

+ 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 19, 2015

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

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost (Roman Rite, extraordinary form)

Divine Mercy Parish Bulletin ~ Vol. 2 No. 29 / July 19, 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 19th

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

Mon., July 20th

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

Wed., July 22nd

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

Sat., July 25th

Confessions, 3:00 p.m., church

Next Sun., July 26th

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC on the parish grounds / PIKNIK PARAFIALNY

Mother of Mary Prayer Force

If anyone would like their intentions prayed for by a dedicated group of parishioners, please email them to jmjdrrs2007@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 Leveillee @ 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 bedzie pochwalony Jezus Chrystus!
Laudetur Iesus Christus!*

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

20. Monday ~ Saint Apollinaris, bishop & martyr

7:00 a.m. +Mary Wojnilowicz – int. of her family

21. Tuesday ~ Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, priest & doctor of the Church

5:30 p.m. Novena Mass: +Vera Gilbert – int. of Edward & Anna Jordan

22. Wednesday ~ Saint Mary Magdalene, penitent

7:00 a.m. +Joseph Matusевич – int. of Mr. & Mrs. Edward Koss

23. Thursday ~ Saint Bridget of Sweden, religious

7:00 a.m. +Margaret Karinska, 3rd anniversary – int. of the Fox family

24. Friday ~ Saint Sharbel Makhlof, priest

7:00 a.m. +Fred Tyburski – int. of his family

25. Saturday ~ Saint James the Greater, Apostle

7:00 a.m. +Joseph Majka – int. of his family

Vigil of Sunday

4:00 p.m. +deceased members of the Kapinos family – int. of Carol Mastalerz
 +Sophie Jacek, anniversary – int. of son Fred & daughter-in-law Joyce
 5:15 p.m. +Louis & Dotty Luzi – int. of Janice Kucewicz
 +Joseph Burns – int. of his family

26. Sunday ~ SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

8:00 a.m. za d.sp. **Ks. Pralat Alfons Skoniecki**, dawny proboszcz, **40 rocznica**
 9:30 a.m. +Josephine Sowa, month's mind
 11:00 a.m. Mass for parishioners & friends on the Parish Picnic Grounds

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
Fr. Ronald Yelle	Fr. Stanley Aksamit	Fr. Mark Stelzer	Fr. Adrian Benoit
Thursday		Friday	Saturday
Fr. David Darcy		Fr. Joseph Soranno	Fr. Stanley Sobiech, OFM.Conv.

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 Veronica Karcz:

\$100 from Mr. & Mrs. Peter Karcz / \$90 from Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gancarz

\$50 each from: Paul & Shirley Pranaitis; Mr. & Mrs. Edward Koss; Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Swiatlowski; Mr. & Mrs. Dean McKee; Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Lemanski

\$40 each from: Helen Swiatlowski; Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Trela

\$25 each from: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Jamrog; Mr. & Mrs. Alan Mascaro

\$20 each from: Lori Vaz; Mr. & Mrs. Rene Dupras; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kubacki

\$15 from Mr. & Mrs. Chester Jackanowski / \$10 each from: Lilian Petraszewicz; Katherine Karpinski; Patricia Godek; George Motyka

~ in loving memory of Stanley Skaza

\$50 each from: Paul & Mary Mulrenin; Barbara Holt; \$25 from Gary & Susan Simeone

~ in loving memory of Stanley & Mildred Skaza: \$10 from Gloria Nowak

~ in loving memory of Julia Mastalerz: \$50 from June Slozak

~ in loving memory of Veronica Kokoszka: \$10 from Gloria Nowak

To the Seminarian Fund ~

\$30 from Darlene Dewhurst

~ in loving memory of Veronica Kokoszka & Julia Mastalerz: \$25 from Charlie & Eleanor Jasak

To the School/Parish Hall new roof Fund ~

~ in loving memory of Stanley & Mildred Skaza: \$50 from Sophie Roberts & Stephen Noga

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

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.

Immaculate Conception Parish – *Dozynki*

The 35th Annual DOZYNKI / POLISH-AMERICAN FESTIVAL continues **this Sunday, July 19** on the parish grounds, 25 Parker St., Indian Orchard. **FREE ADMISSION / FREE PARKING / RAIN or SHINE!** The Chris & Ronnie Polka Band, 2-7 p.m.; Sygnal, 7-10 p.m. Polish & American Kitchens (pierogi [\$9/dozen], kielbasa, golabki [\$6/3; \$12/6], homemade kapusta [\$5], hamburgs, hot dogs & more). Grand raffle with Grand Prize of \$5000. For more information, contact the rectory: 543-3627. (*Sorry, No BYOB or BYOF.*)

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 26TH

Our annual Parish Picnic is next Sunday! 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.* There are still many ways you can help!

PARISH PICNIC NEWS/UPDATES ~~~~

1---"Thee Boutique" 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 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.

DONATIONS RECEIVED: PAINTING (Joe Mastalerz) / 3 SERVING BOWLS, assorted size (Shirley Ballou) / LAP-DESK with LIGHT (anonymous) / BREADMAKER (anonymous) / SENSEO COFFEE MAKER (anonymous) / GIFT CERTIFICATE (Hair Expression, one haircut)

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: Folks needed in these important areas. Please contact Mary Majka (323-4556) or Fred Orszulak (283-5620).

6---Set-up for the Picnic: beginning **Mon., July 20** at 6:00 p.m., and the rest of the week. Take down: the day after the picnic, **Mon., July 27**.

We especially ask for our young, strong parishioners' help to set up and clean up the picnic area! Thanks!!

7---Chicken Barbecue: 12 noon-2 p.m.; \$10.00 each; *tickets are now on sale!* Please call Tom Losaw @ 283-4688 or Connie Wlodyka @ 283-7540.

Whatever Way you can assist us will be greatly appreciated. To volunteer or for more information, please contact picnic chairman Fred Orszulak. *Thanks and God bless you!*

PARISH PICNIC CASH DONATIONS ~~~~

Thank you!

\$100 – Edward & Mary Okseniak / \$50 each from: Carol Mastalerz; M/M John Wasiuk; Michael Wojnilowicz / \$25 each from: John & Lori Dziedzic; Roger & Carol Holden; Chester & Helen Jackanowski; Gloria Nowak; Anthony & Krista Silva; \$20 – Lori Vaz

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.*"

BASICS of OUR CATHOLIC FAITH ~ 22

from: The COMPENDIUM of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

179. Why did Christ institute an ecclesiastical hierarchy?

Christ instituted an ecclesiastical hierarchy with the mission of feeding the people of God in His Name and for this purpose gave it authority. **The hierarchy is formed of sacred ministers:** bishops, priests, and deacons. Thanks to the Sacrament of Holy Orders, bishops and priests act in the exercise of their ministry in the name and person of Christ the Head. Deacons minister to the people of God in the *diakonia* (service) of word, liturgy, and charity.

180. How is the collegial dimension of Church ministry carried out?

After the example of the Twelve Apostles who were chosen and sent out together by Christ, the unity of the Church's hierarchy is at the service of the communion of all the faithful. Every bishop exercises his ministry as a member of the episcopal college in communion with the Pope and shares with him in the care of the universal Church. Priests exercise their ministry in the presbyterate of the local Church in communion with their own bishop and under his direction.

182. What is the mission of the Pope?

The Pope, Bishop of Rome and the Successor of Saint Peter, is the perpetual, visible source and foundation of the unity of the Church. He is the vicar of Christ, the head of the College of Bishops and pastor of the universal Church over which he has by divine institution full, supreme, immediate, and universal power.

183. What is the competence of the College of Bishops?

The College of Bishops in union with the Pope, and never without him, also exercise supreme and full authority over the Church.

185. When is infallibility of the Magisterium exercised?

Infallibility is exercised when the Roman Pontiff, in virtue of his office as the Supreme Pastor of the Church, **or the College of Bishops, in union with the Pope** especially when joined together in an Ecumenical Council, **proclaim by a definitive act a doctrine pertaining to faith or morals.** Infallibility is also exercised when the Pope and Bishops in their ordinary Magisterium are in agreement in proposing a doctrine as definitive. Every one of the faithful must adhere to such teaching with the obedience of faith.

186. How do Bishops exercise their ministry of sanctification?

Bishops sanctify the Church by dispensing the grace of Christ by their ministry of the word and the sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist, and also by their prayers, their example and their work.