

Dear Parishioners,

+JMJ

I am writing this letter on Friday, January 9th. On the way back from Parkview Hospital this morning I received a call from the Diocese, officially to notify me that the Bishop is assigning me as pastor to Divine Mercy Parish. Up to this time I have only been “parochial administrator”. It looks like now I am here officially for some time. I will continue to try to give my best. [With this news, my condolences to those who already think I am a misfit; and I share a “Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!” with those who are glad to have it official.]

The Paris massacre this week was tragic. I hope such events convince us all the more of the need the world has for people who live life in the light of God's love, in Jesus Christ. At Mass this week, from 1John 5 we read, “Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” The tragic killing is a symptom of a massive forgetfulness of God's presence on the one hand, or a skewed vision of God's nature on the other. A couple days earlier in Mass we read from 1John 4: “We love, because he first loved us.” I hope we can see that Jesus Christ – who has revealed His Loving Father to us, and given us the power of the Holy Spirit of Love – is the answer to such woundedness in the world. When we experience ourselves to be loved by Him, we become part of His remedy by becoming an oasis of love in Jesus that ripple out around us to heal. How much the world needs us to overcome it by love!

I met with a representative of the *FIAT* Committee this week. Looking forward to Lent, we discussed my offering a couple of talks on Morality (or will I do something more on the Church's vision of family, given what I write below?), which I will do on a couple of Sunday evenings towards the later part of Lent. Then for this coming Advent we discussed organizing a parish wide opportunity for a 33 day consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will see how plans develop. I can talk more about all of the advantages of Marian consecration as we approach Advent.

This week I also got an update on the annual parish retreat that a team of our parishioners put on during Lent. I will be giving the talk on the Sacraments for that retreat, and I will try to be a resource for everybody else giving talks. I also plan to provide (with Fr. Stites helping!) the Sacrament of Penance for retreatants and for the team. I have heard many good things about this retreat, and I am eager to see it happen. Talks will all focus on the work of the Holy Spirit. We certainly need more fully to live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

It was announced a couple months ago that the Pope is coming to Philadelphia this coming September 26-27; and there is a whole program of activities for the preceding week. I am wondering if we can get a committee to organize parish involvement; i.e., especially sending a group to attend. Many will probably go just for the weekend, rather than participating in the entire week's events. Should we try to enter into the momentum of family life focus up to the papal visit? We are only eight months out now, so that is not a lot of time. I finally got around to looking at some of the preparatory resources provided by the Diocese of Philadelphia (www.worldmeeting2015.org). These resources include plenty of study sessions and activities that could be helpful for any group (our various prayer groups and youth groups?).

Have a blessed week!

In cordibus Iesu et Mariae,
Fr. Poggemeyer

Divine Mercy Parish Offerings

2014-2015 budget per week = \$ 9,540.00

Offertory Collections:

January 11, 2015 = \$ 6,008.91

2nd Collection Maintenance Fund = \$ 445.27

Children = 10 envelopes = \$ 30.61

*Electronic Offertory Contribution is
an option to consider. For more information
Call Dianne at the Parish Office.*

Antwerp

Rosary Leader January 25: Marilyn Adams

Clean Church week of January 18:

Rose & Michelle Reinhart

Jan. Visitors to Shut-in: George & Becky Geyer

Jan. Communion to Shut-ins: George & Becky Geyer

Paulding

Church Cleaners January 19 – February 1:

Volunteer Needed

Sacristan January 18 - 24: Deanna Schroeder

Payne

Rosary Leader January 24: Lorraine Schaefer

Church Cleaner: Volunteer Needed

ATTENTION - - - CLEANING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at PAYNE AND PAULDING

Beat the New Year Rush!!!! Sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the back of church at Payne and in the Narthex at Paulding to clean the church. In Paulding you do **NOT** have to clean bathrooms, the basement or the Narthex, just the church. If you have any questions regarding the Payne location please call Jeanette at 419-263-2655. Make a New Year's resolution and sign up for this "clean & shiny" ministry. You will be greatly rewarded for your help.

RIGHT-TO-LIFE

The weekend of January 24 & 25, 2015 Divine Mercy Parish will be sponsoring a Diapers & Dollars Drive for Hands of Hope Pregnancy Center. Diapers size newborn, 2 & 4 are in most need. Envelopes will be available at each campus for your donations. Dollar donations can be placed in the collection basket and diapers placed in the Antwerp or Payne vestibule or the Paulding Narthex. Thank You for your support.

THANK YOU

Divine Mercy Catholic Parish would like to thank Holly, Wood & Vine for the donations of roses for the Right-to-Life weekend memorial procession at our Masses. Thank you Holly.

TO INFORM OUR PARISHIONERS

A letter has been received by various parishioners in the community concerning the organization efforts for Bible study programs in the home. We wish to make clear that these letters did not come from Divine Mercy and are not of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, January 17 - *Right-to-Life Weekend*

Sunday, January 18 – *Right-to-Life Weekend*

10:30AM Mass – Liturgy of the Word

11:45AM-1:30PM Jr. High Youth Group

12:30PM Retreat Meeting in Paulding

Educational Center

Monday, January 19

10M Divine Mercy Prayer Group in Ant.

4PM Totus Tuus Prayer Group in Pldg.

7PM RCIA in Paulding

7PM Medjugorje Prayer Group in Payne

Tuesday, January 20

4:30PM Anima Christi Prayer Group

Wednesday, January 21

8AM - 7PM Adoration in Paulding

7PM Benediction in Paulding

PSR Schedule

4PM Gr. K-5 in Paulding

6:30PM Gr. K-5 in Antwerp

7PM Gr. 6-8 in Paulding

7:30PM Gr. 7-8 in Payne

7:45PM Gr. 6-8 in Antwerp

Thursday, January 22

9AM Pro-Life Mass at St. John, Defiance

Friday, January 23

Saturday, January 24

9AM Payne K of C Free Throw

Noon Paulding K of C Free Throw

Sunday, January 25

10:30AM Mass – Liturgy of the Word

11:45AM-1:30PM Jr. High Youth Group

Service project to sick and shut-ins

HOLY DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

Have you been on Bishop Thomas's Facebook page and seen the "Holy Diocese of Toledo" bright orange hat that he was wearing? The Diocese of Toledo is selling these hats to help the Youth Office and its endeavors to support a diocesan-wide group of students and young people who wish to travel in September 2015 to Pennsylvania to see the Pope. We have them ordered and will have these hats available in the parish. We are brainstorming in the office about how the parish might participate in this upcoming *World Meeting of Families*. We are in need of a few people who would help lead this journey with our youth. Please give some consideration to this inspirational adventure. We really have little time, less than 8 months. Call the parish office if you are willing to help plan this trip.

SCHOOL NEWS

We begin each week with Prayer In the Hall. We asked for guidance for those making tough decisions and those needing strength in their battle against illnesses. We asked God to watch over all our loved ones and those who are grieving.

The staff & students thank the Payne K of C for treats delivered to school before Christmas vacation. Thank you to those who baked many delicious cookies for the "Cookie Walk", and anyone involved in any way with this fundraiser.

Second grade students have been busy preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Congratulations to Emma Benschneider, Connor Davis, Braxtyn Hesisler, Aiden Lee, Bela McDougale and Ryan Viola. The children are preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist on Sunday, April 19th at a special Mass.

Divine Mercy School is currently taking registrations for the 2015-2016 school year. Come and visit and check us out or give us a call at the school at 419-263-2114 for more information.

DONUTS & DRINKS

Coffee, juice and donuts are available after 8:30AM Mass at the Antwerp campus on Sundays. This is a free-will offering. Donuts and Drinks are provided by Payne K of C. All proceeds will be donated to the food pantry in Antwerp. This is a nice warm place for fellowship after Mass when it is too cold to talk outside. Please join us!

FREE-THROW CONTESTS

The Payne K of C will be having a Free-Throw contest at Divine Mercy School gymnasium Saturday, January 24, 2015 at 9AM. Sign-up sheets will be provided at the gym upon arrival. Age groups are 9-14 boys and girls. The winners from each class will advance to Districts at Van Wert on February 8, 2015 at 3PM. Light snacks will be provided.

The Paulding K of C will be hosting a Free-Throw contest at the Paulding Middle School gym on Saturday, January 24 at Noon. Winners will advance to Districts in Van Wert on February 8, 2015.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Birth Parent Informational Meeting - If you are concerned about parenting your unborn child, we invite you to learn about the option of adoption. Join us for a monthly birth parent informational meeting on the third Thursday of the month to learn about parenting support and adoption. For information call or text Catholic Charities at 419-705-9192.

"Joy-Filled Marriage" Engaged Couples Workshop. Registration for 2015 is now open. If you are engaged to be married, you'll want to register for this two-part interactive, enjoyable and comprehensive workshop for engaged couples. This workshop will delve into practical "life skills" as well as the sac-

ramentality of marriage, guided by a dedicated team of married couples and individuals. This workshop fulfills the "marriage class" component, which is part of the requirements for marriage in the Catholic Church. Divine Mercy will host a workshop on April 25 & 26, 2015. To register or for further information contact Monica Martinez at 419-244-6711 or email at mmartinez@toledodiocese.org. or visit www.jfmdtoledo.eventbrite.com

Project Rachel Retreat for Hope & Healing after Abortion will be held Saturday, January 31, 2015 from 9AM-5PM to help women hurting from past abortion. The location is confidential within the Diocese of Toledo. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch. Scholarships are available. Pre-registration is required. Contact Tara Woodbury at 419-654-4886 or email projectrachel@toledodiocese.org.

OF MUTUAL INTEREST

**** What Does the Church Teach About the End of Life** – Saturday, February 7, 2PM, Sorrowful Mother Shrine will host a presentation in the Shrine cafeteria on *End of Life Issues*. This is an hour-long program. Register or for information call 419-483-3435, ext. 6. Free-will donation. Mass is at 4PM.

**** N.W.O. Men's Fellowship "Father/Son" Breakfast** – all area men invite your sons, grandsons or any other important male in your life and join us for breakfast and to experience fellowship with other men of our community. Guest speaker is Haraz Ghanbari, Military Liaison at The University of Toledo, will share his faith journey. Saturday, January 31 at St. John, Defiance. Coffee at 7:30AM and programs begins at 8AM. For more information call George at 419-784-3975.

Hands of Hope Announcement – Save the date of Wednesday, March 18, 2015 for our fundraiser at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center in Van Wert. Pam Tebow is our guest speaker. Pam's son, Tim Tebow, won the Heisman Trophy while playing for the Florida Gators and in 2010. Pam and Tim were featured in a Super Bowl commercial that reached over 5 million people with the message of life.

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS=

If you would like a copy of your annual contribution statement for tax purposes, please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office.

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Next week is the collection for the Church in Latin America. Your generosity is invaluable to the future of the faith in this region. Please give with a joyful and generous heart. Thank you.

Weekly Schedule of Services

January 17 - 25, 2015
St. Maximilian Kolbe Deanery

“The Pastor’s Daily Scripture Inspirations
on Twitter: @frdivinemercy”.

SATURDAY, January 17 – St. Anthony
4PM Mass in Payne – Mary Litzenberg and
Victims of Abortion
5:30PM Mass in Paulding – Celeste Scheurich and
Dan & Rita Kaufman

SUNDAY, January 18 – Right-to-Life Weekend
8:30AM Mass in Antwerp – For the Parish
10:30AM Mass in Paulding – Monica Wilson and
Victims of Abortion

MONDAY, January 19
No Services Today

TUESDAY, January 20 – Sts. Fabian & Sebastian
8AM Mass in Antwerp – Gene Hughes

WEDNESDAY, January 21 – St. Agnes
8AM Mass in Paulding – Viola Dobbelaere

THURSDAY, January 22
9AM Pro-Life Mass at St. John, Defiance
Celebrant is Father Poggemeyer

FRIDAY, January 23
9AM Mass in Payne – Mike Johanns

SATURDAY, January 24 – St. Francis de Sales
4PM Mass in Payne – Mary Litzenberg and
Pat Linder
5:30PM Mass in Paulding – Dave Bakle and
Deceased Members of the Paul Johanns Family

SUNDAY, January 25
8:30AM Mass in Antwerp – Randy Mohr and
Nancy Woodring
10:30AM Mass in Paulding – For the Parish

Follow Bishop Thomas on Facebook at Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, on Twitter @BishopDEThomas and on Instagram at BishopDEThomas. The Diocese is on Facebook at Diocese of Toledo, on Twitter @DioceseToledo and Instagram at DioceseToledo.

NEW BULLETIN DEADLINE

Due to the new bulletin publication, the deadline for the bulletin items submitted to the Parish Office will be **noon on Mondays**. This change goes into effect immediately.

THANK YOU

To Father Poggemeyer for the visits, blessings of the sick and communion, thank you. For those who brought me communion after Sunday Mass and in the hospital, thank you. For those who have prayed for me, especially those who have prayed for me every day; and those who said Rosaries or had Novenas said for me, thank you. For those who sent cards and well wishes, very uplifting. For my wife, Sue, for being such a great caregiver, I love you. May Our Lord have a special blessing for all of you.
John LaFountain

THANK YOU

Thank you for your gift and cards and well-wishes from the parish. Your special ways make a difference. Thank you very much.
Deacon Don Coughlin

THANK YOU

Thank you to Payne PSR Jr. High Class for the lovely Christmas lap robe that was made for us. What a wonderful gift for such a blessed holiday. We'll always remember your kindness. And thank you to Mary Eklund for guiding these young people in ways to please God by their caring.
Bob & Helen Franklin

Saints on the Eucharist

“How many of you say: I should like to see His face, His garments, His shoes. You do see Him, you touch Him, you eat Him. He gives Himself to you, not only that you may see Him, but also to be your food and nourishment.”

St. John Chrysostom

FACILITY RENTAL MANAGERS CHANGE

As of January 1, 2015 Denny O'Donnell will be taking over the duties of maintenance of the buildings at Antwerp and the center rental scheduling. Contact information is on the cover of the bulletin. Deacon Bob Nighswander wishes to thank the people for their support and help over the years.

CONDOLENCES

Walter Heitkamp – December 2, 2014
Tom Marlin – December 3, 2014
Lavon Miller – December 28, 2014

CELEBRATE WITH US

Help celebrate with us, send a card to Jim & Isabel Morisy celebrating 60 years of marriage on Thursday, January 29, 2015. Send cards to Jim & Isabel at 15736 County Road 126 – Paulding, Ohio 45879.

REMINDER : TO HANG ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR

Paulding Knights of Columbus

FISH FRY SCHEDULE 2015

serving: LUNCH 11:00AM - 1:00PM

DINNER 4:00PM - 7:00PM

Friday, February 6th

Friday, February 13th

Friday, February 20th

Friday, February 27th

Friday, March 6th

Friday, March 13th

Friday, March 20th

Friday, March 27th

Adult Dinners, Kids Dinners and Fish *by the pound* available for carryout

The PUBLIC IS WELCOME

The Hall is located 1 mile south of Paulding on US 127

