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

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*SEPTEMBER 19, 2021*

*MASS SCHEDULE*

Daily Masses: Mon - Sat| 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*

**Janet McMahon,**  
**Operations Manager**  
mcmahonj@divinemerchchurch.org

**Mary Frances Coburn,**  
**Director of Faith Formation**  
maryfrances@divinemerchchurch.org

**Carol Ponder, Director of Music & Liturgy**  
carol@divinemerchchurch.org

**Danielle Cardamone,**  
**Communications**  
cardamoned@divinemerchchurch.org

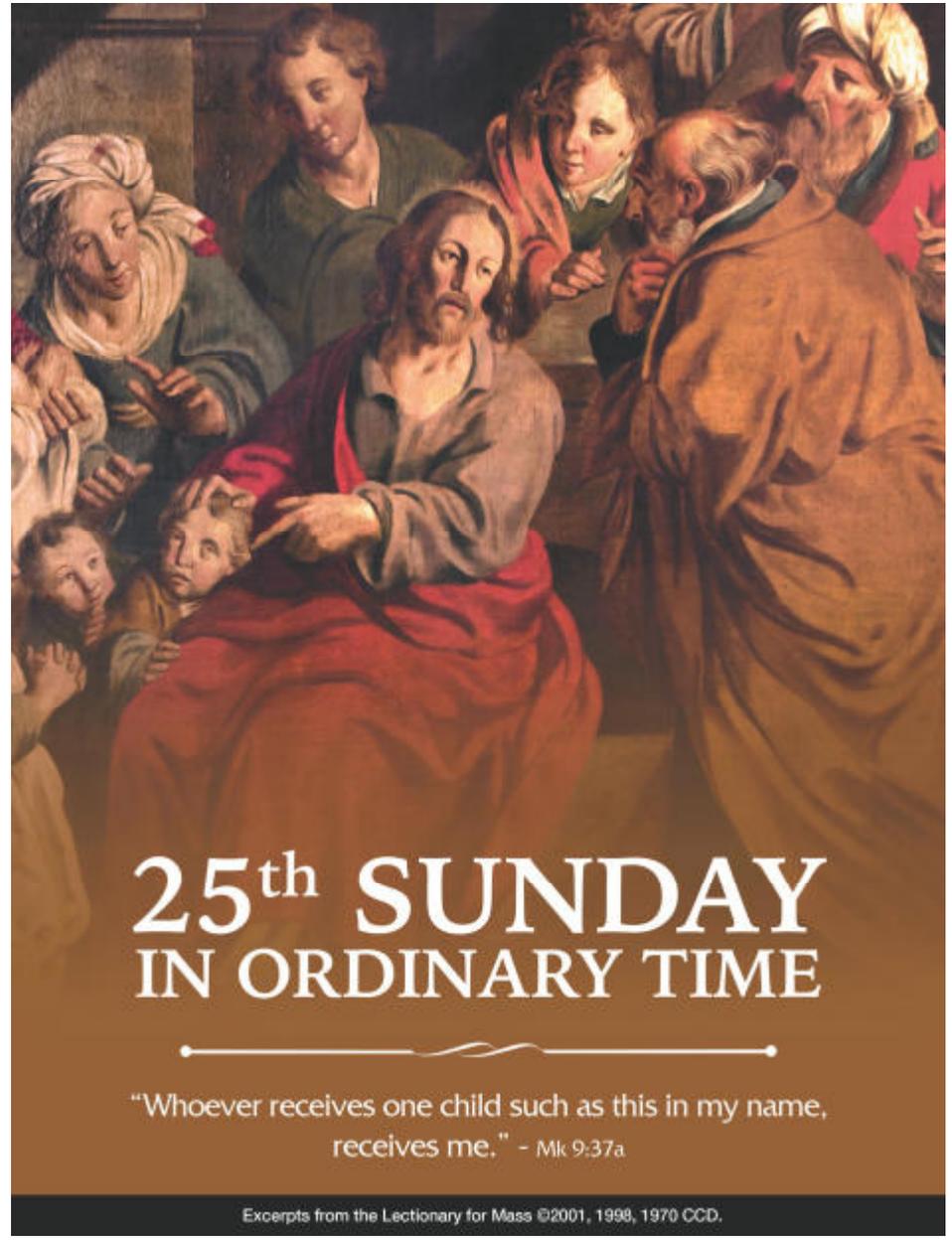
**Lynne Pritts, Office Manager**  
lynne@divinemerchchurch.org

**Robin Lake, Volunteer Coordinator**  
volunteers@divinemerchchurch.org

**Carol Knouse, Business Administrator & Bereavement Coordinator**  
knousec@divinemerchchurch.org

**Jonathan Weatherford,**  
**Maintenance Manager**  
maintenance@divinemerchchurch.org

**Gayle Little, Youth Director**  
littleg@divinemerchchurch.org



**25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me.” - Mk 9:37a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

*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.

# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

## MASS INTENTIONS

*Monday, September 20th*

8:30 AM (SI) St. Vincent DePaul Society

*Tuesday, September 21st*

8:30 AM (SI) Marie Benzon

*Wednesday, September 22nd*

8:30 AM †Walenty Chrostowski

*Thursday, September 23rd*

8:30 AM †Reverend Louis Bamundo  
†Keri Morrissey

*Friday, September 24th*

8:30 AM †Tara Harpel

*Saturday, September 25th*

All living and deceased members of Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:30 AM (SI) Missy Brown (Happy Birthday)

4:30 PM †Thiagaraj Nevis  
†Suder & Jones Families  
†Norma Jean Miller

*Sunday, September 26th*

All living and deceased members of Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:00 AM †Ron Cowart

9:30 AM †John W. Kurtz  
†Charles Scherff

11:30 AM †Don Cremins  
†Ron Caron  
†Phil Duncan

## Readings for the Week of September 19, 2021

**Sunday:** Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37  
**Monday:** Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Lk 8:16-18  
**Tuesday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13  
**Wednesday:** Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/Lk 9:1-6  
**Thursday:** Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9  
**Friday:** Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22  
**Saturday:** Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45  
**Next Sunday:** Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

## Observances of the Week of September 19, 2021

**Sunday:** 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday  
**Monday:** Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Priest, and Paul Chõng Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs  
**Tuesday:** St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist  
**Wednesday:**  
**Thursday:** St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest  
**Friday:**  
**Saturday:** BVM  
**Next Sunday:** 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Readings for this Sunday

### First Reading:

Let us condemn him to a shameful death;  
for according to his own words, God will take care of him. (Wis 2:20)

### Psalm:

The Lord upholds my life. (Ps 54)

### Second Reading:

And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace  
for those who cultivate peace. (Jas 3:18)

### Gospel:

"The Son of Man is to be handed over to men  
and they will kill him,  
and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise." (Mk 9:31)

## Contact Information

Church Office:  
(321) 452-5955

Hours: M-Th: 9:00-4:00  
F: 9:00 - 12:00

Closed for Lunch: 12:00-1:00

Website: [www.divinemercychurch.org](http://www.divinemercychurch.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/dmccas](http://www.facebook.com/dmccas)  
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Merritt Island FL 32953

## 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: Dorothy Scherff, Diana Walker, Nick Scherr, John Roblin, Richard Beebe, Barbara & Joe Brown, Norm Hausknecht, Tony Pino, Michael Artusa, Yahima Gonzalez Olivera, and Sarah Clemons.

# WORSHIP AND MEDITATION

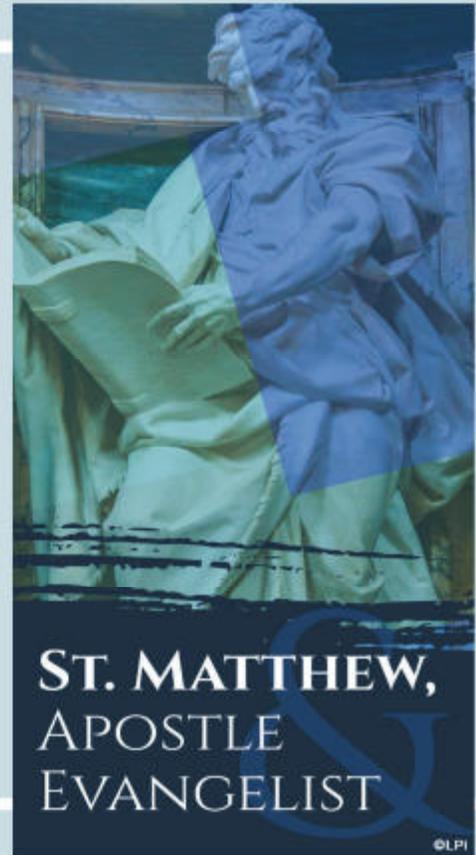
## GOSPEL MEDITATION

There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy.

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## REFLECT

### FIRST READING

The Wisdom writer reveals the mentality of the wicked, characterized by revenge and treachery. How best should people of faith respond to such behavior?

### SECOND READING

James offers insight into the human condition as it relates to how often our ambitions and passions can lead us astray. How do you keep yourself grounded in holy intentions?

### GOSPEL READING

We hear today how the disciples were afraid to ask Jesus questions and reluctant to share with him some of their tensions. Why do you sometimes hold back from opening up to the Lord?

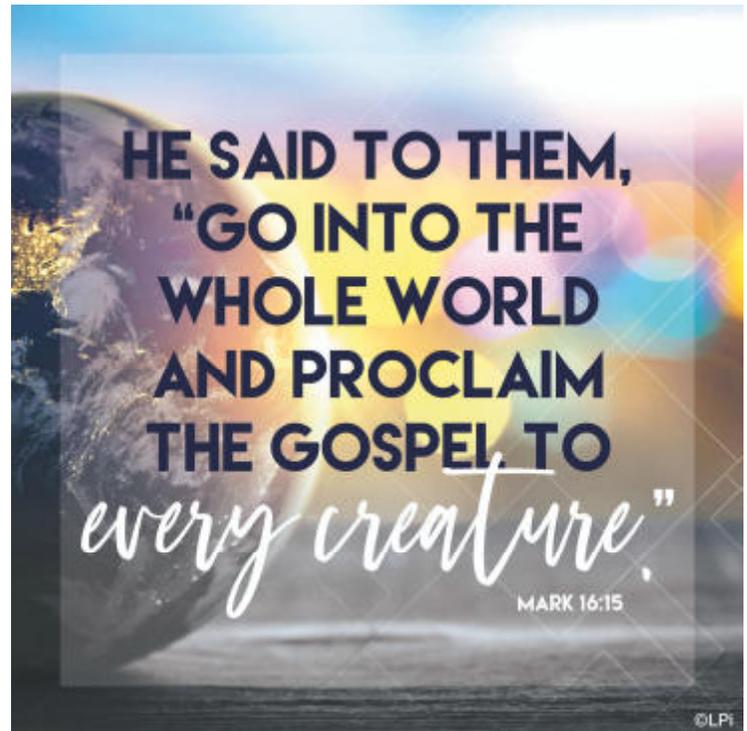
## WORSHIP AND MEDITATION

### *Live the Liturgy*

#### Inspiration for the week

What does it mean to be God's servant? In essence, it means being willing to call the world back to its childlike innocence, showing all that a joy-filled playfulness has a place in life. The servant of God serves to foster the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom is not a sterile, unhappy, strict, and rigid reality. It is quite the opposite. It is a kingdom devoid of jealousy and selfish ambition where peace, gentleness, mercy, and good works abound. To be a servant of this kingdom means that selfish ambition must be set aside so that others can be first, and justice pursued at all cost. The prayer of this kind of servant is not focused on self-advancement or need. Rather, the servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. In this way, we who are servants can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led by God. We can then be used to lay the cornerstones of the kingdom: faith, hope, and love. It is upon these that God's firm dwelling is built. Accepting this call may place us last in the world's eyes but first in God's.

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*Taizé Prayer is a simple, meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ's presence around and within us.*

Repetitive songs, prayerful silence, and short readings guide the focus of the prayer in a candle-lit environment.

Please come and join us in experiencing this wonderful time of prayer on the evening of **Wednesday, September 29 at 6:15 p.m.**

### *When We Sing, We Pray Twice*

All children who love to sing are invited to join the Divine Mercy Children's Choir! We meet in the church every Wednesday to practice from 7:15—7:45 p.m. (following Faith Formation class) The choir is open to all children 2nd through 8th grade. Every child who enjoys singing is welcome. Auditions are not required. Information and registration forms can be found at the kiosk or online at the church website. There is no fee to join. The choir will sing at 11:30 Mass on the first Sunday of every month.



# WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PARISH

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Retrouvaille Retreat*

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, September 24-26, 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](http://Retrouvaille.org).

### *Pet Blessing*

All creatures great and small are welcome on Sunday, October 3rd at 6:00 pm in the courtyard. Please crate or leash your pet. Social distancing will be in place.



## OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida

Assessment: \$223,707

Pledged to Date: \$204,366

Envelopes: 450

Percentage to our goal: 91%

Remaining balance: \$19,341

As of: 9/3/2021



### **Endow – Educating the Nature and Dignity Of Women**

Women of all ages and stages of life are invited to a 10 week study on St. Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women where he upholds a woman's distinct place in the family, the church, and in today's society. Connect with other women in faith and friendship as we engage in lively group discussion on topics of Catholic teaching, church history and sacred scripture.

October 5<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Meets in the Annex (formerly the school) on Tuesday mornings from 9 am – 11 am. You may purchase the book by going to the website:

<https://endow-groups.myshopify.com/products/letter-to-women>

Please sign up at the Kiosk or contact Mary Frances Coburn ([maryfrances@divinemercurychurch.org](mailto:maryfrances@divinemercurychurch.org)) for more information.

### **SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

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As a parish your generosity is unbounded. You may wonder at times where your donations go. This is a very brief overview of how your donations help those in need: Every Mon, Wed and Fri, caseworkers answer phone calls or assist with other referrals to provide bags of food, toiletries, diapers if needed, contact FPL, water and gas companies to keep services from being shut off, work with a local pharmacy to pay for medications, provide bus passes for those without transportations, coordinate with apartment managers to help with rent to prevent evictions and homelessness, find furniture and other household items, and make referrals to other agencies when we are unable to help. Frequently between phone days, members take calls to help with homelessness and other emergencies. Without your generous donations, none of this would be possible. Thank you.

*Food Requests:* Pasta, Tomato Sauce & Baked Beans

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

### **Knights of Columbus**

### **OKTOBERFEST**

**Saturday, October 2, 2021**



**St. John the Evangelist Parish Hall, Viera**

**Traditional German Music**

**Social Hour @ 6:00 pm**

**Dinner @ 7:00 pm \$25/person**

**For tickets contact: John Schantzen (321) 394-6685**



Please pray for the souls of our Parish Family who have gone home to the Lord and for their families who are mourning:

***Carolyn Strickland***

***4/12/33—9/3/21***



*Altar flowers this weekend are generously gifted by:*  
**Divine Mercy CCW**

# FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

## KID'S CORNER



### Sharing the Gospel

Even though they were friends, sometimes the disciples fought with each other. In today's Gospel reading, they were fighting over who was the most important. All twelve of them wanted to be number one-the best disciple. Then Jesus told them a secret. The best disciple is the one who helps other people.

### Prayer

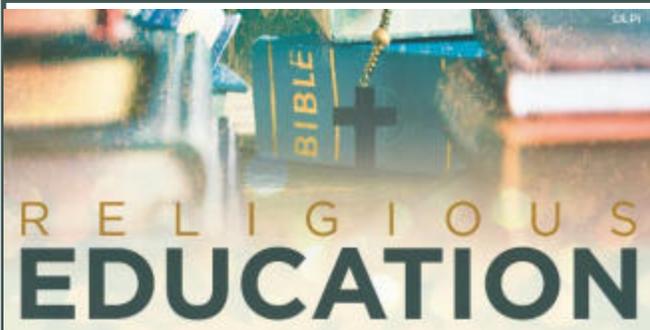
Dear God, when I am tempted to fight with my friends, show me ways to help them instead.

### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself helping someone who is younger than you.

### Mission for the Week

Ask your family members how you can help each of them this week. When you help them with a cheerful heart, God smiles.



**Religious Education Classes** for grades Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade has begun. Classes meet every Wednesday evening from 6 - 7:15 PM.

Religious Education for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders is called **Edge** and those sessions also meet on Wednesday evenings from 6 - 7:15PM

**LifeTeen** is the Program for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and they meet every Sunday evening from 6 - 8PM

### Preparation Classes for Sacraments are as follows:

First Reconciliation - October 17 and December 5

Confirmation - November 14, January 16, February 6, February 27

First Communion - February 20 and April 17

These are all Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 11:00 in the Dome for parents and students.

Registration packets for all grades can be picked up in the Narthex after all Masses. Registration is also available on the parish website:  
[www.divinemerchchurch.org](http://www.divinemerchchurch.org).

### FORMED—

FORMED is a website full of excellent Catholic content. Log in to [divinemerchchurch.org](http://divinemerchchurch.org)

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

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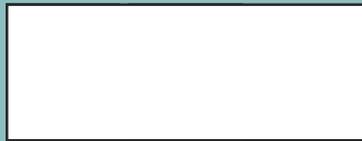
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