



Divine Mercy

Catholic Church

A Jesuit Parish in St. John's

The Second Sunday of Advent

Mass Intention Week of December 8

Mon Dec 9	9:30am	Cyril, Maggie & Mary Kenny + Special Intention [JG] Special Intention [BB]
	7:00pm	Isaac Montes + Fernanda Montes + Corinne Tungate +
Tue Dec 10	9:30am	Special Intention [MM] Cyrus & Madeline Hawco + Jim March +
Wed Dec 11	9:30am	Howard Hillier + Marie Walsh + Special Intention [SC]
	7:00pm	Elizabeth Pike + Patrick Fleming + David McCaughin +
Thurs Dec 12	9:30am	Special Intention (Y & J) Lily Tupper & Deceased Family + Agatha Ku & Ku Shih Yen +
Fri Dec 13	9:30am	Special Intention (BA) Marie Walsh + Geraldine Doyle +
	7:00pm	Rendell Tungate + Michael Craggs + Souls in Purgatory

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@divinemercynl.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.divinemercynl.com/ email: info@divinemercynl.com Join our Flocknote by texting
01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.

Facebook.com/divinemercyparishnl

Fr. John Sullivan, S.J. Pastor Email: john@ekon.ca Telephone 416-417-1513

Pastor's Note

Since Christianity began to emerge as a new faith 2,000 years ago, a challenge of enormous power has been levelled against it – If God is all Good and all Powerful, why is there suffering in one's life and in the world? Sometimes one can think that if one just prays hard enough, then God will remove the suffering. Or, if one negotiates generously enough, that is, "I'll do this if God does that," then the suffering will be taken away. Chances are that we each have known or currently know painful suffering. Chances are, we likely have tried one of the above two methods, if not both. How, then, do we reconcile our faith within our experience of suffering in life?

The problem of suffering has been wrestled with by some of the greatest minds in Christian history, Saints like Augustine and Thomas Aquinas. While the "solutions" may solve the problem philosophically and theologically, they seem to still falter when it comes to human experience. One can read and understand but one's heart may remain anxious, uncertain, fearful and weighed down by sadness. We want God to come and fix our problems. We want him to make everything ok again. If the problem of suffering remains to be solved at some future date, such as, with the Beatific Vision or his return in glory, there is something we can receive through God's Incarnation that gives us the ability, humility and strength to live in the light even if shrouded by darkness.

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.

When God assumed human flesh with the Incarnation, God embraced the totality of human life. In assuming human flesh God has eternally revealed the immeasurable intensity of his personal love for each of us. We can lose people we love, we can feel overlooked by the world, we can have our dreams shattered, but we can't lose him. The Incarnate God understands and feels our sufferings. His constant response is to love even more, to give more of himself to us. Every time we come to Mass we have an immediate experience of this. After acknowledging our sins in the Penitential Rite, we listen to God's teaching and revelation in the Word. But God doesn't stop there, he then gives himself to us in the Eucharist. One may still walk among the uncertainties of this world. One may be weighed down by loss and grief. One may waver due to fear and anxiety. But we continue to live, laugh and hope because we know we are not lost, overlooked or shattered. We **know**, in Jesus Christ, we are loved always. And "that is enough for me," as Saint Ignatius wrote. It is "enough" because the Lord is everything. When he assumed human flesh, he has placed himself with us and beside us. We are his, and so, come what may, we will, in the end, be ok, in fact, we will be perfect.

God bless and take care,
Fr. John

7pm Daily Mass Locations for December:

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



Advent Reconciliation Service Tuesday, December 10 7:00pm

(St. Paul's site)

As we're in Advent, parishes everywhere are having Advent Reconciliation Services. Whether you've gone to confession recently, or haven't been for many years, this is a great opportunity to prepare for the coming of Lord that we celebrate at Christmas.

In the Sacrament, we do not go to the priest just to list our sins, have them forgiven, and receive a penance (although this all happens in Confession). Rather, and most importantly, we come to celebrate the mercy and forgiveness of God that we are graced with in our lives. We come to the Sacrament with a sense of joy for what God has already done through Jesus Christ in our lives and what God continues to do – fill us with his mercy and love. We can come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation with confidence and trust in God who has 'loved us first.'

We hope you will join us **on Tuesday, December 10 at 7pm in the church (St. Paul's site) for our Advent Penitential Service.** Several Priests will be available for individual confessions. Come, experience once again, the mercy and forgiveness of the Father.

My Gift For Jesus

Children are encouraged to pick up a "My gift for Jesus" page, located on the Children's Liturgy table outside of the sacristy. The object is to colour in a heart for each good deed that is done this Advent. Decorate the gift box and return the page on December 24th during any of the Christmas Eve Masses.

Resources for 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 of Christmas – the birth of Christ, the coming of the Incarnation of God in history and in His Second Coming.

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 in our world and in our own lives.

On our website, www.divinemercynl.com/ you will find practical ways that you can prepare to fully celebrate Advent with your family and friends of all ages. Some ideas include:

- The Blessing of a Nativity set at home
- A recipe for making figures for a Nativity set
 - Jesse Tree Instructions
 - 2024 Advent Calendar
- Information on the different Church feasts we celebrate in advent
 - The O Antiphons

Remember, you don't have to do it all—just choose a few practices to focus on and see whether they work for your family. We will be adding to our list of resources throughout the season of Advent, so be sure to check back often.

To See



To Love



To Serve

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 on Sundays during Advent through Flocknote: <https://divinemercyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/183786>

Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

Thank You!

Thank You to everyone who helped make our Christmas Bazaar such a fun and successful event. There was a great spirit of friendship and generosity, and we are grateful to everyone who took part. We raised \$3,805.35 through your generosity and good work. Special thanks to everyone who baked and donated goods, and to those who volunteered and took leadership in the coordination, setting up and clean up for the event.

Congratulations to Trina Shioldan
Winner of our 50/50 Raffle at the Bazaar!

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.

Here we go a-Caroling!

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

Simbang Gabi-Christmas Novena

December 15 to December 23 (St. Paul's Stie)

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.

Closing Down our Parish App

We will be cancelling our subscription to the Parish App at the end of December. If you currently use the Parish App for updates and messages, we will happily subscribe you to our Parish Flocknote. Flocknote is a communication platform that allows us to send a wide variety of notes and materials to people in the parish who have subscribed to it. Flocknote allows us to quickly and easily send:

- Notices and updates regarding weather closures
- Bulletins, schedules and notices of parish events
- Faith formation and sacrament preparation materials

To sign up for our Flocknote, just text 01556 to 514-900-0130 or let us do it for you – speak with Anna or contact Marion in the Parish Office.

Sunday Hospitality

Join us for tasty treats and good conversation and fellowship after the 11am Sunday Mass on December 15 and December 29th. Catch up with old friends and make some new ones. All are welcome!

Grand in Your Hand Winner:

The winner of the Knight's of Columbus November Grand in Your Hand winner is Aneas decker, Ticket #00026. Congratulations Aneas!

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. to the Basilica

- **Mass of the Feast of the Holy Family:** 2:00 p.m.

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.

Visit our website: www.divinemercynl.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.

Offertory Collection

Week of December 1

Offertory	\$ 6,933.65
Dues	\$ 130.00
Parish Bazaar	\$ 3,805.35
Christmas	\$ 1,245.00
Food Bank	\$ 1,830.00
Christmas Hampers	\$ 170.00
Flowers	\$ 1,054.00

E-transfers can be made through 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!