!** Also being collected: inexpensive toys for children under ten and non-perishable food items.

Please bring your donations to the parish hall **Sat. or Sun. mornings during CCD hours**. Bins will be set up there **until 12 noon on Dec. 7th**. The Lions Club will pick up the baskets on either Dec. 8th or 9th. *Thank you in advance for your generosity!*

PARENTS OF DIVINE MERCY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS

PLEASE NOTE CORRECTED DATE: In an attempt to promote an increase in **unity, fellowship, as well as spirituality** in our parish, **the Parish Council, in cooperation with our Religious Education teachers** would like to **invite all parents of our students to an informal hour** of conversation, coffee & donuts, and an introduction to some **very interesting** (& short) videos on the large screen or CDs of interest during the CCD class time **this Sun., Dec. 7th**. If any parents are interested in meeting with their child's teachers *after class time*, your child should bring a note for his/her teacher to that class. *If these gatherings prove fruitful, they may be continued on a regular basis each Sunday.*

OPLATEK ~ CHRISTMAS WAFER is a thin, white or pink wafer made from flour and water and baked on a metal form containing various symbols, especially of the Infant Jesus. This is a beautiful old custom of Polish Catholics who share the *Oplatek* on Christmas Eve before supper as a symbol of love, unity and fraternity, expressing their mutual best wishes. Any remaining ***Oplatki*** (plural) are available at the rectory office (\$2.00 donation). Please continue this lovely tradition in your homes at Christmas.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY ON MONDAYS

The **Sts. Peter & Paul Rosary Sodality** continues to pray the **Rosary on each Monday at 4:00 p.m.** in church (until further notice). Please come and pray for world peace and the protection for our citizens and nation. ***All are welcome! Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us!***

Sign of Peace This is an *optional* gesture at every Mass. The Congregation for Divine Worship has recently called for the congregation to act with simplicity and more restraint when exchanging peace. For example, *a handshake is not obligatory*. In these cold months, it's also more practical **to prevent the spread of cold and other germs** with a simple and sufficient nod of the head, a smile or a whispered "peace to you."

Donations to the Parish

The Parish gratefully acknowledges the following donation: Bog Zaplac!
To the General Fund –
\$250 in loving memory of **+Antoinette Tenczar** from David & Jennifer Tenczar

((((((((("EVENTS/NOTICES AROUND TOWN"))))))))

LESSON & CAROLS

The 14th annual ceremony of **LESSON & CAROLS**, a Festival of Light, will be performed by the Cathedral Choir of Boys & Adults this coming **Sat., Dec. 13th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel, State St., Springfield. The progression of nine lessons, carols, and choral selections are accompanied by the gradual lighting of candles until the Cathedral is in full light. The Cathedral Choir will be accompanied by strings, harpsichord, handbells, and the majestic Cathedral organ. This public event is free of charge. For more information, please call (413) 452-0845 or worship@diospringfield.org.

Annual Christmas Cookie Sale & Lottery Calendar Sale

Fundraiser sponsored by Friends of the Palmer Senior Center **Annual Christmas *Homemade* Cookie Sale: \$7.00** (large box) **and \$5.00** (small box) Call to place your order by Dec. 19, 283-2670. Orders over two boxes must be prepaid (Palmer Council on Aging, 1029 Central St., Palmer, Mass.). Orders can be picked up on Dec. 22 after 1:00 p.m. or Dec. 23 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. / **Lottery calendar** cost: **\$5.00** (only 500 will be sold).

Words of Wisdom

**The human self is lost in a world of science,
technology and consumerism,
and so much in need of Christ.**

-John Janaro, assoc. professor emeritus, Christendom College

(((((((("EVENTS/NOTICES AROUND TOWN"))))))))

Area Advent Penance Services

Advent Penance Services: 1) at **Sacred Heart Church**, Chestnut St., Springfield on **Thurs., Dec. 11th** after 5:15 p.m. Mass; 2) at **St. Michael's Cathedral** on **Wed., Dec. 17th** after **12:10 p.m. Mass**. Several priests will be available for confessions.

Seminarian Gift Cards Available

The diocese currently has twelve men in seminary formation. Our seminarians have little opportunity to earn money during their formation, but still have personal expenses. Whether it's gas to travel to parish assignments, an unexpected car repair, or maybe just enough black socks to get through the week, they can use a helping hand. It's an opportunity for the lay faithful to express their appreciation for the seminarians' "yes" to study for the priesthood. Returns are to be donated in the Sunday collection basket or to the rectory office by **Sun., Dec. 14th**. Envelopes with names of seminarians are available on the back pew counters (near the bulletins and other notices).

April 2015 Haiti Plunge Mission Trip

Faith Przybycien, high school parishioner, has been selected to participate with a team of 12 youth & advisors from the diocese (April 2015). They will work in reforestation & erosion control, education & recreational programs in HASWEP cooperative. Participants must raise \$1650 (cost of trip) by recruiting sponsors. If you'd like to be a sponsor, please complete the form below and mail directly to Haiti Plunge, Inc. For more information: www.thehaitiplunge.org or The Haiti Plunge on Facebook.

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~HAITI PLUNGE SCHOLARSHIP FORM~

I would like to contribute to Faith Przybycien's mission trip. /Enclosed is my donation of \$_____

Donor's name (please print) _____

Address _____

Mail to: Haiti Plunge, Inc., P.O. Box 745, North Adams, MA 01247

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

On this Dec. 7th, let us remember to pray for all those who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor 73 years ago, the "**day that will live in infamy**" and plunged the United States into World War II. Let us also remember to pray for our military who are serving and protecting us today in a still-violent world.

Pro Life Reflection

From today's First Reading, Isaiah 40: "**...in His arms He gathers the lambs....and leading the ewes with care.**"

The parallel of the Good Shepherd's concern for the young and mothers in not accidental.

SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS

The Sacrament of Charity

Part 10 – Continuing our series of excerpts from *the post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS* (Feb. 22, 2007) by **Pope Benedict XVI**. These inspired words can be a source of meditation in preparation for Holy Mass, and/or as a thanksgiving after Holy Mass.

SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS... from **Part II:**

#64. **The Synod of Bishops asked that the faithful be helped to make their interior dispositions correspond to their gestures and words. Otherwise, however carefully planned and executed our liturgies may be, they would risk falling into a certain ritualism.** Hence the need to provide an education in Eucharistic faith capable of enabling the faithful to live personally what they celebrate.....“the best catechesis on the Eucharist is the Eucharist itself, celebrated well.” (*Propositio 19*)

#65. A convincing indication of the effectiveness of Eucharistic catechesis is surely an **increased sense of the mystery of God present** among us. This can be expressed in **concrete outward signs of reverence for the Eucharist** which the process of mystagogy should inculcate in the faithful. (*Propositio 34*) I am thinking in general of **the importance of gestures and posture**, such as kneeling during the central moments of the Eucharistic prayer.

#66. During the early phases of the reform, the inherent relationship between Mass and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was not always perceived with sufficient clarity. For example, an objection that was widespread at the time argued that the Eucharistic bread was given to us not to be looked at, but to be eaten. In light of the Church’s experience of prayer, however, **this was seen to be a false dichotomy.** As **Saint Augustine** put it: *“nemo autem illam carnem manducat, nisi prius adoraverit; peccemus non adorando – no one eats the flesh without first adoring it; we should sin were we not to adore it.”*Receiving the Eucharist means adoring Him whom we receive.....**The act of adoration outside Mass prolongs and intensifies all that takes place during the liturgical celebration itself.** Indeed, “only in adoration can a profound and genuine reception mature. *And it is precisely this personal encounter with the Lord that then strengthens the social mission contained in the Eucharist, which seeks to break down not only the walls that separate the Lord and ourselves, but also and especially the walls that separate us from one another.”* (Pope Benedict XVI’s address to the Roman Curia, Dec. 22, 2005)

#67. Wherever possible, **it would be appropriate**, especially in densely populated areas, to set aside specific churches or oratories for perpetual adoration. I also **recommend** that, in their catechetical training, and especially in their preparation for First Holy Communion, **children be taught the meaning and the beauty of spending time with Jesus**, and helped to cultivate a sense of awe before His presence in the Eucharist.

#68. I feel obliged to urge parishes and other church groups to set aside times for collective adoration. **Existing forms of Eucharistic piety retain their full value.....processions with the Blessed Sacrament, especially the traditional procession on Corpus Christi, the Forty Hours devotion,**...and other similar initiatives.

To be continued...

+MOST REV. JOSEPH F. MAGUIRE, fifth Bishop of Springfield

Please remember in your prayers the **Most Rev. Joseph F. Maguire**, the retired fifth Bishop of Springfield, who died on Nov. 23 at the age of 95.

Joseph Francis Maguire was born on Sept. 4, 1919 in Roxbury, Mass. He graduated from Boston College in 1941, and was ordained a priest on June 29, 1945. After serving as a parish priest, he became Master of Ceremonies to Richard Cardinal Cushing. During that time he was named a Monsignor. After serving as secretary to Humberto Cardinal Medeiros, Msgr. Maguire was ordained auxiliary Bishop of Boston in 1972. He was named **Coadjutor Bishop of Springfield** by Pope Paul VI in **1976**. A year later, he succeeded the Most Rev. Christopher Weldon as **Ordinary of the Diocese of Springfield with his installation on Oct. 14, 1977**. Many of our parishioners recall the joyful day of parish native son Raymond Soltys' ordination to the priesthood by Bishop Maguire on Sept. 8, 1979 in our church. Bishop Maguire submitted his resignation to Pope St. John Paul II in 1991 and **retired when the Most Rev. John Marshall was installed as his successor in Feb. 1992**.

Known as the "*People's Bishop*," Bishop Maguire remained active in the diocese as Bishop Emeritus until the last couple of years. In fact, he was Bishop Emeritus longer (22 years) than he was as Ordinary (15 years). His Funeral was held on Mon., Nov. 30 at St. Michael's Cathedral with the Pontifical Requiem Mass offered by Most Rev. Thomas Rozanski and homily preached by Bishop Emeritus Timothy McDonnell.

May Bishop Joseph Maguire rest in the peace of Christ!

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

This doctrine was defined by Pope Blessed Pius IX on Dec. 8, 1954 which states that the **Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first instance of her conception**, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, **was preserved from all stain of original sin**. This privilege has been celebrated since the early centuries of the Church.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a **holyday of obligation**. It is **also the patronal feastday of the United States of America**.

SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS