



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

www.divinemercurychurch.org www.facebook.com/dmccas

DECEMBER 26, 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

Carol Knouse,
Operations Manager
 knousec@divinemercurychurch.org

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

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

Danielle Cardamone,
Communications
 cardamoned@divinemercurychurch.org

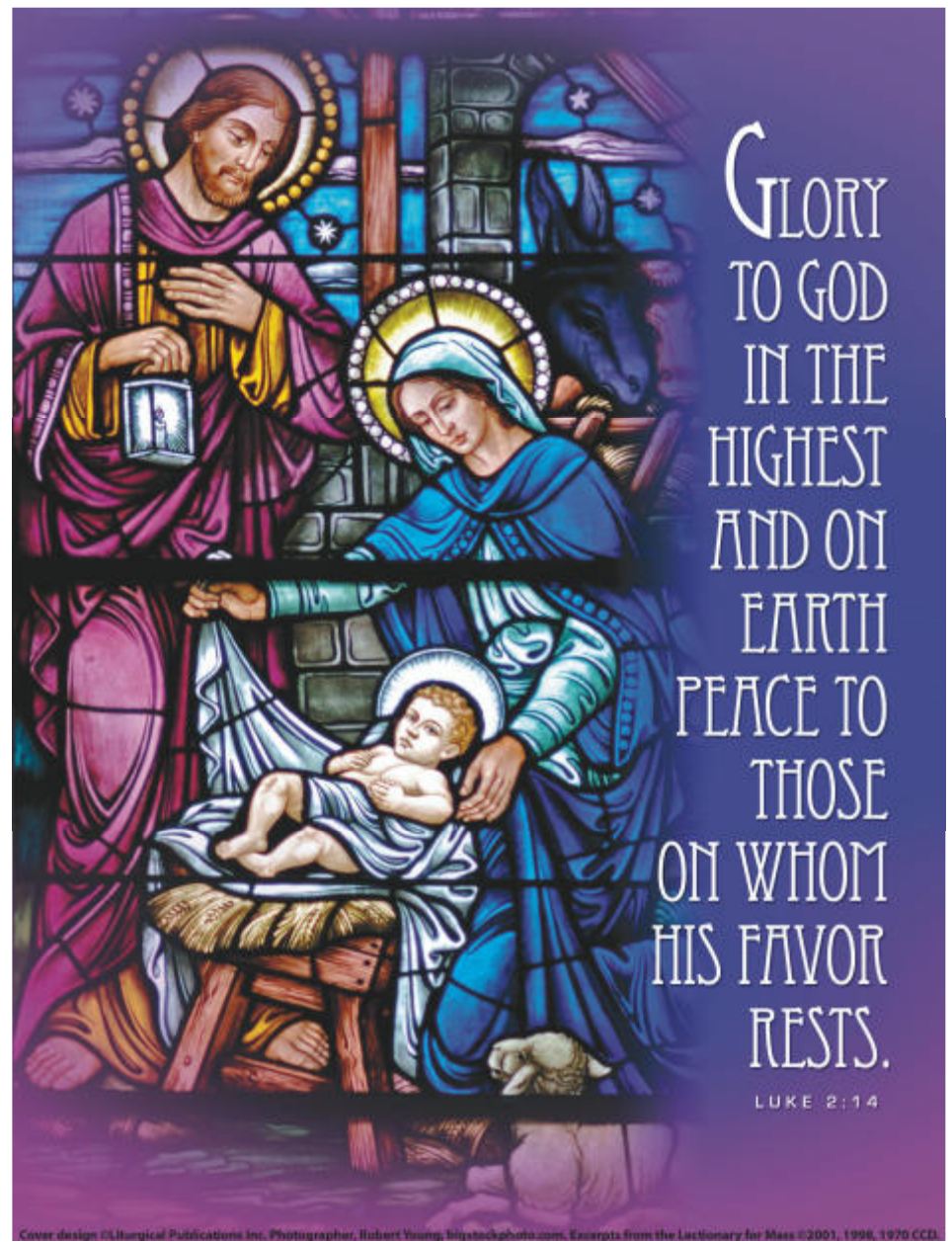
Lynne Pritts, Office Manager
 lynne@divinemercurychurch.org

Robin Lake, Volunteer Coordinator
 volunteers@divinemercurychurch.org

Jonathan Weatherford,
Maintenance Manager
 maintenance@divinemercurychurch.org

Gayle Little, Youth Director
 littleg@divinemercurychurch.org

Nancy Smith, Bereavement Coordinator
 bereavementministry@divinemercurychurch.org



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, December 27th

8:30 AM †Rita Coyle
†Sophie Blasczyk

Tuesday, December 28th

8:30 AM †Anida Arsenault
†Hunter Buckles

Wednesday, December 29th

8:30 AM †Fred Papineau
†All Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, December 30th

8:30 AM †Henry Champagne
†Doyle McCormick, Jr.

Friday, December 31st

8:30 AM †Junius Horne
(SI) Tabitha Buchanan
(Healing)
4:30 PM †Barbara Smith
(SI) Joanne (Healing)

Saturday, January 1st

All living and deceased members of
Divine Mercy Parish and:

10:00 AM (SI) Kathy Wulf
(SI) Jerry Lake

4:30 PM †The deceased
members of the
McAuley Family
†Laura Miller

Sunday, January 2nd

All living and deceased members of
Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:00 AM †Dolores Stephan
9:30 AM †Bryan Miller
†Brandon Liebler
11:30 AM †Hunter Buckles

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
1940 N Courtenay Pkwy,
Merritt Island FL 32953

Readings for the Week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/
Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a,
5-6/Mt 2:1-12

GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.



There will be a Funeral Mass for James (Jim) Beardall on
Monday, December 27th at 11:30 AM in the church.

New Ornament Tradition

Starting this year we are beginning a new tradition. For those that would like to, please bring an ornament for our tree in the narthex and somewhere on the ornament write your family name. After the season (Jan 9) choose a different ornament to take home. Then pray for that family all year as another family prays for yours!

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD."
(1 Sm 1:27-28)

PSALM:

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. (Ps 84)

SECOND READING:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. (1 Jn 3:1)

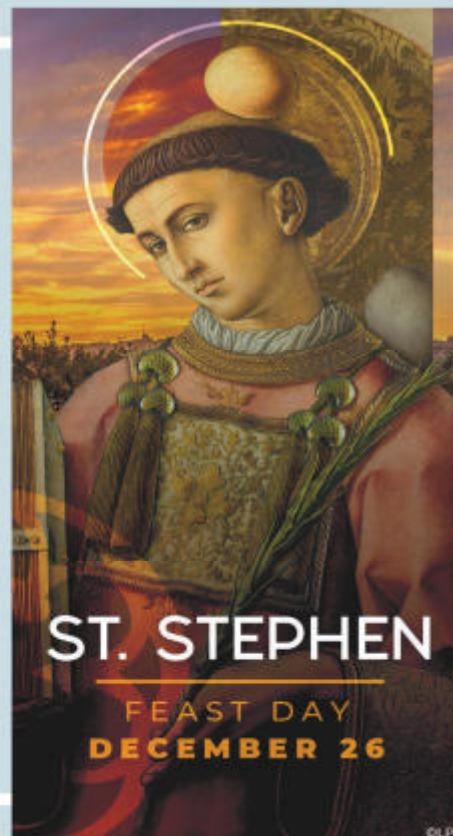
GOSPEL:

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Lk 2:46)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD
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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

Sunday: The Holy Family
Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
Saturday: New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace
Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church



Saint of the Week

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

WHAT'S GOING ON



REMEMBER *in your prayers*

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." (James 5:16) Please pray one "Our Father", one "Hail Mary" and one "Glory Be" for our fellow parishioners in need of our prayers.

Tabitha Buchanan
John Bonavito
Dot Buckley

Curt Anderholm
Chad Little

Claire Ingino
Susan Person

Michael Cherup
Teresa Cherup

Please call the Parish Office at 321-452-5955 should you wish to add yourself or a loved one to our prayer section of the bulletin.

NO Coffee and Sweet Treats

Due to the holiday we will not be having coffee and sweet treats after the Masses this weekend and next weekend. It will return January 9th along with wine and cheese (after 11:30).

Solemnity of Mary Masses

The Masses for the Solemnity of Mary will be on Friday, December 31st (Vigil) at 4:30 PM and Saturday, January 1st at 10:00 AM.



From Fr. Kenny, Fr. Romil, Fr. Farrell, Fr. Larry, Deacon Jack, and all the Parish Staff: We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, December 27th

8:30 AM Daily Mass

Tuesday, December 28th

8:30 AM Daily Mass
6:00 PM SVDP Meeting
6:30 PM **NO** Chorale Practice

Wednesday, December 29th

8:30 AM Daily Mass
1:00 PM Senior Games
6:00 PM **NO** Religious Education or EDGE

Thursday, December 30th

8:30 AM Daily Mass
7:00 PM **NO** Contemporary Choir Practice

Friday, December 31st

8:30 AM Daily Mass
4:30 PM Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass

Saturday, January 1st—Solemnity of Mary

10:00 AM Solemnity of Mary Mass
3:30 PM Confessions (CHPL)
4:30 PM Epiphany Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 2nd

8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:30 AM Masses

8:00 AM **NO** Coffee and Sweet treats or Wine and Cheese this weekend. Will resume Jan 9th (with Wine and Cheese after 11:30 Mass)

8:30 AM RCIA
6:00 PM **NO** Youth Group

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



A blessed Christmas to all – as Vincentians we pray – “may we share the joy of Christ with everyone”, “may we bring the hope of Christ to those most in need”, “may we bring the peace of Christ to our family and our world”. We are also celebrating the feast of the Holy Family, may your family be blessed as we strive to help families in need through your generous gifts to the Food Chest and Poor Box, thank you!

Food Requests: We will be welcoming a New Year and counting the blessings we have received from the Divine Mercy Parish. Please keep in mind that our requests for food for the community is not just on holidays. Food insecurity is an everyday occurrence! Please continue your food donations and help us reach out to those in need. Food bins will continue to be in place at the entrance to the church. Wishing All Divine Mercy Parishioners and their families “A Happy & Blessed New Year 2022!

DIVINE MERCY COMMUNITY PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS



Our Prayer Chain can be reached by calling Julie Dunn at 321-432-8548.

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.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PARISH



Thank you to the following parishioners for their contribution
towards the Christmas Poinsettias.



Mr. (Mrs.) James & Linda Adriansen
Ms. Cara Arida
Mrs. Carol Beebe
Mr. Gary Block
Mrs. Jackie Booth
Mr. (Mrs.) James & Marion Brady
Mrs. Dorothea Buckley
Mrs. Kathleen Burke
Mr. (Mrs.) Thaddeus & Elizabeth Chapa
Mr. (Mrs.) Kazimierz & Grazyna Cisowski
Ms. Sheila Clayton
Mr. Michael Kemper & Kerry Conner
Mrs. Peggy Cotner
Mrs. Sally Ann Desantis
Ms. Eve DiPasquale
Mr. (Mrs.) Daniel & Mary Ellen DiQuollo
Mr. Gerald Donahue
Mrs. Florence Dressler
Mrs. Rita Dutton
Mr. (Mrs.) Lee & Rosemary Earley
Mrs. Caroline Faron
Ms. Donna Feller
Mrs. Helen Fournier
Mr. Allen Guse
Mrs. Delia Helms
Mr. (Mrs.) George & Jean Herron
Mr. (Mrs.) Charlie & Hanh Pham Hoang
Mrs. Jane Huff
Mr. (Mrs.) Paul & Barbara Julian
Mr. (Mrs.) Douglas & Hilda Knight
Mr. William Lawlor
Ms. Marilyn DiBenedetto
Mr. (Mrs.) Le H & Dieuhuong Le
Mr. Michael Leppert
Mr. (Mrs.) Perry & Jeand'arc Lewis

Mrs. Patricia Lowney
Mr. (Mrs.) Ken & Linda Madyda
Mrs. Patricia Maitner
Mr. (Mrs.) Charles & Jacquelin Mead
Mr. Steven Menichino
Mr. (Mrs.) Istvan & Marjorie Misits
Mrs. Marlene Mitchum
Ms. Roseann Moore
Ms. Sandra Mozart
Mrs. Christine Neilson
Mrs. Maureen Ovington
Mr. (Mrs.) Duc & Nhung Pham Vu
Mr. (Mrs.) Hollis & June Rodriguez
Mr. (Mrs.) Sal & Margaret Romano
Mr. Joseph Rossi
Mr. (Mrs.) Joseph & Lily Runyon
Mr. (Mrs.) Robert & Douie Sampson
Mr. (Mrs.) Al & Sue Schmidt
Ms. Jennifer Skawinski
Mr. (Mrs.) Kenneth & Barbara Smedley
Mr. (Mrs.) Russ & Gail Smith
Mr. Joseph Smith, Jr.
Mr. (Mrs.) Neil & Cassie Spears
Mrs. Nancy Steele
Mr. (Mrs.) Robert & Kim Thanh Benyon
Mr. Harold Tierney
Ms. Irene Tolbert
Ms. Patricia Tompkins
Mr. (Mrs.) Larry & Frances Torchia
Mr. (Mrs.) Paul & Kimberly Trapp
Mr. (Mrs.) Jim & Kathie Underwood
Mr. (Mrs.) Brian & Linda Wheaton—Sanko
Mr. (Mrs.) Robert & Katherine Wise
Mr. (Mrs.) Sam & Eileen Zerilli

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

KID'S CORNER



Sharing the Gospel

When Jesus traveled to Jerusalem as a 12-year-old young man, he felt completely at home in the Temple. He enjoyed talking to the teachers about his Father in heaven. His questions and his answers showed how much he loved God.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to feel at home in my church like Jesus did.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself learning about God with your teacher.

Mission for the Week

Help visitors to your church feel welcomed. As a family or as a class, make cards for visitors, asking them to come back.



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

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

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

Preparation Classes for Sacraments are as follows:

Confirmation - January 16, February 6, February 27

First Communion - February 20 and March 27

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.divinemercurychurch.org.

FORMED—

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Log in to divinemercuryfl.formed.org

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

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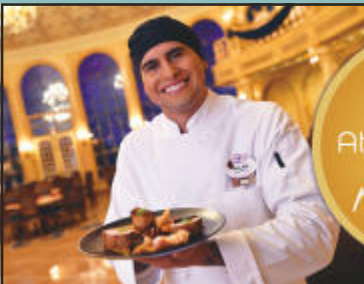
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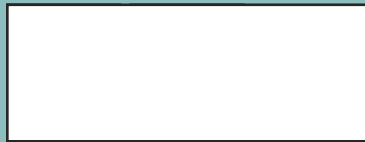
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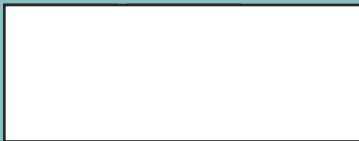


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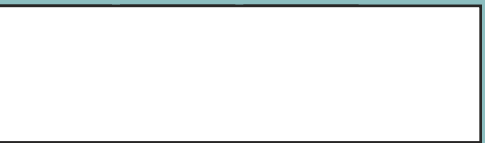
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