



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

www.divinemercychurch.org www.facebook.com/dmccas

JANUARY 2, 2022

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,
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knousec@divinemercychurch.org

Mary Frances Coburn,
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maryfrances@divinemercychurch.org

Carol Ponder, Director of Music & Liturgy
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Danielle Cardamone,
Communications
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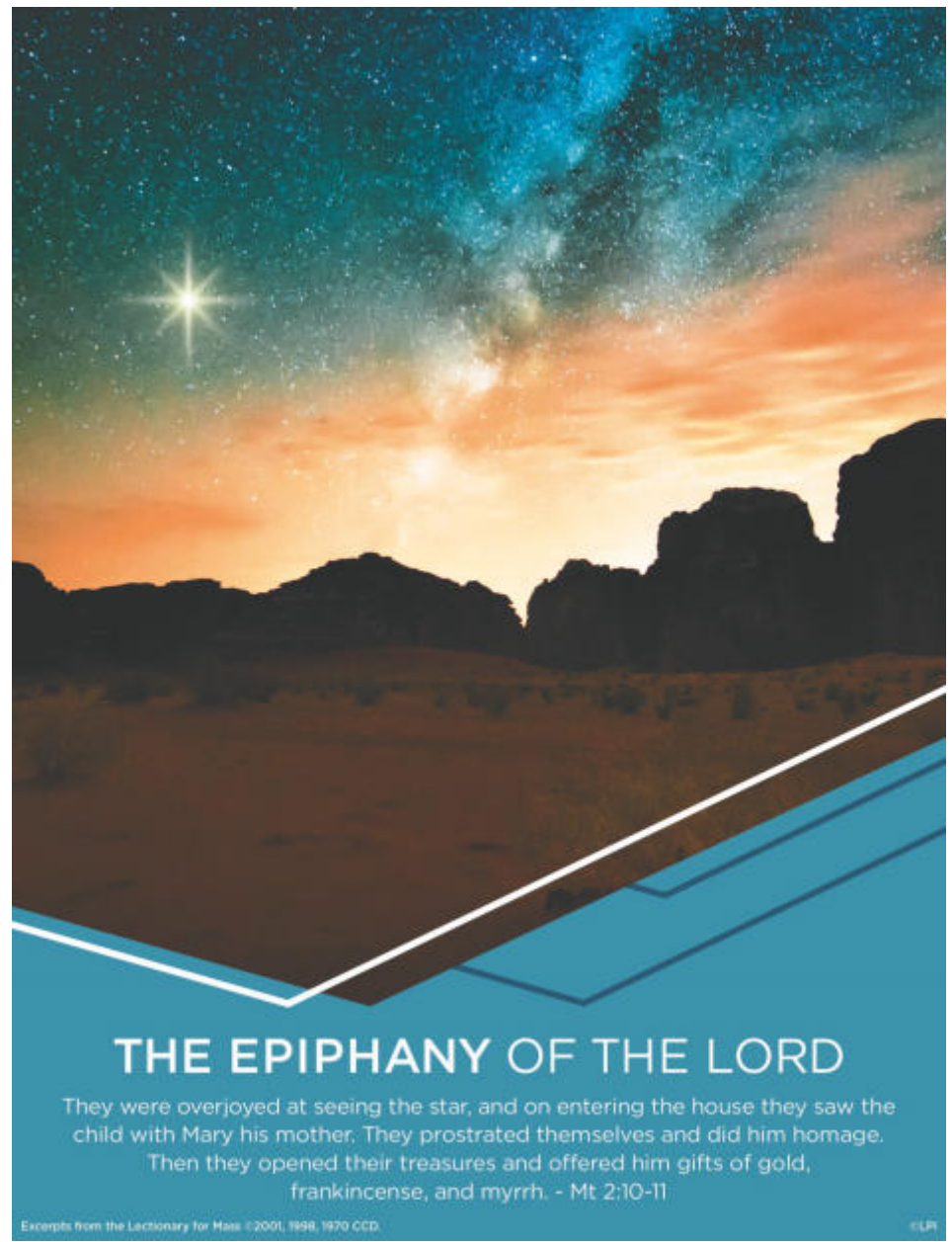
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Maintenance Manager
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Gayle Little, Youth Director
littleg@divinemercychurch.org

Nancy Smith, Bereavement Coordinator
bereavementministry@divinemercychurch.org



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectorary 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, January 3rd

8:30 AM †Joyce Burke Welch

Tuesday, January 4th

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

Wednesday, January 5th

8:30 AM †Judith Rigby

Thursday, January 6th

8:30 AM (SI) Brendan Miller
(SI) Josh McAuley

Friday, January 7th

8:30 AM †Christie Dawn Romino
†Mary Levendusky

Saturday, January 8th

All living and deceased members of
Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:30 AM †Marty and Tom
Kurowsky

4:30 PM †George Shea
†Richard Dwyer

Sunday, January 9th

All living and deceased members of
Divine Mercy Parish and:

8:00 AM †Nancy Givans
†Richard Williams

9:30 AM †Barbara Smith
†Joseph & Sybil Pino

11:30 AM †Isabelly Verdier
(SI) Joanne (Healing)

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

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 January 2, 2022

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

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

GOSPEL MEDITATION

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

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:

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

PSALM:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

SECOND READING:

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

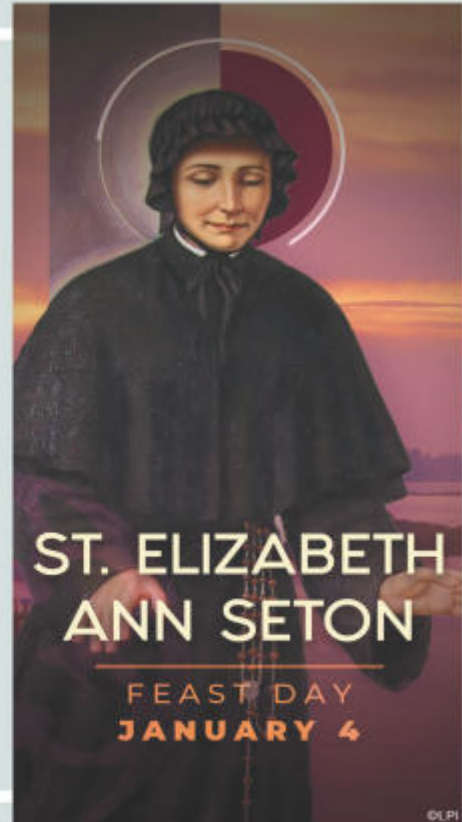
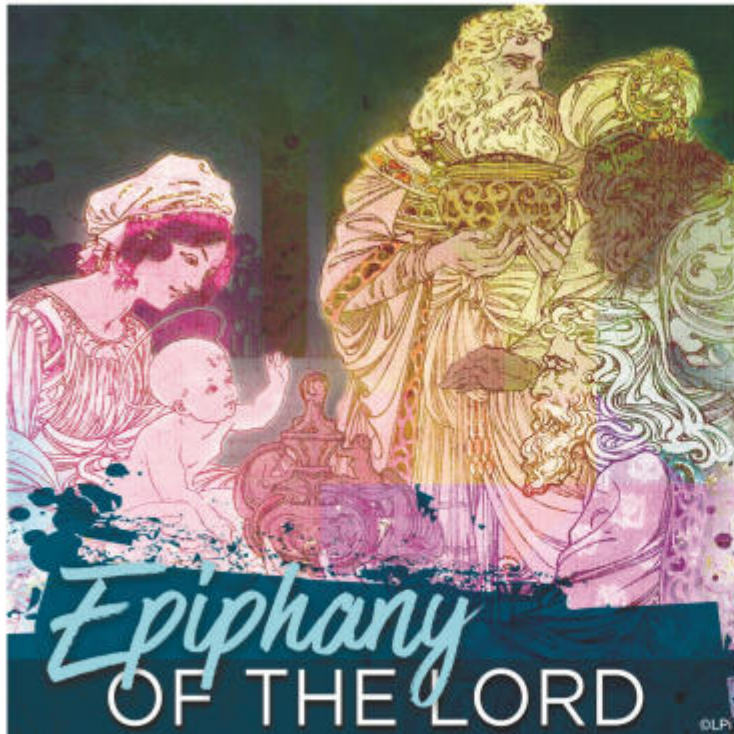
GOSPEL:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

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.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2022

- Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Monday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Wednesday: St. John Neumann, Bishop
Thursday: St. André Bessette, Religious
Friday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord



Saint of the Week

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint."

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).

Special Collection

Next weekend the Special Collection at all Masses will be for Seminarians.



Vera Stenger is stepping down in her role as Lector Ministry Coordinator. Vera has served for many years with dedication and commitment to excellence. The high standards of the proclamation of the Word at Divine Mercy owes so much to Vera. Thank you for your service, leadership and the example you set.

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, January 3rd

8:30 AM Daily Mass
10:00 AM Anne's Angels

Tuesday, January 4th

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

Wednesday, January 5th

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

Thursday, January 6th

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

Friday, January 7th

8:30 AM Daily Mass
9:00 AM First Friday Adoration until 1:00 PM

Saturday, January 8th

8:30 AM Daily Mass
3:30 PM Confessions (CHPL)
4:30 PM Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 9th

8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:30 AM Masses
8:00 AM Coffee and Sweet treats
8:30 AM RCIA
12:30 PM Wine and Cheese with Coffee and Sweet Treats
6:00 PM **NO** Youth Group

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Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany. The Magi find the newborn king and offer Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Today, our gifts are the more practical kind – food, money, support and prayer. As we offer them to the new born king they become a miracle for those in need. Thank you for your generosity during the Christmas season. Your gifts gave hope and happiness to many.

Food Requests: Peanut Butter & Jelly, Canned Fruit & Cereal

Did you know that the SVdP Pantry reaches out to our neighbors with more than just Food? We also provide toiletries and some clothing to those in need. Can you donate new socks or clean tee shirts for homeless men or women? We also need shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Hotel sizes are great! For the sake of the environment how about recycling paper bags and shopping bags with us. All can be placed in our food bins.

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



Jane Blaue was our winner for the Youth Group 50/50 Raffle! The winnings she received (as well as the youth) came out to \$3,825!!! Jane also generously donated a portion of her winnings back to the youth group!

MEN'S CAMPING RETREAT w Fr. Leo Hodges

Would you like to join a group of men on a noble spiritual quest from the afternoon of January 21 through the early afternoon of the 23rd. Tents provided and hot water too, all that is needed is a beginner's mind and a willing spirit. For more information, please contact Fr. Leo Hodges at frleo@standrew-orlando.org, or contact Tom Crowell at [\(321\) 432-3342](tel:(321)432-3342) for more information.



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

Jan Scherr
1/24/1940—12/16/2021

Let us remember our deceased Diocesan Priests whose anniversary of their passing is during this month of January
January 1, 2021 – Rev. Eamon Tobin
January 4, 2021 – Rev. Luiz Bastos
January 8, 1975 – Rev. Hugh Flynn
January 13, 1982 – Rev. William Holmes
January 13, 2015 – Rev. Mark Wegg
January 16, 1988 – Rev. Michael Flynn
January 23, 1972—Rev. Michael Reynolds
January 27, 2007—Rev. James F. Edwards
January 30, 2016—Rev. Peter Quinn

**RETROUVAILLE**
A LIFE LINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

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 begins in Winter Park **January 28-30, 2022**. Not counseling or group therapy. 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**

I would like to take this time to extend my deepest appreciation for the countless people who generously give of their time, talent and treasure to make Divine Mercy the amazing parish that it is. Your willingness to build the Kingdom here in Merritt Island and beyond is an inspiration to me.

A special word of thanks to all who prepared our church and liturgies this Christmas Season:

Father Romil, Father Farrell, Father Larry, and Deacon Jack Alexander
Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans
Lectors
Altar Servers
Ushers
Welcoming Committee
Arts and Environment Team
The Martha's
The Gardening Angels
Media Personnel
Live Stream Volunteers
Parish Staff
Maintenance Staff
All of those who contributed to the music for the Masses

May God Bless you for your generosity and faithfulness to the parish. Please know that you and your loved ones are in my daily prayers.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Fr. Kenny

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

KID'S CORNER



Sharing the Gospel

Isn't God amazing? He made all the stars and planets to move, so every night the sky looks a little different. When God created the world, he planned exactly when the wise men would see the star. He wanted them to find Jesus.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for making the planets and stars so the wise men could find Jesus.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of stars and planets shining in the night sky.

Mission for the Week

Visit a planetarium to learn more about the star of Bethlehem.



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 23, February 27

Confirmation Retreat—Sunday, February 6th

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.divinemerchchurch.org.

FORMED—

FORMED is a website full of excellent Catholic content. Log in to divinemerchfl.formed.org

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

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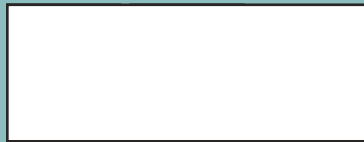
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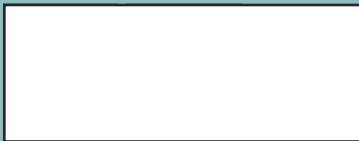


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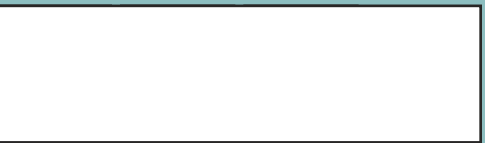
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