



# Divine Mercy

Catholic Church  
A Jesuit Parish in St. John's  
Feast of the Holy Family

## Mass Intention Week of December 29

|             |        |   |
|-------------|--------|---|
| Mon Dec 30  | 9:30am | Cahill Family +<br>Fagan Family +<br>Mary McCormick +                       |
|             | 7pm    | Mary Doyle +<br>Cyril Daley +<br>Fred Power +                               |
| Tue Dec 31  | 9:30am | Claude Moulton +<br>Blanche Stack +<br>Collette Hall +                      |
| Wed Jan 1   |        | <b>Feast of Mary, Mother of God</b>   |
| Thurs Jan 2 | 9:30am | Special Intention (BM)<br>Nelson & Dolorasa Ash +<br>Special Intention (MM) |
| Fri Jan 3   | 9:30am | Tom & Mary Lawlor +<br>Pottle Family +<br>Walsh Family +                    |
|             | 7pm    | Special Intention (MM)<br>Special Intention (LS)<br>Frances Galgay +        |

**Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:**

### 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** (Mondays & Fridays at St. Paul's site, Wednesdays at St. Francis site)

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

**Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 8:30 to 9:15 am; Saturdays 3-3:45pm**  
**By appointment:**  
Call 709-726-9924 or email [info@divinemergynl.com](mailto:info@divinemergynl.com)

#### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Adoration and Benediction every Tuesday, 2:00 in the church at our St. Paul's site.

### Contact Information:

Divine Mercy Parish, 340A Newfoundland Drive, St. John's, NL A1A 3R9  
tel. 709-726-9924 email: [info@divinemergynl.com](mailto:info@divinemergynl.com)  
[www.divinemergynl.com/](http://www.divinemergynl.com/)

#### Parish Office Hours:

Mon to Thurs: 8:30am -4:00pm and Fri 8:30 am-12pm

Join our Flocknote by texting 01556 to 514-900-0130 and follow the prompts to enter your email address and preferences.

[Facebook.com/divinemergyparishnl](https://www.facebook.com/divinemergyparishnl)

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

Associate Pastor:  
Fr. Joe Mroz, S.J.  
email: [ej\\_mroz@yahoo.ca](mailto:ej_mroz@yahoo.ca)

#### Inquiries for Sacrament Preparation and Faith Formation:

email: [faith.divinemergynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemergynl@gmail.com)

**Sacrament of the Sick & Home Visits:** Know someone in hospital or who is homebound? Arrange a visit: call 709-726-9924

# Pastor's Note

Every time I approach the lectern to proclaim the Gospel and give the homily, I say a little prayer to remind myself that in God's goodness to me, he has given his life to be my life. Helping to calm my nerves, I try to remember gratitude. Gratitude is a foundational Christian starting point. Our faith, in many ways, is a response in love to God's preceding love. Saint Ignatius of Loyola offers a prayer called the "Examen." He thought it vital. In fact, Ignatius said, if one didn't have enough time during the day to complete all of one's prayer, one had to at least do the *Examen*. The *Examen* is a simple memory prayer. One reviews the previous twenty-four hours to identify when one has fallen into sin, turned away from God, and, even more importantly, when one has been given God's graces, when one has become more alive (more hopeful, more loving, more merciful, more compassionate, more generous, etc.). I find when I do not do the *Examen*, I put my head on the pillow thinking that at best, the day was neutral, half good half bad, or, at worst, the day was completely bad. When I do the *Examen*, however, I remember what I had forgotten – in truth, the day was filled with God's presence and graces. It is true what we read in another psalm, "My cup overflows." And from our awareness of God's generosity to us can come an increase in love and a desire to love, to serve God back.

Our First Reading from the 1 Samuel tells the story of Hannah leaving her young son, Samuel, at "the house of the Lord at Shiloh." Hannah had been unable to conceive a child for many years. This had caused her to be heartbroken and ridiculed. She had gone to the house of the Lord and prayed that God would give her a child. She became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When the child had been weaned, she brought him to Shiloh and left him there, that is, in gratitude, she offered her child back to God. She said, "I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there forever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time." Her actions may be difficult for us to relate to, as they would have been for her contemporaries given the cultural importance of the first-born son. Nevertheless, Hannah shows us the central role of gratitude in our faith – God gives then we give, God shows mercy then we become more merciful, God loves and we try to love God back. As Christians, we have a big part to play in all this. We are to have something like a radar in which we become more aware of God's presence and fidelity, his grace and his love. Living our faith then becomes a consistent return, a return of love to the One who has first loved us.

God bless and take care,  
Fr. John



## Feast of Mary, Mother of God

**Tuesday, December 31**  
**5pm (St. Paul's site)**

**Wednesday, January 1**  
**10am (St. Francis site)**



## Our Deepest Gratitude

We wish to thank everyone who gave their energy, time, and talent in service to making Christmas such a grace-filled and joyous occasion.

We want to thank those who decorated the churches at St. Paul's and St. Francis, along with the gym, their hard work gave beauty to our celebrations. Thank you to our Lectors, Ministers of Eucharist, our teams of Ushers, our fantastic Altar Servers, our Musicians and Choirs, our Sacristans and our Children's Liturgy Team, whose preparation and collaboration created an elegance and flow to our services. And finally, thank you to everyone who helped fill our season with meaning and joy.

On behalf of Fr. John, Fr. Joe, the Jesuit Community and the Parish Team, Happy New Year to everyone in our Parish. May the mercy and love of our God move within us and between us so that we might live more fully and completely the promise of God's peace.

# Faith Formation Corner

To See ✠ To Love ✠ To Serve

January 1, 2025  
World Day of Peace

## Gospel of Work (In our To Serve category)

What is the Purpose of Work? Why do so many of us struggle to find meaning in our jobs or careers? The Gospel of Work wrestles with the significance of work, and how to find purpose in our work, no matter the field in which we labour. 8 sessions: available through Flocknote - beginning February. <https://divinemerccyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/183788>

## New Ministry Our Livestream Team Need You! (In our To Serve category)

Divine Mercy Parish livestreams the Sunday 11am Mass. This ministry allows us to reach out to members of the community who are unable to be with us in the person for the Mass or special parish events. Members of Team Livestream run the streaming equipment in the church and ensure the upload to our Youtube channel.

- All skill levels are welcome.
- Not a techie? No problem! We will provide you with all the needed information and training.
- Involvement in this ministry will require about one and half hours a week.

For More information, or to join the team, please contact us at [faith.divinemerccynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemerccynl@gmail.com)

## The CHOSEN Season 2 (In our To See category)

**Back by popular demand!** *The Chosen* is a wonderful and through provoking series that allows us to see Jesus through the eyes of those who knew him. Join us for **Season 2** playing on Thursdays over 8 weeks beginning January 9. We are offering this both in person and through Flocknote. In person, with an opportunity to share your thoughts and reflections – Thursdays following the 9:30am Mass. If you would like to watch the series through Flocknote, with accompanying reflection materials go to: <https://divinemerccyparish12.flocknote.com/signup/193613> or email us at [faith.divinemerccynl@gmail.com](mailto:faith.divinemerccynl@gmail.com)

On January 1 we celebrate the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. Mary is also the Queen of Peace and so it is appropriate that we also mark the World Day of Peace on January 1. Each year, the Holy Father releases a message to commemorate the day. This year the theme chosen by Pope Francis is “*Forgive us our trespasses: grant us your peace*”.

This theme aligns with the spirit of the Jubilee Year, focusing on hope, forgiveness, and bringing people together. Inspired by *Laudato Si’* and *Fratelli Tutti*, the message highlights the need for change to build lasting peace in our lives individually, in communities, and worldwide.

In his message, the Holy Father states: “May 2025 be a year in which peace flourishes! A true and lasting peace that goes beyond quibbling over the details of agreements and human compromises. May we seek the true peace that is granted by God to hearts disarmed: hearts not set on calculating what is mine and what is yours; hearts that turn selfishness into readiness to reach out to others; hearts that see themselves as indebted to God and thus prepared to forgive the debts that oppress others; hearts that replace anxiety about the future with the hope that every individual can be a resource for the building of a better world.”

For the full message, please go to the Vatican website:

[www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20241208-messaggio-58giornatamondiale-pace2025.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20241208-messaggio-58giornatamondiale-pace2025.html)

The Jubilee of the Year 2025 is an opportunity for all people to enter into a pilgrimage of hope. Whether we celebrate locally (in our dioceses, cathedrals or Canada’s National Shrines) or make a pilgrimage to Rome, we are called to search for signs of hope and be signs of hope in our families, for our neighbours, the imprisoned, the sick and dying, the young and old. Indeed, hope does not disappoint!

If you are interested in finding out more about the Jubilee Year of 2025, visit the Canadian Bishop’s site:

[www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/the-ordinary-jubilee-of-the-year-2025/](http://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/the-ordinary-jubilee-of-the-year-2025/)

# Parish Notes & Upcoming Events

## 3 New Mass Added to our Daily Mass Schedule

In addition to our 9:30am Daily Mass – Monday through Friday, we now have Masses at 7pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The new schedule offers those unable to attend the morning Masses due to work and other commitments, an opportunity to attend daily Mass. The Masses on Mondays and Fridays will take place at our St. Paul’s site and the Wednesday Masses will take place at our St. Francis site.

## Schedule Change during the Holidays:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is cancelled for Tuesday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 31. Our Regular schedule will resume on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

## Preparing for the Sacraments:

### Confirmation for Children:

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. Preparation for Confirmation begins Saturday, January 18. Register online by going to our website at [www.divinemercynl.com/](http://www.divinemercynl.com/) or calling the Parish Office at 709-726 9924 or email us at [info@divinemercynl.com](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com)

### Adult Sacrament Preparation:

Have you missed a sacrament? 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@divinemercynl.com](mailto:info@divinemercynl.com)

Visit our website: [www.divinemercynl.com/](http://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.

## 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.**

- **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.

## K of C Mid Winter Warm Up Dinner & Dance

The Knights of Columbus (St. Paul’s Council 11776) is having a Mid Winter Warm Up Dinner & Dance on Saturday, February 8, 2025. For tickets contact Aneas Decker at 709-725-6341 or 709-727-5288 or Brian Kennedy at 709-727-5288.

On behalf of the members of Knights of Columbus (St. Pauls Council #11776): May the blessings of the holy family be with you this Christmas and always. Wishing you a Christmas filled with grace of the holy spirit and love of christ as we honor the birth of Jesus. May your hearts be filled with peace and joy. Blessed Christmas.

## Offertory Collection Week of December 22

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Offertory          | \$ 7,091.00 |
| Christmas Offering | \$ 390.00   |
| Food Bank          | \$ 1,081.05 |
| World Missions     | \$ 5.00     |

*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!*