Divine Mercy CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Father Kenny Aquino, Pastor
Fr. Romil Aperocho, Associate Pastor
Fr. Michael Farrell, Pastor Emeritus
Fr. Larry Olszewski CSC, Assisting Priest
Jack Alexander, Deacon

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses: Mon - Fri| 8:30 AM
Confessions: Sat | 3:30 PM
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 PM
Sundays Masses: 8:00, 9:30, & 11:30 AM

PARISH STAFF

Dave Parker, DMCA Principal
parkerd@dmccs.org
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mcmahonj@divinemercychurch.org
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Jonathan Weatherford, Maintenance Manager
maintenance@divinemercychurch.org
Gayle Little, Youth Director
littleg@divinemercychurch.org

MARCH 21, 2021

Lenten and Easter Schedule

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
6:00 p.m. in the Church
March 26

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE - MARCH 23RD 7:00 PM

MARCH 23RD - 11:00 a.m.
Individual Confessions for those that are unable to drive at night.

Holy Week, Individual Confessions
April 1: 10:00 am - 12:15 pm
April 2: 10:00 am - 12:15 pm
April 3: 10:00 am - 12:15 pm

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER
Holy Thursday Mass: April 1—7:00 p.m.
Good Friday Passion: April 2—3:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil: April 3—8:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Masses—April 4
6:00 a.m. Sunrise Mass (In the Pavilion) ; 8:00 a.m. Mass ; 10:00 a.m. Mass ; 12:00 Noon Mass

Mission Statement

We, the community of Divine Mercy Parish, profess and proclaim Christ crucified, risen and alive in His Church. We invite all to a life of discipleship through worship, ongoing formation, merciful witness, and service which actively builds the Kingdom of God here on earth and by which we journey towards the eternal Kingdom in Heaven.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 2021

SUN 3/21	Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
MON 3/22	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11
TUE 3/23	Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-30
WED 3/24	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Jn 8:31-42
THR 3/25	Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9, 10, 11 [8a, 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
FRI 3/26	Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42
SAT 3/27	Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56
SUN 3/28	Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 2021

Sunday:	5th Sunday of Lent
Tuesday:	St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
Thursday:	The Annunciation of the Lord
Sunday:	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord; Holy Week begins

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

How do we convince people that God's law is written upon their hearts? God is wedded to God's people. This is a simple and fundamental fact of life. Yet, many ignore this truth and carry on as if they, or humanity as a whole, are the center of the universe. As a grain of wheat has to fall to the ground and die in order to become what it really is, we too must die to our secular images and ideas of ourselves so that we can become who God really made us to be. If all of us kept our focus on God's deep bonded love with human beings, indeed with our very self, then there would be no need to teach others this fundamental life lesson. They would simply know this truth, as Jeremiah tells us. Somehow, perhaps through original and personal sin, we have lost sight of this reality. We have lost our way and our axis. It is time to find our way back, to learn the virtue of obedience, to pay attention to what God is saying and become aware of the Divine Love that is the reason for all creation. Then, even in our darkest hour when all may seem to be lost, we can say as did Jesus, the model of obedience, "Father, glorify your name." By this perseverance, people can come to know the Lord and what God has done.

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 22nd

8:30 AM †Msgr. Martin Brendan Power
†All Souls in Purgatory
(SI) Sally Zimmermann

Tuesday, March 23rd

8:30 AM †William Fleig
†All Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, March 24th

8:30 AM †Kenneth Keater
†All Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, March 25th

8:30 AM †Rev. Sean Patrick Molloy
†Nancy Givans
†All Souls in Purgatory

Friday, March 26th

8:30 AM †Denise McCann
†All Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, March 27th

All living and deceased members of Divine Mercy Parish and:

4:30 PM †Thomas Powell
†All Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, March 28th

All living and deceased members of Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:00 AM †All Souls in Purgatory
(SI) Barry Briggs

9:30 AM †Monica Lang
†John W. Kurtz

11:30 AM †Anthony Milano

Contact Information
Church Office:
(321) 452-5955
Hours: M-F 9:00-4:00
Closed for Lunch: 12:00-1:00
Academy Office:
(321) 452-0263
Website: www.divinemercychurch.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dmccas
1940 N Courtenay Pkwy,
Merritt Island FL 32953

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

FIRST READING

All, from least to greatest, shall know me,
says the LORD,
for I will forgive their evildoing and remember
their sin no more. (Jer 31:34)

PSALM

Create a clean heart in me, O God. (Ps 51)

SECOND READING

Son though he was, he learned obedience
from what he suffered; (Heb 5:8)

GOSPEL

Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat falls to
the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much fruit. (Jn 20:24)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Any good teacher or parent will tell you that once a lesson is really learned it doesn't need to be taught again. When we internalize things we have learned, they become a part of who we are and influence how we perceive and interact with our world. The same is true for the law God has written upon our hearts. Once humanity learns this lesson, we will simply know it to be true and act accordingly. Sometimes, it is hard to get people to learn the lessons they need to learn. They are often distracted, disinterested, conflicted, misdirected, or just too stubborn and unable or unwilling to see what is right before their eyes. Understanding that God is in a loving and committed relationship with those fashioned and formed in God's own image, seems like such a simple lesson to learn. But history and experience has proven that it is not.

We struggle with faith, especially when that faith asks us to learn something very particular about ourselves. We must, like a grain of wheat, fall to the ground and die. Because God's DNA is at the very core of who we are, there are specific pearls of wisdom that must be acquired before we can live a full life. One very powerful lesson is that it is not the task of the world to tell us who we are and what has meaning, but God. For many, death is not an opportunity for greater life but a permanent ending to the life they have known. Jesus knew every dimension to what it means to be fully human because he was! He knows the joys, limitations, sorrows, frustrations, wonders, suffering, opportunities, and joys of the human experience. Jesus can teach us a wealth of knowledge and life's lessons from his example, especially obedience.

When we accept the law God has placed in our hearts and gain wisdom from it, then when we suffer we learn to listen more attentively to the Voice behind that law. We naturally flee to our Creator for inspiration, consolation, hope, direction, and comfort as we navigate through this time of darkness. We will not need to run from it, subdue it, fight it, or be overcome by it because we will know, having internalized this profound lesson before, that God will bring new life. God's law is love and love never fails. Even in the moments of Jesus' deepest despair, he glorified the name of his Father. What he learned allowed him to put everything in perspective and be obedient to the tender, loving Voice that echoed within. As Lent quickly winds down, may we learn the same! Then, may we gain the fortitude and wisdom to help others see what is right before their eyes.

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WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PARISH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Sunrise Mass

Easter Sunrise Mass will be held in the Pavilion in order to accommodate as many as possible and still follow social distancing guidelines.

Special Collection

The Special Collection this weekend is for Catholic Relief Services.

Long Sleeve Drive

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting long sleeve shirts during Lent. The drive will begin on Ash Wednesday and end on Holy Thursday. The shirts will be given to the Farmworker Association. These workers need long sleeve shirts for their work in the fields. Please assist us to assist them. Thank you!!!

Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed for the Easter Weekend on Friday, April 2nd and Monday, April 4th. Thank you.

Retrouvaille

Sometimes things can go very wrong in a marriage. ***Retrouvaille*** *is a program to help heal and support married couples experiencing difficulties, couples broken, lonely and hurting. It's also for couples who have separated or divorced and want to try again.* Our next program is *at* **San Pedro Center, Winter Park, April 16-18, 2021.** *For more information and registration, call* **352-274-4614**. ***All calls and names held in strictest confidence. We invite you to visit our website at Retrouvaille.org.***

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a special intention please contact the Parish Office.

You can give to the church offertory now by simply sending a text from your phone!
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DIVINE MERCY COMMUNITY PRAYER CHAIN

Please call Julie Dunn at 321-432-8548 for special prayer requests.

Please pray for our parishioners who are ill at home, in the hospital or nursing homes, and for those whose names we do not have.

This week we remember in prayer: Carmen Hernandez, Darlene Seberry. Christine Dennison, Brad Gittings, Paul Aquino, Dorothy Scherff, Diana Walker, Kathie McConaughey, and Fr. Kenny.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

HELPLINE: (321) 459-2060
Office open:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Today's Gospel is about following Jesus, "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will be my servant also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor". While we may not be able to physically follow Jesus as in biblical times, we are able to follow Him spiritually. By helping the neighbor in need through gifts and prayer your gifts to the food chest and poor box make you a follower of Christ and His Father will honor you. Thank you.

Food Requests: Pasta, Tomato Sauce, and Baked Beans

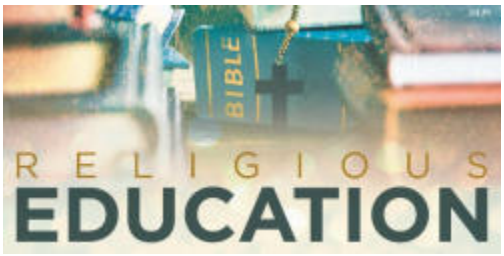
Reminder: When donating food items, please check expiration dates and be sure food is current.

OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida

Assessment: $223,707
Pledged to Date: $106,181
Envelopes: 256
Percentage to our goal: 47%
Remaining balance: $117,526

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY



. Contact Mary Frances Coburn in the parish office if you have any questions
maryfrances@divinemercychurch.org

Religious Education Sacramental Preparation Schedule 2020 - 2021

All Sacramental Preparation sessions will be held in the Dome on Sundays from 9:30AM – 11:00AM. Meetings are for parents, guardians, and students.

First Communion

Sunday April 18, 2021 Session
Tuesday April 27, 2021 Rehearsal 6:00PM in the Church
May 1, 2021 First Communion Mass 10:00AM

If you are looking to have your child baptized in the church please contact Mary Frances Coburn in the parish office (321) 452-5955 or maryfrances@divinemercychurch.org

LIFETEEN AND EDGE

Lifeteen (grades 9-12) meets every Sunday, at 6pm-8pm in the dome. Yes, masks are required. Please check church website for registration packets. If you are still not attending live events, no problem. We will also be meeting virtually on zoom. Please email littleg@divinemercychurch.org to receive an invitation.

Edge (7th& 8th graders) Meet virtually on Zoom on Wednesday evenings. Please check church website for registration packets. Please email littleg@divinemercychurch.org to receive an invitation.
If you are not receiving texts with updates on our youth programs, please send an email with your cell numbers to: littleg@divinemercychurch.org , so we can add you to our contacts.

The entire calendar for the year is available on the church website.

If you are an adult interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Mary Frances Coburn in the Parish Office.

FORMED—
FORMED is a website full of excellent Catholic content. Log in to *divinemercyfl.formed.org*

DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Registration is now open for the 2021-2022 school year! Visit our website at dmccs.org and take a virtual tour of our wonderful school, or give us a call at 321-452-0263

Easter Eggstravaganza is March 28
9:30-11:00 a.m. in the DMCA Pavilion

Come Join us for this Annual Fun Family Event!

Featuring:

The Easter Bunny

Crafts and Easter Egg Trail

(a different version of Egg Hunt)

Photos with the Easter Bunny

Enjoy Pancake Breakfast prepared by the Knights of Columbus

Eat at the Pavilion; Take home; or Picnic by your car

9:00 – 11:00a.m.

$5 per person

Children 2 and under are free

(cost is for breakfast) Social Distancing and Masks are required throughout the event

Thank you to all who helped make our first Online Silent Auction such a success. Without the help of our wonderful Gala Team this wouldn't have happened. Thanks to the support of school families, parishioners, family, and friends our Academy was able to raise more than $14,000 this year!

Thank You!

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