**The Church of the Divine Love February 2016**

Love Notes

 **Parish Administrator Therese Sinks 914-737-1082 churchoffice@optonline.net**

Wardens Matt Marricco & Rob McMann Interim Pastor Rev. Ajung Sojwal Clerk of the Vestry Jessica Berbeck

Calendar of Events

### SUNDAYS

10:00 AM – **Sunday School-** *Family Sunday 2/7*

10:15AM – **Holy Eucharist Rite II**, with music, nursery, coffee hour and Healing prayer on 3rd Sunday

### WEEKDAYS

Tuesdays 9:15-11:30 AM **Women’s Bible Study**

### OTHER PROGRAMS

**Sunset Nursery School** – Mon-Fri, 9AM-3PM (914-737-1818 for info)

**Alcoholics Anonymous** –Mon & Thurs at 8PM

**Carriage House** **Thrift Shoppe** – Thurs & Sat from 10AM-2PM

**UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS**

**February 9th – Shrove Tuesday – Fat Tuesday Supper 5pm**

**February 10th - Ash Wednesday Services at 10am and 6pm**

My dear sisters and brothers at Church of the Divine Love,

As I write this, I am struck by just how far Montrose seems to be in almost every sense of the word. Driving around in Dimapur town today, l felt like I was in a completely different time in history, like two hundred years ago in New York terms. Roads that started off as paved ones sometime in the past, now just inch after inch of rubble, signs of corrupt government contractors who have built palaces for themselves instead of roads. As I walk in and out from stores stocked with the cheapest possible goods, I am amazed at how the overpriced junk even get sold. Everything in life, everything about life seem to be a struggle for majority of the people here. Somehow people have learned to live alongside heaps of garbage, layers of dust, frequent electricity blackouts, water shortage, days and often months of not getting paid for work done. In the midst of it all I wonder how the children can radiate their faces with such joy, for that matter, how can parents even imagine a future for their children here? The fact is that most people here just don't know better. Good medical care, a decent enough education for children, opportunities for artists and entrepreneurs and maybe the occasional vacation now and then are all unimaginable for a very large portion of the population here.
Once again, lent is upon us; in a sense, a life of scarcity and austerity that we force upon ourselves hoping to draw closer to God. Thinking of my life in New York, I cannot help but realize that it is lent for people here all year round. They cannot give up what they don't have and because life is so difficult here, prayer is as necessary as breathing and quoting scripture in everyday conversation is as easy as breathing. I have never met any other people who yearn so desperately for Christ's second coming. This great sense of anticipation for God to return borne from out of the squalor of life is what it must have been like to await the coming of the Messiah for the people of Israel some three thousand years ago. Maybe it is understandable that the suffering messiah was completely rejected by the people. The thought and experience of a messiah who chooses to walk with us in the pain of our lives rather than extract us out of it is baffling. But, this is how God has decided to come to us and as we take this lent to delve into the mystery of a suffering messiah yet again, I hope that you will find it in yourselves to walk the road to Calvary with Him in some way or the other with the thousands elsewhere and in our country who daily live on Calvary.
Your sister in Christ,
Ajung Sojwal

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**Fat Tuesday Supper**

**&**

**50/50 RAFFLE!**

(Proceeds will benefit The Church of the Divine Love &

The Sunset Nursery School Scholarship Fund)

**Shrove Tuesday, February 9th,2016**

**5:00-7:00PM**

**Sunset Nursery School**

**Dinner: Adults-$10 / Children-$5**

**Family of 4-$20**

**Raffle tickets are $5 each or 6 for $20**

**giving you TWO free chances to win!!!!**

**Come for some food and fun for the children…**

**and to see if you have won!**

**(You do not have to be present for the raffle drawing.)**

**If you would like to purchase raffle tickets, pleas**e **contact The Church of the Divine Love at** churchoffice@optonline.net **or 914-737-1082**

From the Thrift Shoppe!

Some nice women’s spring tops just came in in size small.  A smart shopper will snatch them up to wear in April.   Some very nice casual shoes in size 9 M are now in stock, at a tiny fraction of their original cost.  Twice a week we are putting out merchandise from our donors, there is always something new.  No, not brand new, but very close!

Hours: Every Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m to 2 p.m.  Support our very own Thrift Shop!

**Join us**

**at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center (CtK.org)**

 **for**

***the annual Women’s Retreat***

**From Friday, April 22- Sunday April 24, 2016**

Our weekend will include prayer, speakers, Bible study, music, and plenty of free time for rest, socializing, and meditation. The grounds and facilities at Christ the King are beautiful and peaceful.

*Don’t know much about the Bible? Don’t have much experience with prayer?*

*Don’t worry! You just have to be willing to learn.*

* Reasonable rates for single and double rooms (includes meals)
* Women from a variety of Protestant and Catholic churches attend
* Carpooling can be arranged
* Special dietary needs can be accommodated
* Handicapped access rooms available (limited—book early)
* Financial need discounts and full scholarships are available (limited—request early)
* The program part of the weekend is for women only, but men are also invited to join us for meals and leisure time

**For more info or to register, contact Melinda Cosentino: melindabc@verizon.net**

Highlights of the Annual Meeting January 31st, 2016:

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Voted in as Warden serving his second two year term Rob McMann.

Voted in as Vestry members all serving their first three year terms are Anthony Giordano, Erika Febres, and Roe Prosser.

The Altar guild had a good year, but are still in need of donations please remember to write your checks out to “Church of the Divine Love Altar Guild”.

Sunset Nursery School is thriving as usual.

The Sunday School will be taking a trip down to All Angel’s church to worship with and feed the homeless on February 28th.

Please note your Vestry Members are as follows:

Wardens – Matt Marricco & Rob McMann

Vestry Members –Jessica Berbeck, Peter Capozzelli, Erika Febres, Anthony Giordano, Brett LaRocque, Nick Peluso, and Roe Prosser.



***Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ..My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise*. PSALM 51:10, 18**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

**Church building**

Two Services with Eucharist and Imposition of ashes

**10:00 AM and 6:00 PM**

**Visitors welcome!!**

Hello from Sunset Nursery School!

Welcome February.  It is hard to believe that we are actually at the half way point in the school year.  Time really does fly when you are having fun!  The children have been busy working on their letters, numbers, shapes and colors in many different ways, such as sorting snowballs by size, graphing the buttons on a snowman and science experiments – we made snow!  We have been doing evaluations with the children and it is exciting to see how far they have come since September.  So many wonderful milestones such as writing their name, becoming fully potty-trained and even being able to say good bye to a parent during drop off.  Each and every accomplishment is enormous in their world.  They are very proud of themselves and we are proud of them!

The children have been busy in the art center painting masterpieces for the upcoming art exhibit, “Petite Picassos”.  This will be our eighth annual show at the Hendrick Hudson Free Library.  There will be a reception on February 1 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., where refreshments and smiles will be abundant!  All are welcome to attend.  It is a wonderful, social gathering where the children can see their beautiful work on display!  If you cannot make the reception, no worries, as the exhibit will be on display during the entire month of February.  You are welcome to stop by the hours they are open to see your child’s work.

Enrollment is in full swing.  We’ve been showing the school on a regular basis and three of the six classes are already full! If you know of a family looking for a nursery school, please send them our way.  We are certain they will be glad you did!

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our school.  Happy winter!

Melissa Wassil,

Director