

+ Divine Mercy Parish Bulletin+

Jesus, I Trust in You!

Divine Mercy Rectory, 2267 Main St., (413) 283-6030

Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Hall, (413) 283-4320

Three Rivers, Mass.

Rev. Stefan Niemczyk, pastor

Pastoral Staff:

Parish Council president: John Yurkunas

Religious Education director: Jean Brigham

Organists: Mark Narreau, Mary Besko

Secretary: Lydia McKee

Sacristans/bulletin: Michael Wostena, Maryann Wostena

Custodian: John Dziedzic

Office hours: Mon. & Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Email address: stspeterpaulanne@gmail.com

Website: www.churchofdivinemercury.org

Confessions: Sat, 3:00 p.m. (also before daily Mass)

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the rectory to make arrangements

Schedule of Holy Masses:

The Lord's Day ---

Vigil on Sat., 4:00, 5:15 p.m.

Sun., 8:00 a.m. (Polish), 9:30 a.m.

Daily (except Tues.), 7:00 a.m.

Tues., 5:30 p.m. Miraculous Medal Novena

Holydays: as announced

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wed., 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sat., 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sick calls: anytime

New, But Rich in Tradition:

A Brief Overview of Divine Mercy Parish

Sts. Peter & Paul Parish was founded in 1905 to serve the needs of Polish immigrants. **St. Adalbert Parish**, Bondsville, began as a mission of Sts. Peter & Paul in 1910, was erected a parish in its own right in 1917, and closed in 2004. **St. Anne Parish** was founded in 1882 to serve the needs of French Canadian immigrants. By a decree of the Bishop of Springfield issued on Nov. 23, 2009, Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Anne were merged to form **Divine Mercy Parish**. With its combination of a typical New England exterior and a beautiful Baroque interior, **Sts. Peter & Paul Church** is the designated worship place for Divine Mercy.

July 12, 2015

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Roman Rite, ordinary form)

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (Roman Rite, extraordinary form)

Divine Mercy Parish Bulletin ~ Vol. 2 No. 28 / July 12, 2015

Telephone Numbers: RECTORY (283-6030) Mark Narreau (583-8541) Jean Brigham (283-4232)
The **Parish Bulletin** is currently in transition. Some issues, or parts, may not be available online until further notice. *Thank you for your understanding.* Items should be submitted **two weeks** before publication in the bulletin (e.g., items for Dec. 21 should be submitted by Dec. 7). *Thank you!* All submitted items are subject to editorial discretion and may or may not be used.

The Most Blessed Sacrament ~ ~ ~

The Most Blessed Sacrament is reserved in our church, located in the tabernacle on the High Altar, beneath the statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul. We ask that you maintain a respectful silence when you are in the church. This is especially important **before and after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.** Your reverent attitude is not only an example for all, but is respectful of those who are praying. *Thank you!*

Parish Events This WEEK in July

***N.B.:** in case of a Picnic Committee meeting this week,
Bulletin went to print before notification.

Sun., July 12th

Chalice of Strength Prayers for Priests & Vocations, 4:00 p.m., church

Mon., July 13th

Rosary for World Peace, 4:00 p.m., church

Wed., July 15th

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:00 p.m., St. Maximilian Kolbe room.

Sat., July 18th

Confessions, 3:00 p.m., church

Mother of Mary Prayer Force

If anyone would like their intentions prayed for by a dedicated group of parishioners, please email them to jmjdrs2007@yahoo.com . We have a network of prayer warriors who will pray for you.

Apostles of Prayer

If you're requesting prayers for anyone or you'd like to join the Prayer Line, please call Cindy Leveille @ 283-7836.

Palmer Food Share

Please continue to assist with your donations to the Food Share program. You may drop off donations in the baskets located in the church. *Thank you for your generosity!*

NEW PARISHIONERS

If you have questions, or are considering joining our parish, ***you are most welcome!*** Please see Father after Mass or contact the rectory during regular office hours.

Masses & Devotions This Week

*Praised be Jesus Christ! Niech będzie pochwalony Jezus Chrystus!
Laudetur Iesus Christus!*

Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. +Helen & Walter Nowak – int. of Gloria & family
+Madeleine & Cecile Camerlin – int. of Carl & Irene
5:15 p.m. for the parishioners

12. Sunday ~ FIFTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

8:00 a.m. za d.sp. Thaddeus Guzik, 1 rocznica, od zony Ireny z rodzina
9:30 a.m. +Albina Ziobrowski – int. of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kulig
+Johanna (Janik) Muniec – int. of her family

13. Monday ~ Saint Henry, emperor

7:00 a.m. +Frank & Sabina Lachowski – int. of their family

14. Tuesday ~ Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin

5:30 p.m. Novena Mass: +Stanley Skowronek – int. of son Michael & family
+John & Victoria Augustine – int. of Apostles of Prayer

15. Wednesday ~ Saint Bonaventure, bishop & doctor of the Church

7:00 a.m. +Lesley Pisarski – int. of Anna Wegrzyn

16. Thursday ~ Our Lady of Mount Carmel

7:00 a.m. +Stella Machnik – int. of her family

17. Friday ~ feria

7:00 a.m. +Gary Pobieglo – int. of his family

18. Saturday ~ Saint Camillus de Lellis, priest

7:00 a.m. +Mildred Skaza – int. of Sts. Peter & Paul Rosary Sodality

Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. +Josephine Slozak – int. of June & Richard
+Edward Ziobrowski – int. of his father William
5:15 p.m. +Wilfred & Helen Bonneville – int. of son Leslie & daughter-in-law Susan
+Francis Quinn – int. of Patti Woffender

19. Sunday ~ SIXTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

8:00 a.m. za parafian / for the parishioners
9:30 a.m. +Theresa Pikul – int. of her niece Diane Pikul

PRAY FOR PRIESTS/DEACONS ~ Each day of the month is set aside to pray for a specific priest or deacon. *Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Msgr. Richard Sniezyk	Fr. Bruce Teague	Fr. Mieczyslaw Wit, OFM.C	Msgr. Roland Yargeau
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
All Carmelite Priests	Fr. Richard Turner	Fr. John Lessard-Thibodeau	

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Please refer to the front cover for the hours of Adoration.

Since 1996, our parish has been blessed to have the Blessed Sacrament exposed for the Adoration of the faithful. However, the Blessed Sacrament cannot be exposed in the monstrance on the altar unless one is willing to sacrifice one (1) hour. *Will you be that person??*

We are grateful that Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament continues in our parish.

DEO GRATIAS! Currently all Adoration Hours have been filled.

Thanks you and God bless all who have volunteered.

Others are still encouraged to join us. It would be ideal if two (2) persons per hour were regularly scheduled. This would cover any emergency absence.

Time spent with God is never time wasted! He may be calling YOU! To substitute or commit to an hour in this ministry of prayer, please contact Joanne Stolar @ 283-4651. *God is never outdone in generosity!*

School of Religious Education *NEWS*

Students and parents since Religious Education Classes have concluded, now comes the CHALLENGE. As Catholics, we are obliged to attend Holy Mass every Sunday (or Saturday Vigil). Come together as a family. Some may tell you, *"It doesn't matter to God whether I'm in church or not."* You may reply, *"God does care, and I know I'm pleasing Him when I come to worship and thank Him at Mass."*

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY ON MONDAYS

Sts. Peter & Paul Rosary Sodality continues to pray the Rosary on each Monday at 4:00 p.m. in church. Please come and pray for world peace and the protection for our citizens and nation. *All are welcome! Queen of the Holy Rosary, pray for us!*

MASSES, ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS ITEMS FOR BULLETIN

In preparation for transitions with our weekly *Parish Bulletin*, we ask that any items for publication be submitted **TWO WEEKS before the desired Sunday date**. (e.g., an item desired to appear in a Jan. 25th issue, should be submitted no later than Jan. 11th). Likewise for Mass intentions: *Please be considerate and plan the date you would like a Mass offered well in advance. Your understanding is greatly appreciated!*

JULY ~ THE MONTH OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS
Precious Blood of Jesus, save us!

Donations to the Parish

*The Parish gratefully acknowledges the following donations: **Bog Zaplac!***

To the General Fund ~

~ **in loving memory of Stanley & Mildred Skaza, Sr.:**

\$100 from Anne Marie Tippet; \$50 each from: Deb, Jim & Sam Squires; Russ & Cathy Whigham

~ **in loving memory of Stanley Skaza, Sr.:**

\$50 from Christine Budynekiewicz / \$30 from Donald & Priscilla Holcomb

\$25 from Mr. & Mrs. Luke Roberts / \$10 from Pat Godek

~ **in loving memory of Veronica Karcz:**

\$100 from Anne Marie Tippet

\$65 from the Karcz family / \$50 from Mr. & Mrs. George Marek /

\$20 from Stanley & Constance Herman

~ **in loving memory of Josephine Sowa:**

\$20 from Mary Ellen Ahearn & Cindy Hubbard

(((((((((((*"EVENTS/NOTICES AROUND TOWN"*))))))))))

MASSACHUSETTS CITIZENS FOR LIFE (MCFL)

Anne Fox, president of Mass. Citizens for Life, **extends her thanks to Lynne Riendeau and all who joined in Mother's Day Rose Drives at Divine Mercy Parish.** Amount raised: **\$305.** The Rose Drives held throughout the year are a vital fundraising opportunity for Mass. Citizens for Life. The response of churches to this effort is important because it establishes a link between MCFL and local faith communities. Their **financial support emboldens our hope that one day the law will protect every unborn child's right to life from the moment of his/her conception.** *May the Lord bless your commitment to restoring the right to life of all God's children!*

Summer Concert Series ~ Irish Cultural Center

The **Irish Cultural Center** at Elms College, Chicopee is proud to showcase **traditional Celtic music this summer** with a **series of concerts.** Highly acclaimed performers representing the best of the Celtic music world – **House of Maill, July 19; Matt Molloy, Aug. 9.** Tickets available online @ www.ElmsIrishCenter.org or by calling the center @ (413) 265-2537.

Mass. Citizens for Life, Inc.

High School Students: learn more about all the pro-life issues and how to talk about them. Mass. Citizens for Life Summer Academy runs programs Mon.-Thurs. from 6-8 p.m. and include dinner at St. Joseph Church, Neeham, July 27-30. Call (617) 242-4199.

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 26TH

Our annual Parish Picnic is in two weeks! This is the major fundraiser for the parish and comes in handy when expenses occur (like our new roof on the parish hall/school). We hope to see you on July 26th. Meanwhile, there are still many ways you can help as you will see as you read on. *Thank you in advance!*

PARISH PICNIC NEWS/UPDATES ~~~~

1---**"Thee Boutique"** is looking for donations: gently used and new purses, jewelry, scarves, jewelry boxes, men's neckties, cuff links and most accessories. Please leave items in the sacristy or call Cheryl Kozlik @ 283-2773 to arrange pickup. *Thank you!*

2---**Basket Raffle:** In need of donations, or please create a basket of your choice. Please contact Debbie O'Connor for more information @ (413) 284-1939. You may leave your donations and/or basket creation in the sacristy.

3---**Special Raffle / Cash to offset Money Raffle:** Please call Fred Orszulak (283-5620) or Lydia McKee (283-6865) or the rectory (283-6030) to donate items or cash.

4---**Arts & Crafts / Bake Sale:** We need your arts and crafts, as well as delicious baked goods to make these two areas a success! *Please bring to either sacristy or parish hall.*

5---**Kitchen / Various booths (including ice cream) / 50-50:** We need folks in these important areas. Please contact Mary Majka (323-4556) or Fred Orszulak (283-5620).

6---**Set-up & Clean-up:** the days in the week leading to the picnic (July 20-25) and the day after the picnic (July 27), we need help in setting up and taking down the picnic area.

We especially ask for our young parishioners' help to set up and clean up!

7---**Chicken Barbecue:** 12 noon-2 p.m.; \$10.00 each; *tickets are now on sale!*

Whatever way you can assist us will be greatly appreciated. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Picnic Chairman Fred Orszulak (283-5620).

Thanks and God bless you!

PARISH PICNIC CASH DONATIONS ~~~~

Thank you!

\$100 – Charles & Eleanor Jasak / \$25 each from: Joyce Avis; Leslie & Susie Bonneville; John Machnik; Barbara Marcinkiewicz; Ted Wachta / \$10 from Fryderyka Jaworek

Special Raffle Donation: 32" LED RCA TV from Lydia McKee

Why Lowering the Age of Confirmation Makes Sense

By Jared M. Silvey [BA, philosophy, 2012; MA, theology, 2014 from Holy Apostles College & Seminary in Cromwell, Conn.] / **June 3, 2015**

This past Pentecost Sunday (May 31, 2015), Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila of Denver **announced** that the age for the reception of Confirmation would be lowered to seven. In addition, the archbishop said that he would restore the sacrament's former place in between Baptism and First Communion. In his pastoral letter "*Saints Among Us*," he explains his reasons for the change, especially from the standpoint of theology. The archbishop quotes Pope Benedict XVI, who in *Sacramentum Caritatis* writes that "*It must never be forgotten that our reception of Baptism and Confirmation is ordered to the Eucharist. The Holy Eucharist, then, brings Christian initiation to completion and represents the center and goal of all sacramental life.*" In addition to the theological backdrop that the archbishop presents, there are also a couple of practical considerations, which I would like here to highlight and explore a bit further.

The pastoral letter states that "*new generations need grace to sustain them in a non-Christian environment.*" In today's secular age, children arguably need the graces of Confirmation much sooner than in times past. **Educational institutions are presenting moral challenges to very young children that in another age would not be encountered until around the teenage years, at least not on such a massive scale.** Ontario's newly unveiled sex education program is just one part of the ongoing story of schools across the western world encouraging immoral sexual practices in young children. A look at the topics covered by each grade show that kids, tweens and teens will be exposed to serious moral challenges well before high school, the time when many in the Roman Rite receive the sacrament.

Peer pressure and the encouragement of damaging ideas and practices by schools require the special strength of the Holy Spirit provided by Confirmation. Parents rightfully object to a curriculum such as Ontario's, but if they are going to place their children in such an environment then they have to arm them with the necessary weapons of spiritual warfare. Other dioceses and archdioceses likewise need to catch up to Denver and unleash the strength of the Holy Spirit to combat the ever-growing wave of hedonism submerging the West. As the archbishop perceptively notes in his letter "*The most important changes that restoring the place of Confirmation will make are not logistical but spiritual. This is profoundly important, because we live in a different spiritual terrain than our parents or grandparents did. Indeed, the spiritual landscape of modern American society underscores the need for children to receive grace earlier.*"

Continued next week.....

BASICS of OUR CATHOLIC FAITH ~ 21

from: The COMPENDIUM of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

171. What is the meaning of the affirmation “Outside the Church there is no salvation”?

This means that **all salvation comes from Christ**, the Head, through the Church which is His body. **Hence they cannot be saved who, knowing the Church as founded by Christ and necessary for salvation, would refuse to enter her or remain in her.** At the same time, thanks to Christ and to His Church, those who through no fault of their own do not know the Gospel of Christ and His Church but sincerely seek God and, moved by grace, try to do His will as it is known through the dictates of conscience can attain eternal salvation.

172. Why must the Church proclaim the Gospel to the whole world?

The Church must do so because Christ has given the command: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). This missionary mandate of the Lord has its origin in the eternal love of God Who sent His Son and the Holy Spirit because He “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4)

176. What is apostolic succession?

Apostolic succession is the transmission by means of the sacrament of Holy Orders of the mission and power of the Apostles to their successors, the bishops. Thanks to this transmission the Church remains in communion of faith and life with her origin, while through the centuries she carries on her apostolate for the spread of the Kingdom of Christ on earth.

The Faithful: Hierarchy, Laity, Consecrated Life

177. Who are the faithful?

The Christian faithful are those who, inasmuch as they have been incorporated in Christ through Baptism, have been constituted as the people of God: for this reason, since they have become sharers in Christ’s priestly, prophetic and royal office in their own manner, they are called to exercise the mission which God has entrusted to the Church. There exists a true equality among them in their dignity as children of God.

1781. How are the people of God formed?

Among the faithful by divine institution **there exist *sacred ministers* who have received the sacrament of Holy Orders** and who form the hierarchy of the Church. **The other members of the Church are called the *laity*. In both the hierarchy and the laity there are certain of the faithful who are *consecrated* in a special manner to God by the profession of the evangelical counsels: chastity or celibacy, poverty, and obedience.**