



# Divine Mercy

## Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

The First Sunday of Advent

### Mass Intention Week of December 1

Mon Dec 2	9:30am	Peter & Sadie Manning + Philomena, Gerald & Ed Nolan + Paul Thorburn +
	7:00pm	Teresa O'Neil + Robert Dowden Sr. + Peggy Walsh +
Tue Dec 3	9:30am	Gerald Winston Stone & Deceased Family + Special Intention (BA) Leo Holden & Deceased Family +
	9:30am	Special Intention (PJ) Hughie Coady & Deceased Family + Special Intention
Wed Dec 4	9:30am	Special Intention (Y& J) Special Intention (RW) Holy Souls in Purgatory
	7:00pm	Bessie Pike + Walter Emberley + Geraldine Ryan +
Thurs Dec 5	9:30am	Special Intention (BA) Special Intention (MM) Romeo & Esther Liat +
	7:00pm	Thomas O'Keefe + Wayne Winters + Patrick Fleming +
Fri Dec 6	9:30am	
	7:00pm	

### Parish Schedule:

#### Sunday Mass:

#### Saturday

4:00pm (St. Paul's Site)

#### Sunday

9:00am (St. Paul's Site)

11:00am St. Paul's Site)

4:00pm (St. Francis Site)

#### Daily Mass:

Monday to Friday 9:30am (St. Paul Site)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 7pm (see inside Bulletin for locations)

#### Parish Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday: 8:30am - 4:00pm

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 to 9:15 am; Saturdays 3-3:45pm

#### By appointment:

Please call 709-726-9924 or email

[info@divinemerlynl.com](mailto:info@divinemerlynl.com)

### *Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:*

#### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Join us for Adoration and Benediction every **Tuesday, 2:00 to 3:30 pm** in the church at our St. Paul's site.

#### Sacrament of the Sick & Home Visits

Do you know someone in hospital or who is homebound? Arrange a visit for the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion. Call 709-726-9924

**Contact Information:** Divine Mercy Parish, 340A Newfoundland Drive, St. John's, NL A1A 3R9  
tel. 709-726-9924 [www.divinemerlynl.com/](http://www.divinemerlynl.com/) email: [info@divinemerlynl.com](mailto:info@divinemerlynl.com) Join our Flocknote by texting 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.

Facebook.com/divinemeryparishnl

Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Pastor Email: [john@ekon.ca](mailto:john@ekon.ca) Telephone 416-417-1513

# Pastor's Note

Saint Ignatius of Loyola outlines the “Three Kinds of Humility” in his *Spiritual Exercises*. The “Third Kind of Humility” is, for Ignatius, the most perfect. He wrote,

It consists in this. If we suppose the first and second kind attained, then whenever the praise and glory of the Divine Majesty would be equally served, in order to imitate and be in reality more like Christ our Lord, I desire and choose poverty with Christ poor, rather than riches; insults with Christ loaded with them, rather than honours; I desire to be accounted as worthless and a fool for Christ, rather than to be esteemed as wise and prudent in this world. So Christ was treated before me.

I find when I read Ignatius’ description of the Third Kind of Humility, I am confused and intimidated. I prefer comfort to discomfort, a compliment to an insult, and a good reputation to dismissal as a fool. One’s focus, however, should not primarily be on the characteristics of humility, but on the last sentence – “So Christ was treated before me.” This means one’s identification is no longer by the standards of the world, but by the standard of Jesus Christ. He is our overriding goal, interest, passion and love. As we begin Advent, we begin with more intent and effort to welcome him into the depths of our life and being.

This past week, I’m sure most of you heard about the initial

## **A New Addition to our Daily Mass Schedule**

Beginning this week, we are adding three Masses to our Daily Mass Schedule. In addition to our 9:30am Daily Mass – Monday through Friday, we will also have Masses, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays will take place at 7pm in the evening. The new schedule will offer those unable to attend the morning Masses due to work and other commitments, an opportunity to attend daily Mass.

Now, due to the many Advent and Parish activities during the month of December, the scheduled locations for the new Masses will be a little lopsided. See the next column for a full listing. In January, the schedule between the two sites of the parish will become stable.

decision of the Avalon Mall to stop allowing the Salvation Army to raise funds on its premises for food banks, soup kitchens, Christmas hampers, coats and school supplies. While the owners quickly reversed their decision, the situation reveals, in many ways, the unpopularity of the Christian faith in our culture and society. Rod Dreher, an American writer, recently described the Christian situation: “God has not abandoned us, and never will – but we live in societies and cultures that have abandoned Him.” Our historical moment and particularly our Advent moment is not one of impoverished grace and Divine presence. It is the opposite. It is an over-flowing of grace and presence. No longer are we tempted by distractions for esteem or honours; or putting our fingers in the dyke so as to delay finding ourselves being a poor church; or clinging to our social status. We are in the world but not of the world. It can seem like so much has been lost compared to the “good old days.” But he will never abandon us. We have been given the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and end of all things. This means we have been given everything. And so, as we begin Advent, with greater intent and magnanimity of heart, we prepare to welcome his return, we welcome him more into the depths of our life and being. His life is becoming our life.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,  
teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation.

God bless and take care,

Fr. John

## **7pm Daily Mass Locations for December:**

Monday, December 2 – St. Paul’s site  
Wednesday, December 4 – St. Francis of Assisi site  
Friday, December 6 – St. Paul’s site  
Monday, December 9 – St. Paul’s Site  
Wednesday, December 11 – St. Francis of Assisi site  
Friday, December 13 – St. Paul’s site  
Monday, December 16 – St. Francis of Assisi site  
Wednesday, December 18 – St. Francis of Assisi site  
Friday, December 20 – St. Francis of Assisi site  
Monday, December 23 – St. Francis of Assisi site  
Friday, December 27- St. Paul’s site  
Monday, December 30 – St. Paul’s site

# Faith Formation Corner

To See ✕ To Love ✕ To Serve

## ***Novena of the Immaculate Conception:***

**November 29 to December 7**

***(In our To Love category)***

The Immaculate Conception Novena begins on Saturday, November 29 (nine days before the feast of the Immaculate Conception). The novena and Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a beautiful opportunity to reflect on Mary's life and the great and profound mystery of God's Grace at work through the Son. It is important for us to strive to imitate Mary as an ideal example of the Christian life lived for God. The novena offers an opportunity to ask Mary to give you the grace to imitate her profound response to the love God poured into her heart. Below you will find the prayer for Day 1 of the Novena. You might also choose to have the novena sent to you daily through our Flocknote (beginning on November 29). The Flocknote platform also allows us to send both audio and visual material to aid in praying the Novena that our printed bulletin does not. You can sign up for the Novena on Flocknote by contacting us at [faith.divinemerlyn@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemerlyn@gmail.com), calling the office, or go to: <https://divinemeryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/183787>

For those who would like a copy of the novena, without the extra audio-visual material, you can pick one up from Welcome Kiosk in the foyer of the church.

## ***Lectio Divina Through Advent***

***(In our To Love category)***

*Lectio divina* ("divine, or sacred reading") is a method of attentively and prayerfully reading the Word of God. Enter into the beauty and depth God's Word through prayer. Available for Advent through Flocknote:

<https://divinemeryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/183786>

## ***It's Not too Late, Signup:***

The following offerings in our *To See*, *To Love*, *To Serve* categories have begun, but with Flocknote, it's never too late. Just sign-up through the Flocknote link provided or let us by emailing us at [faith.divinemerlyn@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemerlyn@gmail.com) or call the Office at 709-726-9924 and we'll get you all set to go.

**Word on Fire: CATHOLICISM Series** *(In our To See category)*

<https://divinemeryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/183438>

**The Chosen Series: Season 1** *(In our To See category)*

<https://divinemeryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/183443>

**"A Great Symphony of Prayer: The Our Father as a Programme of Life"** *(In our To See category)*

<https://divinemeryparish12.flocknote.com/signup/183595>



This Sunday, the new liturgical year begins. The purpose of the liturgical calendar is to celebrate and understand the mystery of Jesus Christ and the expectation of his return in glory. Most appropriately, the new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent – the season in which we prepare ourselves spiritually to celebrate the coming of the Lord, both in its historical reality of God being made human in the birth of Jesus and in anticipation for his return. During Advent, Christians prepare for this here-and-now coming of Christ by remembering the long years during which Israel waited for the coming of the Messiah, and by looking forward to the final coming of Christ at the end of time. Both themes are reflected in the Church's readings during Advent.

The word **Advent** comes from the Latin *adventus*, which simply means coming, approach, or arrival. Advent as a liturgical season is a time of preparation, anticipating the great Church feast celebrating the Birth of Christ – Christmas. As such, it is a time of penance, of turning away from sin and of hopeful and joyous preparation as we make room of the coming of the Savior.

Take a look at some practical ways to fully enter and celebrate Advent with family and friends by going to our website. You will find prayers, activities and other fun and helpful resources on our resource page: [https://www.divinemerlyn.com/?page\\_id=1476](https://www.divinemerlyn.com/?page_id=1476)

## **Preparing for the Sacraments:**

**Calling Parents of Children of Sacramental Age:** If you have a child or children 7 years of age or more, you are invited to register them for our sacramental preparation programs for Confirmation and First Holy Communion and Reconciliation. Register online by going to our website at [www.divinemerlyn.com/](http://www.divinemerlyn.com/) or calling the Parish Office at 709-726 9924 or email us at [info@divinemerlyn.com](mailto:info@divinemerlyn.com)

Perhaps you, or someone you know is considering becoming a Roman Catholic. The **Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults** or RCIA is for you. The RCIA offers a communal program of preparation for those considering the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & the Eucharist) and Reception into the Roman Catholic Community. Adults normally receive the sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. If you would like to know more, please email us at [info@divinemerlyn.com](mailto:info@divinemerlyn.com)

# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

## Pick Up Our Parish Christmas Schedule

Copies of our Christmas Schedule are available for pick up this weekend. They are printed in bookmark form, making them easy to hold onto, post or share with family and friends. You can also pick up a copy of our December Events bookmark, highlighting all of our Advent events.

## Advent Reconciliation Service

**Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00pm**

(Newfoundland Drive site)

Several priests available for individual confession. Join us in celebration of the gift of God's mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

All are welcome.

## Here we go a-Caroling!

Join us in the sounds of the season with our Carol sing-along this weekend, Saturday, December 14 from 1pm to 3pm at our Outer Cove site in the annex. Refreshments will be served. Do come and bring a friend for some festive singing.

## Music Ministry

We would like to encourage parishioners to consider joining one of the church choirs: Saturday 4:00 (3:20 pm practice) or Sun 11:00am (10:25am practice). The congregational singing at Divine Mercy is truly remarkable and we thank you for your participation. However, we would like to expand our music ministry and build on what we have. If you like to sing, or play an instrument, we would love your company! Please talk to Mary Brennan or Susan Quinn after Mass and introduce yourself.

## Simbang Gabi-Christmas Novena

**December 15 to December 23**

(Newfoundland Drive site)

Mass begins each evening at 6:30 pm

Reception to follow.

'Simbang Gabi' is Filipino for 'Night Mass' a devotional nine-day series of Masses in anticipation of Christmas.

Visit our website: [www.divinemeracynl.com/](http://www.divinemeracynl.com/) for more details and information on the many offerings and happenings in our parish and throughout the Church in the city and in the world.

## CWL Nominations Forms:

Due to the ongoing Canada Post work stoppage, completed nominations forms can be returned to the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee at the contact information given in the previously sent letter dated October 26, 2024; or they can be dropped off to the Divine Mercy Parish Office marked "CWL Nomination Form" on the outside of the envelope.

## CELEBRATION OF THE OPENING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR – SUNDAY DECEMBER 29, 2024

The Solemn Opening of the Jubilee Year will be celebrated in the Archdiocese of St. John's on the afternoon of **Sunday December 29, 2024**. All are invited to attend.

- **Introductory Rite:** 1:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on St. Clare Ave.
- **Pilgrimage Walk:** 1:15 p.m. from the Knights of Columbus Hall to the Basilica
- **Mass of the Feast of the Holy Family:** 2:00 p.m. in the Basilica of St. John the Baptist

**All are invited to any or all parts of this Jubilee celebration.** The Jubilee Year motto is *Pilgrims of Hope*. All are invited to join in this joyful and hope-filled opening celebration of the Jubilee Year.

## Vigil to Remember those who Died by Suicide:

Sunday, December 8 at 3pm at St. Mark's Church, 203 Logy Bay Rd. To add a name to be read aloud, email Kim at [kakelly@mun.ca](mailto:kakelly@mun.ca)

## Offertory Collection

### Week of November 23

Offertory	\$ 5,248.00
Dues	\$ 500.00
Food Bank	\$ 1,843.00
Christmas Hampers	\$ 95.00
Flowers	\$ 20.00

*E-transfers can be made through [dmparishnl@outlook.com](mailto:dmparishnl@outlook.com) (Please include your full name and a message indicating what the E-transfer is for) Thank you for your generosity. God Bless!*