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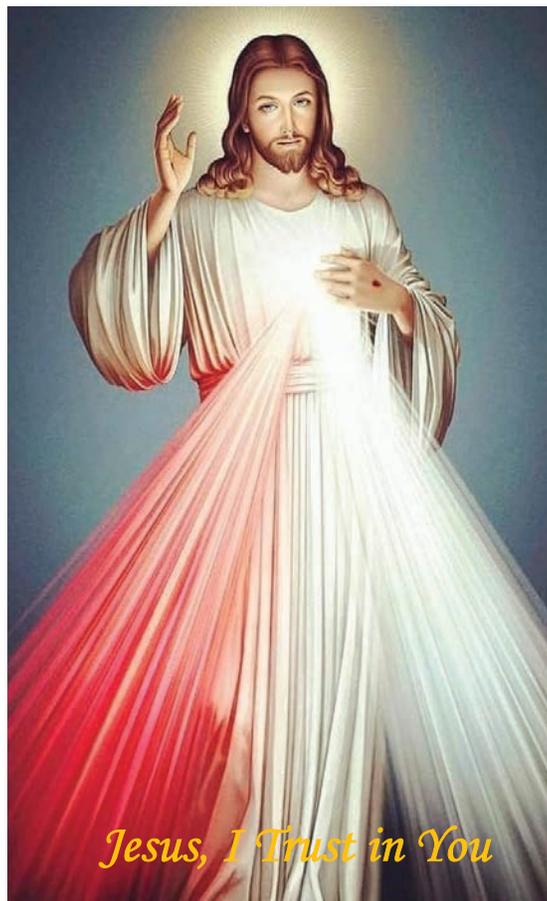
232 Central Avenue, Rahway NJ 07065

<https://www.divinemercuryahway.church>



"The Lord sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, and to proclaim liberty to captives."

Cf. Lk 4:18



Jesus, I Trust in You

New Mass Schedule

Weekday	12:00 pm Monday to Friday
Martes	7:00 pm Misa en Español
Saturday	9:00 am, 4:00 pm (Vigil Mass)
Sunday	8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm Misa en Español
Holydays	6:00 pm (Vigil Mass) 12:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 7:00 pm Misa en Español

Very Rev. Alexander T. Cruz, VF
Pastor, extn 103

Email: fr.alex@divinemercuryahway.church

Rev. Jozef Krajnak, Ph.D.

Resident Priest, extn 104

Email: frjozef63@divinemercuryahway.church

Joseph Keefe (Trustee)

Arlene Mione (Trustee)

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 23, 2022

Parish Membership

Our members may come from different origins but we are one in faith, in our love and devotion to the merciful Heart of Jesus. Everyone is welcome to join our growing community. Please email or visit our office to register.

Parish Office/Rectory

Hours: Mon to Fri, 9 am - 3 pm

Email: office@divinemercuryahway.church

Tel (732)388-0082, (732)388-0083

CCD (732)382-0004

Fax (732) 382-4784

Masses For The Week



SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

4:00 pm (V) People of the Parish &
† Lillian Moncada (Death Anniversary)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am † Dolores Kirmales
9:30 am † Dolores Kirmales
11:00 am (FBL) Louisa George (Health & Well Being)
12:30 pm (SP, FBL) Cesar Augusto Lopez (Special Intention)

MONDAY, JANUARY 24

Feast of Saint Francis de Sales

12:00 pm † Paddy Farrell

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

Conversion of Saint Paul

12:00 pm Princess, Ava & Hope (Birthday)
7:00 pm (SP) † Anna & Martin Caffrey

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

Feast of Saints Timothy & Titus

12:00 pm † Elvira Pimentel (Deceased/Birthday)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

Feast of Saint Angela Mirici

12:00 pm † Vicente Fernandez

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Feast of Saint Thomas Aquinas

12:00 pm † Anthony & Dolores Robinson

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

9:00 am Rowena D. Pabayos (Birthday)
4:00 pm (V) People of the Parish &
† Anna & Martin Caffrey

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

8:00 am Carmine Alfano (Birthday)
9:30 am † Louise Sica
11:00 am (FBL) † Karen Lang
12:30 pm (SP, FBL) † Paulina Rivas

Legend: (V) Vigil Mass, (SP) Spanish Mass, (F) Filipino Mass, (FBL) Facebook Livestreamed Mass @ the parish

FB page [Divine Mercy Parish, Rahway NJ](https://www.facebook.com/divinemercurahway)

Posted @ <https://divinemercurahway.church/mass-intentions>

General Intercession Synod 2021 - 2023

For A Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission
For the gift of speaking out; that we be encouraged in this Synod journey to speak with courage and parrhesia (boldness) inter-grating freedom, truth, and love.

We Pray: Lord hear our prayer.



THIS WEEK AT DIVINE MERCY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

9:30 AM CCD
10:30 AM RCIA Spanish (101)
12:00 PM Food Pantry

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

7:00 PM Guadalupano (Church)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

7:00 PM RCIA English (Church)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

10:00 AM Tina Stagich
1:00 PM Flamenco (103)
7:30 PM John XXIII (203)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

4:00 PM BLD DCS
5:15 PM Quincenera Karina Lopez

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

9:30 AM CCD
10:30 AM RCIA Spanish (101)
12:00 PM Food Pantry (Annex Building)

Posted @ <https://divinemercurahway.church/announcements>



Prayer for Synod

O Holy Spirit Come, bless this Synod. Come open the hearts of all to God's will, at this moment in time for the Catholic Church and for all the members of the Body of Christ. Let us follow you where God will is to travel. Let the Catholic Church "Receive...in the Lord" the messengers of God's will for us at this time. As the community of Rome received the witnessing of St. Paul in his letter to the Romans, be with us. Let our hearts be open. Let our hearts be courageous to proclaim God's Truth.

O Spirit, blow where you will.

Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

Journeying Together as a Parish Synod 2021-2023

As part of the Synod listening process, there are questionnaires by the Church's entrance for all of you to take home and fill out. This is the perfect opportunity to voice your opinion about the Church. Please return the questionnaire to church when done. Thank you.



Baptism

Friends, let's welcome and pray for the newly baptized of our parish community *Micaela Ann Discala, Caden Mariano, and Emmanuel David Rodriguez.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WINNERS OF DIVINE MERCY PARISH CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING RAFFLE 2021

- 1st Prize:** Flat Screen TV 65"
Ticket # 1048, Catalina
- 2nd Prize:** Refrigerator 4.5 cu. ft
Ticket # 0406, Yolanda Cruz
- 3rd Prize:** Barbeque Grill
Ticket #: 0100, Anna Monsanto
- 4th Prize:** Vacuum Cleaner
Ticket #: 0343, Marilyn Castillo
- 5th Prize:** Portable Heater
Ticket #: 0844, Denise Rolong

Please call the parish office to claim your prize.

*Half of the ticket and a valid ID are required to claim the prize.
Thank you very much for supporting the Parish Raffle.*



CCD Announcement

Due to the rising numbers of Covid cases, CCD classes will be **Virtual** for ALL Students on January 9. There will be no classes for January 16 due to Martin Luther King weekend. Virtual classes will resume January 23.



SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Communion, Participation, and Mission

What is Synodality?

Background for this Synod

By convening this Synod, Pope Francis invites the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium."³ Following in the wake of the renewal of the Church proposed by the Second Vatican Council, this common journey together is both a gift and a task. By reflecting together on the journey that has been made so far, the diverse members of the Church will be able to learn from one another's experiences and perspectives, guided by the Holy Spirit (PD, 1). Enlightened by the Word of God and united in prayer, we will be able to discern the processes to seek God's will and pursue the pathways to which God calls us – towards deeper communion, fuller participation, and greater openness to fulfilling our mission in the world. The International Theological Commission (ITC) describes synodality this way:

'Synod' is an ancient and venerable word in the Tradition of the Church, whose meaning draws on the deepest themes of Revelation [...] It indicates the path along which the People of God walk together. Equally, it refers to the Lord Jesus, who presents Himself as 'the way, the truth and the life' (Jn 14,6), and to the fact that Christians, His followers, were originally called 'followers of the Way' (cf. Acts 9,2; 19,9.23; 22,4; 24,14.22).

First and foremost, synodality denotes the particular style that qualifies the life and mission of the Church, expressing her nature as the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel. Synodality ought to be expressed in the Church's ordinary way of living and working.

In this sense, synodality enables the entire People of God to walk forward together, listening to the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, to participate in the mission of the Church in the communion that Christ establishes between us. Ultimately, this path of walking together is the most effective way of manifesting and putting into practice the nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary People of God (PD, 1).

The entire People of God shares a common dignity and vocation through Baptism. All of us are called in virtue of our Baptism to be active participants in the life of the Church. In parishes, small Christian communities, lay movements, religious communities, and other forms of communion, women and men, young people and the elderly, we are all invited to listen to one another in order to hear the promptings of the Holy Spirit, who comes to guide our human efforts, breathing life and vitality into the Church and leading us into deeper communion for our mission in the world. As the Church embarks on this synodal journey, we must strive to ground ourselves in experiences of authentic listening and discernment on the path of becoming the Church that God calls us to be.

What is the aim of this Synod?

Objectives of the Synodal Process

The objective of the current Synod is to listen, as the entire People of God, to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church. We do so by listening together to the Word of God in Scripture and the living Tradition of the Church, and then by listening to one another, and especially to those at the margins, discerning the signs of the times. In fact, the whole Synodal Process aims at fostering a lived experience of discernment, participation, and co-responsibility, where a diversity of gifts is brought together for the Church's mission in the world.

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In this sense, it is clear that the purpose of this Synod is not to produce more documents. Rather, it is intended to inspire people to dream about the Church we are called to be, to make people's hopes flourish, to stimulate trust, to bind up wounds, to weave new and deeper relationships, to learn from one another, to build bridges, to enlighten minds, warm hearts, and restore strength to our hands for our common mission (PD, 32).

Learn more about the synodal process by clicking on the resources at the rcan website <https://www.rcan.org/synod2023>, or by visiting the Vatican Synod website.

Vatican Synod Website – www.synod.va/en.html

USCCB Synod Website – www.usccb.org/synod

Gifts and Offerings



The **Tabernacle Lamp** is being offered for
† Albert F. Reitemeyer.



The **Altar Bread** is being offered for
† John R. Reitemeyer.

The **Altar Wine** is being offered for
† Margaret Reitemeyer



The **Altar Candles** are being offered for
† Albert F. Reitemeyer .

Sacramental Schedule



Confession Weekdays after the 12 pm mass
Saturdays 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm or call the priest for
an appointment

Baptism Call or email the parish office to make an appointment with the priest.

Marriage Couples planning marriage must notify the Parish office a year in advance for date and requirements. Call or email the parish office to make an appointment with a priest.

Anointing of the Sick Contact a priest at any time. Hospital visits are still limited due to Covid-19.

Holy Communion For anyone who are homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion please call or email the parish office.

For the Recently Deceased of the Parish



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let's pray for the souls of *Betty La Guardia and Margaret Donaldson*. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

2022 Annual Appeal

Catholic Stewardship in Action

The 2022 Annual Appeal will fund essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission in our four counties – namely to proclaim the gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care for the poor and those on the margins. Now more than ever, especially during this health crisis, our ministries and programs need your support.

Please prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2022 Annual Appeal.



Please remember to include our parish in your prayers. Everyone can remit weekly offerings to our Parish by signing up at Parish Giving online. It is fast, secure and easy. Thank you and be safe. God bless.



NJ Bishop's Statement on the Passage of the Freedom of Reproductive Choice Act into Law

The Catholic Bishops of New Jersey join to express our profound disappointment and deep concern about the passage of S49/A6260 - - the Freedom of Reproductive Choice Act, which codifies into state law an individual's right to an abortion, including late-term abortions. This law departs from the fundamental Catholic teaching that all life is sacred from conception to natural death. Even more distressing is that the legal and ethical calculus that underlies this new legislation absolutely and forthrightly extinguishes the human and moral identity of the unborn child. Perhaps the legislators who rushed through this Act in the waning moments of their terms did not want citizens to understand fully its inhuman and lethal consequences.

We have failed as a society when a response to any pregnancy is fear rather than joy. Sadly, too often this fear is born out of the mother's uncertainty she will not be able to provide for herself and her child the resources necessary to live a flourishing life. We must do better. Therefore, we urge all Catholics and people of good will to actively participate in breaking down the economic, employment, social, racial, and emotional barriers that lead mothers into thinking that abortion is a better option than life.

For our part, the Catholic Church is committed to broadening and increasing awareness about the abundant resources and programs we offer that include life-affirming health and prenatal care, emotional support, assistance in bearing and raising her child, and basic needs such as housing, food, and clothing to pregnant mothers seeking or considering alternatives to abortion.



Pastoral Council Members (2022 - 2023)

1. Ray Atienza - Worship
2. Susie Atienza - Evangelization/ DRE
3. Diana Chavez - Service/Outreach, Mensajeras de Cristo
4. Josephine Polhemus - Shepherding Apostolate
5. Edwin Fernando - Youth Ministry
6. Julieta Gutierrez - Grupo de Oracion
7. Maria Eugenia Fernandez - John XXIII
8. Rosa Ballard - Grupo Guadalupano
9. Angela Castro - Angeles de Jesus
10. Malou Hernandez - Filipino Apostolate
11. Jaime & Anna Bustos - Pre-Cana/ RCIA Spanish
12. John Mejorada - BLD
13. Mickey Andreko - Hospital Apostolate
14. Anna Monsanto - Divine Mercy Ministry of Jesus
15. Jozef Krajnak - Hispanic Ministry
16. Len Pineda - Secretary

SUNDAY REFLECTION

First Reading: *Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10*

Ezra reads from the book of the Law and interprets it for all to understand.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 12:12-30* (or shorter form, *1 Corinthians 12:12-14,27*)

Paul explains that all were baptized into the one body of Christ.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21*

In the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus reads aloud from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and announces that this Scripture is now fulfilled.

Reflection

Meditation: What does the Gospel of Luke tell us about Jesus and his mission and what he came to do for us? Many skeptics question the reliability and accuracy of the Gospel accounts of Jesus. Luke tells us that his account is utterly believable because it comes from firsthand witnesses (Luke 1:2) who knew Jesus personally, heard him teach, saw his miracles, and witnessed his atoning death on the cross and his rising from the tomb to everlasting life.

Luke begins his account by addressing his friend, Theophilus, a name which means "beloved of God" (Luke 1:3). In so many words Luke tells his friend (and us as well), I am writing to you the most incredible story humankind has known - and which many witnesses and messengers of God's word have openly explained on many occasions. Luke wants his friend and all who read his account to "know the truth" (Luke 1:4) concerning Jesus of Nazareth who was sent from the Father in heaven and anointed by the Holy Spirit to bring us the good news and power of God's kingdom.

The "good news" of Jesus brings new life and freedom

The word "gospel" literally means "good news." The Gospel is the Good News of Jesus Christ and the new life and freedom he has won for us through his atoning death on the cross for our sins and his resurrection to everlasting life and glory with the Father in heaven. The Gospel is the all-powerful and all-merciful word of God for us today as much as it was for the people who first heard it in Jesus' time. It's a life-giving word that has supernatural power to change, transform, and bring freedom and healing to those who accept it as the living word of God. Are you hungry for God's word of truth and mercy, love and forgiveness?



And do you want to grow in the knowledge of God and what he has accomplished for us through his Son, Jesus Christ?

Jesus came in the power of the Spirit

Luke tells us that Jesus was about 30 years of age when he began his public ministry (Luke 3:23). Right after Jesus was baptized by John and anointed by the Spirit at the River Jordan (Luke 3:21-22), he spent 40 days in the wilderness to devote himself to prayer and fasting (Luke 4:1-13). At the end of this period of spiritual preparation and testing, Luke tells us that Jesus "returned in the power of the Spirit to his own land of Galilee" (Luke 4:14). Jesus chose to begin his public ministry in Galilee first, rather than in Jerusalem, the holy city and temple of God. This was in fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah 9:1,2.

Luke tells us that Jesus chose to publicly announce his mission in the synagogue at Nazareth. The people there were familiar with Jesus since it was his custom to regularly attend the weekly Sabbath service. Jesus was also known by many in Nazareth as a "carpenter" (Mark 6:3) and "son of Joseph" (Luke 4:21). When the president of the synagogue called on Jesus to read from the book of the prophet Isaiah, Jesus chose to read Isaiah's description (verses 1-2 of chapter 61) of what the Messiah would do when he came to restore God's kingdom for the people of Israel.

Jesus renews and strengthens us in faith, hope, and love

The Lord Jesus speaks this same word to each of us today - he comes to bring us healing and restoration, pardon and freedom from the oppression of sin, despair, hopelessness, and destruction. Do you believe his word with expectant faith and trust, or with doubt and indifference? The Lord will not refuse to pour out his Spirit on all who trust in him. Ask the Lord Jesus to renew in you the joy of the Gospel and the freedom to live each day with trusting faith, joyful hope, and fervent love.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, you are the fulfillment of all our hopes and dreams. Through the gift of your Holy Spirit you bring us truth, freedom, and abundant life. Fill me with the joy of the Gospel and inflame my heart with a burning love for you and a deep thirst for your word.

Reflection excerpted from <https://www.dailyscripture.net/daily-meditation/>

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Nehemiah 8 : 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

Psalms 19 : 8, 9, 10, 15

1 Corinthians 12 : 12 - 30 or 12 : 12-14, 27

Gospel from Luke 1 : 1 - 4; 4:14-21

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