

**Divine Mercy Parish**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

5:00 PM † Frank Mille - Susan & Nancy Gaydos

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

7:30 AM † Orlando Santos - Maria Santos

10:45 AM † Joan Szymonifka - Helen Cherepon & Family

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

8:00 AM † Florence Wojciehowski - Lucy & John Palko

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

8:00 AM † Rose & Mayon Dobrowolski - Jim & Anna Maria & Matt Dobrowolski

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

8:00 AM † Edward, Jr. & Joseph Nelan - Mom, Dad & Family

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

8:00 AM † John & Helen Cheddar - Charlie & Jean Cheddar

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

8:00 AM For Our Parishioners

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

8:00 AM † James & Blanche Shallow - Niece, Irene

5:00 PM † David Rozanski - Mom & Dad

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

7:30 AM † Marianna & Czeslaw Jamiolkowski - Jamiolkowski Family

10:45 AM † Anthony Pusillo - Wife & Family

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**PRAY FOR:**

...those who have died especially: Genevieve Mynio, David Larsen

...the sick and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Marie Endress, Gabriel Hemming, Betty Snow, Sr. M. Immaculene Gudz, Alex Makwinski, Rosa Maria Santos, Bernice Erdely, Mildred Skoczypiec

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Please consider supporting our ongoing Parish Fund Raising Activity. The sale of Shop Rite gift cards earns the Parish 5% on each dollar sold. They are currently available before/after 5 pm on Saturday and 7:30 am and 10:45 am Masses. They are also available during the week at the rectory. The gift cards do not cost you any extra money to purchase. The value of your gift card at Shop Rite is the same amount that you pay. The gift cards are available in 25s, 50s, and 100s. Thank you for your continued support. WE HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE IN SALES – THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

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We have scheduled our Spring Clothing Drive for Saturday, May 5, 8 - 11:30 am. In the rectory garage we will be collecting New and "Slightly Used" (clean, unstained) clothing, linens, stuffed animals, shoes, handbags, belts in plastic garbage bags on the specific date and time! Clean out the closets and basement and attic and support the parish at the same time! Thank you for the support!

**SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK**

**SUNDAY**

Second Collection - Utilities, Catholic Spirit

**MONDAY**

No Exposition or Adoration this week!

Office Closed!

**FRIDAY**

Day of Abstinence!

Stations of the Cross - 7pm

**SUNDAY**

Second Collection - Major Repairs

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**COLLECTIONS FEBRUARY 11**

Weekly	\$1994.00
Monthly	400.00
Maintenance	1064.00
Major Repairs	155.00
Utilities	25.00

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**FOOD CERTIFICATES**

During the week of February 11 we sold \$2725 worth of ShopRite gift cards, which means our parish received \$136.25. Thank you for supporting this project!

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All are invited to spend time with Our Lord, Jesus Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament Monday - Friday, 9-11:45 am at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway. For more info call 732-529-7932 or email [evangelization@diometuchen.org](mailto:evangelization@diometuchen.org).

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The Connections Program of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen is seeking both male and female mentors to participate in one to one activities and be a role model to young people. If you live in or near Middlesex County, like having fun, have 3 hours per week and want to make a difference in a child's life please contact Jeanette at 732-646-4076 or [JCULLEN@CCDOM.ORG](mailto:JCULLEN@CCDOM.ORG).

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Pope Francis is calling for a Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace on Feb. 23, 2018 for war-torn nations, in particular the Democratic Republic of Congo and for South Sudan which are suffering protracted conflict. Our Holy Father invites all to join him. In addition to your own personal intentions that day, please consider including the Holy Father's intention to be in solidarity with all who are suffering, as well through prayer and fasting.

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*"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." - Mark 1:14*

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

# Announcements

**FROM THE PASTOR:**



The Holy Season of Lent (2018) is now four days old. We have come to the First Sunday of this Lenten season and are once again asked to reflect upon the story of the Temptation of the Lord by Satan. It would

seem that it was the leader of the fallen angels, Satan, who attacked the Lord through temptation. The chief and most evil of the devils was not leaving this task to a lesser angel. St. Mark chooses not to go into great detail about the temptations but we know from Saints Matthew and Luke that these were threefold and powerful in the attempt to draw Christ from carrying out the Father's Will.

We all experience temptations in our lives. This is the urge to either avoiding doing something good that we know we should be doing (like praying more) or the urge to do something that we know is not in accord with the Commandments and Laws of God. Sometimes the devil is the source of these temptations, sometimes it is the enticements of the world around us and sometimes it is the unique weaknesses of our own individual natures that try to cause us to sin. We must always remember: A TEMPTATION IS NOT A SIN! Sin only happens when we choose to give into or act on the temptation.



St. Alphonsus Liguori taught that when a soul is disturbed by temptation and is fearful of being drawn to sin, that soul should have recourse to the Lord and His Holy Mother. That soul should renew its determination to avoid sin, to humble itself by acknowledging its need for the Lord's help and take refuge in the arms of Him "who is Love and Mercy Itself." In this way, we acquire more spiritual strength and are united more closely with the Lord.



Acquiring more spiritual strength, becoming more united with the Lord – definitely the goals that we should set for ourselves as we enter the first full week of this Holy Lenten Season.

**Contribution Statements for 2017: Statements will be mailed by request only! Please complete the following information and place it in the collection basket. It would really help if you include a postage stamp with your request!!!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Env. # \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note: all donations received after Jan. 1 will be posted to the year 2018!**

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*Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World*

By now you have received a letter from Bishop Checchio inviting your participation in the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The diocesan ministries supported by the Appeal directly impact many of the parishioners here in Divine Mercy Parish. Your gift provides formation opportunities for our catechists, youth and young adults. Among other important ministries, your sacrificial gift supports our renewed efforts in Evangelization & Communication.

If you have yet to make your pledge to this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal, you will have the opportunity to do so next weekend, February 24/25, which has been designated as ***Bishop's Annual Appeal In-Pew Weekend***. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal to help our parish reach its goal. If we can exceed our goal, 50% of the amount collected over goal will be returned to us in the form of a parish rebate. Just as important as our financial goal is our goal of reaching **100% participation**. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

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The *Knights of Columbus Father Carey Council # 1280* will be Hosting their traditional **LENTEN FISH FRY** each Friday night during Lent beginning 2/16 thru 3/23 (**except Good Friday**), from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 164 High Street. Fish, Shrimp, Combo, or Ravioli Dinners: Salad, Clam Chowder, French Fries or Rice, Cole Slaw, homemade cake, coffee or tea. **COST:** Fish or Shrimp **\$13** for adults; **\$12** for Seniors (65+); **\$7** for children under 12. Combo **\$14** for Adults; **\$13** for Seniors (65+); **\$8** for children under 12. Ravioli **\$7** for Adults; **\$5** for children under 12. **\$1 extra for TAKE OUT.**