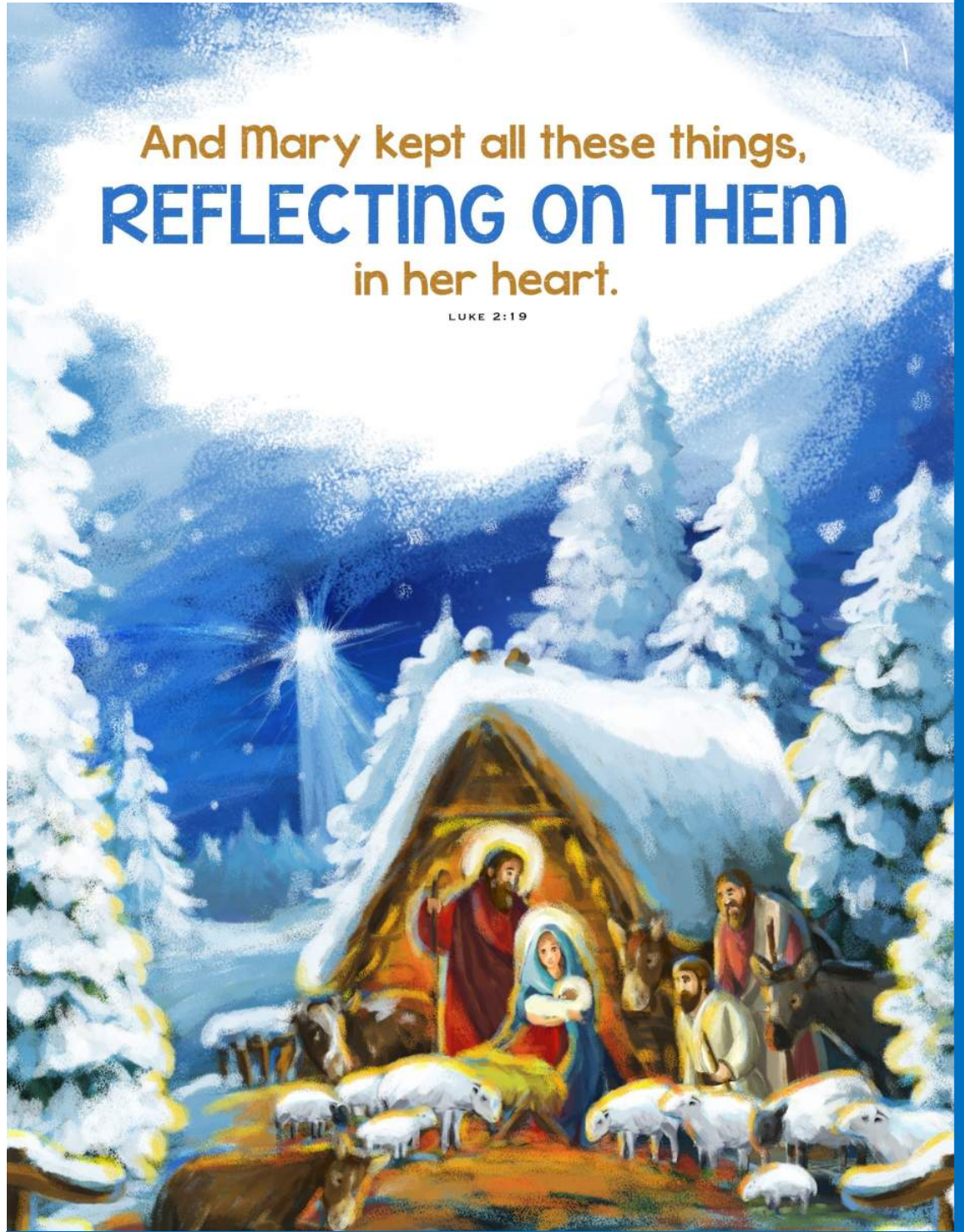


Solemnity of Mary - January 1st, 2023

And Mary kept all these things,  
**REFLECTING ON THEM**  
in her heart.

LUKE 2:19



#### MISSION STATEMENT

*"We reach out to all through prayer and service, as we live our Catholic faith in Christ with Mary."*

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*The People of God called to form the Christian Community of*

# Immaculate Heart of Mary Church





**SERVED BY**

Rev. Michael G. Ward, K.H.S., Pastor  
Rev. Valentine Ugwuanya: Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Robert Kunze: Weekend Assistant  
Deacon Jack Lynch  
Katie Wills: Director of Music Ministry  
John McGuire: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation



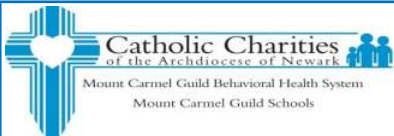
Mass will continue to Live Stream on Facebook and our website: [www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)

**A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE**

One of my favorite prayers this time of year is to imagine myself in the nativity scene. Not as a shepherd, or one of the magi or any of the people we have become so familiar with, just me. I then allow my thoughts to wander and reflect on God’s love as he allowed himself to be deprived of everything, and how that love is directed toward me and the graces and blessings that God has given to me over the last year.

This is doubly so as we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God today. Her example of faithfulness, trust and love in and for God is always inspiring. It always helps me to remember the love that God has for me and the love that he has called me to share with you. It is a wonderful way to reflect and give thanks for the past year and recognize the hope and possibilities of the new year. May God continue to bless you and our community of Immaculate Heart of Mary in the coming year.

Peace, Fr. Mike

**Catholic Charities**  
of the Archdiocese of Newark  
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Mount Carmel Guild Schools

The cold winds of winter and harsh weather are reminders that life is never smooth and comfortable at all times. There are many who do not have the resources to meet the demands of daily living. Catholic charity is the lifesaver for many such people. Donation Bins are located in our parking lot. Thank you!



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**Archdiocese of Newark - COVID-19 Directives - Updated May 15, 2022**

**STILL IN EFFECT:** Masks will no longer be required for fully vaccinated persons. If not fully vaccinated, persons are strongly encouraged to follow CDC guidance and wear a face mask in public settings. People will no longer be required to socially distance indoors or outdoors, although unvaccinated persons should continue to maintain a safe distance from others. These directives apply to Masses and activities in Church. Archdiocesan protocols for Religious Education and Basketball programs remain in effect.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS:** All ministries may return to full service – altar servers, lectors, ushers, greeters and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Ministers of Holy Communion must still sanitize their hands and wear a mask when distributing Communion.

**COMMUNION:** While Communion on the tongue is now permitted, for the safety of the priests, ministers and other communicants, we encourage continued reception of communion in the hand. At this time, Communion from the cup should not be distributed to the assembly.

**SANITIZING:** The cleaning and sanitizing of churches and common spaces is done regularly. It is not required after every liturgy.

**PARISH MEETINGS:** Parish meetings in person may resume. Those vaccinated are not required to wear masks for indoor meetings nor are they required to maintain social distancing. The same recommendations for Mass apply to those not vaccinated.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Schedule for Mass & Worship (schedules are subject to change)**

Saturday (Anticipated) 5:00 pm  
Sundays - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon  
Weekdays & Saturdays - 7:00 am and 8:30 am  
National Holidays - 9:00 am  
Holy Days - 7:00 am, 12:00 noon, 7:00 pm

Morning Prayer - Monday - Saturday at 8:15 am  
Rosary: Monday - Saturday after 8:30 am  
Novena to the Miraculous Medal & St. Jude:  
Saturdays after 8:30 am  
Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:15 - 4:45 pm

**Mass Intentions** For the week of January 1st - January 8th, 2023


<b>Saturday December 31</b>	7:00 am	Eileen Reidy+ by The Mulrooney Family
	8:30 am	Joyce DeRosa+ by Mr & Mrs Charles Barcellona
	5:00 pm	Fieseler & Hennessy Families+ by The Hennessy Family
<b>Sunday January 1</b>	8:00 am	For the People by The Parish
	10:00 am	Joanne E. Seaver+ by Daniel Harris
	12:00 pm	Mary Jane Bergen (living) by The Alpha Core Team Bessie Sullivan MD+ by The Sullivan Family
<b>Monday January 2</b>	7:00 am	Michael Mongeon+ by James Kelliher
	8:30 am	Rowland Lucid+ by Marion & Marc Berger
<b>Tuesday January 3</b>	7:00 am	Dorothy Foulks+ by Donna Ayers
	8:30 am	Constance Sewing+ by Eileen & Rich Wagner
<b>Wednesday January 4</b>	7:00 am	Vri Lavy MD+ by Edgar Sullivan
	8:30 am	Claudio Romero+ by Jerry & Mary Mahony
<b>Thursday January 5</b>	7:00 am	Bessie Sullivan MD+ by Edgar Sullivan
	8:30 am	Alex DiPac+ by Al Smith
<b>Friday January 6</b>	7:00 am	Michael Nikorak+ by Daniel Sullivan
	8:30 am	Joanne Quense+ by Chris, Bill & Susie Gonch
<b>Saturday January 7</b>	7:00 am	Mrs. Dorothy Foulks+ by Joan & Ray O'Donnell
	8:30 am	Laurie Clare+ by Betty & Tony Perfilio
	5:00 pm	Donna Cavanagh Keegan+ by The Cavanagh Family
<b>Sunday January 8</b>	8:00 am	For the People by The Parish
	10:00 am	Rose Badala+ by Anne Geislinger
	12:00 pm	Dorothy Foulks+ by Betty Seery




*Kindly keep our parishioner's family and friends, with health and other challenges, in your prayers*

John Allen	Colm Cosgrove	David Hens	Bill Malone	Arty Shapiro	Stephanie Vernace
George Becker	Samantha Bridge	Kathleen Herron	Owen Mike McCabe	Elisa Silversey	Stephen Voorhees
Mary Jane Bergen	James Brown	Juliann Junio	June McManus	Bernard Slaza	Ben Wheelock
Fran Boglioli	John Burkert	Gregory Kamouh	Marlene Mosko	Beverly Sopp	Evelyn Whitehorne
Erin Brennan	Ray Clark	Marie Keller	Hilda Pizza	Ryder Francis Spillane	
Anna Cassella	Albert Fischer, Jr.	Anna Koch	Diane Pricken	Paul Szeker	
Paul Cassidy	Phyllis Fischer	Jillian Lapidus	Carmela Resnick	Phyllis Szeker	
Matthew Cassio	Emily Fleming	Eileen Lynch	Marisol Rodriguez	Carole Ventre	
Frank Chimento	Mary Foster	Maureen Lynch	Susan Rozborski	Daniel Ventura	
Edward Clark	Michele Gamako	William Maines	Dolores Rust	Sr. Elizabeth	
William Consovoy	Nicole Griffin	Jim Malfetti	Diana Scariati	Vermaelen	


© Please advise if any names can be removed from the sick list. Thank you.  
office@ihmparish.net

 **Hospital Privacy** | Please remember that current privacy laws regarding patients in hospitals do not allow hospitals/pastoral care offices to contact parishes. If you or a loved one are in the hospital and want a priest to visit, please call the IHM office at (908) 889-2100.


**Special Intentions for the week of January 1st - January 8th, 2023**



**Sanctuary Light**  
For the intention of:  
**Frieda Plischke+**  
Requested by  
Dan & Roe Kelly




**Altar Bread & Wine**  
For the intention of:  
**Dorothy Foulks+**  
Requested by  
Donna Ayers



**Flowers for the Blessed Mother**  
In memory of the  
anniversary of the death of:  
**Helen Bergen+**  
Requested by  
MaryJane Bergen

**Remember  
Our Departed**



All Souls+



### 2022 Memorial Christmas Tree Dedications:

- Dedicated to Emmanuella Ugwuanya – Anonymous
  - In Loving Memory of Josephine McKeon
- In Loving Memory of the Fortunato & Saouaf Families
- In Loving Memory of Ernest Bono “Your spirit lives on”
  - In Loving Memory of Schmitt/Bergen Family “Miss You & Love You”
- In Loving Memory of Dorothy & Jack Foulks “beloved parents & grandparents”
- In Loving Memory of Deceased Members of Kelly & Mulrooney Families
  - Dedicated to the Schurtz Family “Peace on Earth”
  - Dedicated to Geri Smith “Devoted wife, mother and servant of God”
  - Merry Christmas From the Foley Family



### NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me  
 The brand new year ahead.  
 Help me live the way I should  
 As each new day I tread.  
 Give me gentle wisdom  
 That I might help a friend,  
 Give me strength and courage  
 So a shoulder I might lend.  
 The year ahead is empty,  
 Help me fill it with good things  
 Each new day filled with joy  
 And happiness it brings.  
 Amen.

Many thanks to Chris Zucosky and the Merry Men who decorated our church so beautifully for Christmas: John Torzewski, Rich Banasiak, Rich Duthie, Sean Duthie, Joe Farrell, Rich Fortunato, Brendan McNamara, Donnagh Ryan, Mike Marino, Dan Kelly, Charlie Mulrooney and John Foley. We also thank our "Artiste in Residence" MaryKate Schiller for her help in decorating year 'round!



# Got questions about life



Thank you to the Alpha Fall/Winter 2022 Class for joining us this past session. We hope you enjoyed the experience! The Winter/Spring 2023 Alpha series starts with a LIVE dinner/presentation on **Monday February 13, 2023** followed by several ZOOM sessions throughout the season. Seating is limited! Sign up today at [www.ihmparish.net/alpha](http://www.ihmparish.net/alpha)



**ATTENTION:** If you submitted a photo for the All Souls Mass, please stop by the Nazareth Center and pick up your pictures. Call the office 908-889-2100

### SAVE THE DATE! SENIOR BRUNCH + BINGO

**Monday January 16th**  
 10am @ The Nazareth  
 Center. Call 908-889-  
 2100 to RSVP

# BINGO



### **RIGHT TO LIFE MARCH** **JANUARY 20, 2023**

The Knights of Columbus is organizing a bus trip to Washington DC on January 20, 2023 for the March for Life. Roe V Wade was overturned, however the fight is NOT over by any means. Join the Knights of Columbus this Jan 20 on a bus trip to Washington DC to march with other pro-lifers. For more information, contact John at [jtorzewski@aol.com](mailto:jtorzewski@aol.com)

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- Dinner Saturday night
- Bowling /Arcade on Saturday night & a Special trip giveaway!

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS

[Now - Jan 6th]

QUAD: \$450

TRIPLE: \$475

DOUBLE: \$530

Need more info?  
 Contact your Your YM  
 or Jean Stroud at  
[jstroud@fiatventures.com](mailto:jstroud@fiatventures.com)

**Jan. 8, 2023** Youth Ministry Discipleship Night 7-8:30pm  
**Jan. 16, 2023** MLK Day of Service for all teens 8am-1:15pm  
**Jan. 29, 2023** Service Night 7:00pm-8:30pm  
**Questions?** Contact Jean at [ihmsp@boldym.com](mailto:ihmsp@boldym.com)

REGISTER ONLINE NOW! [BOLDYM.COM/SKITRIP2023](http://BOLDYM.COM/SKITRIP2023)

## Minister Assignments: January 7 - January 8

Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
1/7 5:00pm	Chris Zucosky	Janice Good Piga John Torzewski	Fr. Rob
1/8 8:00am	Rich Banasiak	Lou DiBella Colm Keogh	Fr. Mike
1/8 10:00am	Andy Davis	Jack Timko Anthony Carlino	Fr. Rob
1/8 12:00pm	Tracey Foley	Eileen Wagner Jean Naugle	Fr. Mike

Attention Lectors! Pick up your workbooks in the Sacristy after Mass!



### Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 9:00pm

Saturday - 9:00am - 2:00pm

Closed on Sundays, Holy Days & Holidays

For more information contact Erin Miller at:  
erins310@gmail.com | 908-531-0128

### IHM PARISH INFORMATION

#### Fall/Winter Office Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 9:00am - 4:00pm | Fri. 9:00am - 2:00pm

**Mass Intention Reservations:** Call or leave a message at the office (908)889-2100 or email office@ihmparish.net

**Religious Education:** faithformation@ihmparish.net

**Baptisms:** Please call the office at (908) 889-2100

**Marriage:** Appointments should be made at least one year in advance. Contact the priest about a date and Pre-Cana information.

**New Parishioners:** Registration forms available at www.ihmparish.net or in the Nazareth Center office.

**Ministry to the Sick & Homebound:** Please notify the parish office of those who are sick or homebound, in hospitals or are unable to worship. For urgent calls, contact (908) 889-2100

**RCIA-Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults:** Religious education for adults who are either not Baptized or who are Catholic, but have not received all of their sacraments and would like to be Confirmed or receive Communion. We have flexible hours. Call (908) 889-2100. All are welcome!

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays: 4:15 - 4:45 pm  
Arrangements can be made at any time for private confession. Please call the office at (908) 889-2100

**Parish Schools:** St. Bartholomew Academy (908) 322-4265  
Union Catholic Regional High School (908) 889-1600

Website: [www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)

Like us on Facebook: **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

Follow us on Instagram: **ihmparish\_sp**



## Rosary Altar Society News

♥ A reminder to register for our ANNUAL WINTER LUNCHEON on Tuesday, January 10 (snow date January 17) at 12:00 Noon at Max's Bistro on Park Avenue in Scotch Plains. This multi-course, gourmet luncheon will be a beautiful way to refresh and reunite after a hectic holiday season and to begin a new year filled with Hope & Blessings. Please send you check for \$30 (payable to IHM Rosary Altar Society) to Treasurer Alice Mansfield-Smith by January 6.

Please contact Janice 908-759-6729 with any questions or dietary restrictions.

♥ For those who participated in the Fused Glass Pendant & Bracelet Event, your creations are ready to be picked up in the Nazareth Center Office. Many Thanks to Katie Wills!

♥ Please mark your calendars for our February 7th Mass & In-House Retreat featuring our guest speaker Phyllis Manno. Additional details to follow in the coming weeks.

♥ As we begin our new year of 2023, we remain Grateful to God for our wonderful IHM Parish Family, including our dedicated and inspirational Priests, our Rosarian sisters, our immediate family members, our parish office staff, and to our dear Blessed Virgin Mary. May we always remember what is truly important in life and strive to carry out the tasks that our loving God asks of us.

♥ May your week ahead be a Blessed & Joyous one filled with special surprises. We continue to hold you and your loved ones in our daily and weekly devotions and prayers.

"Each day is a gift. How we choose to unwrap it will determine our destiny."

♥ Janice



Scenes from the Living Nativity. Happy Holidays from Leroy!



The Women's Prayer Group will gather on **Thursday January 5, 2023 at 7:30pm** via Zoom. The topic will be "The Letters of St. Paul". Email [tefoleyihm@gmail.com](mailto:tefoleyihm@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.



### CENTERING PRAYER/LECTIO DIVINA

Every Thursdays from 9:30 - 10:45 am on Zoom. Reflection, Discussion, Meditation in the Mystic and Contemplative way of prayer. Call Phyllis at 908-264-7456 for information & the Zoom link.



The next meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be **Thursday January 14th at 7:30am in the Church Basement**. For more info contact David at [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com)

Collection Report		December 18, 2022	
Weekly Target:		\$12,558.00	
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)		\$11,473.08	
Surplus/(Deficit)		(1,084.92)	
Fiscal Year to Date:			
Budget		\$313,950.00	
Actual:		\$275,866.09	
Surplus/(Deficit)		(38,083.91)	
Rolling 4 Week Averages:			
Average Collection:		\$11,854.15	
Average Surplus/(Deficit)		(711.35)	



**Join the IHM Prayer Shawl Ministry!**

We make prayer shawls for parishioners who are ill and we make scarves & hats for the needy. **Our next meeting is Sunday, January 22 @ 11am.** Please contact Marion at 908-433-2829.

**“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” - Jeremiah 29:11**

IHM EVENT CALENDER	
Sunday January 1: New Year’s Day	
All Day	Happy New Year! Office & Chapel Closed
Monday January 2	
All Day	Happy New Year! Office & Chapel Closed
Tuesday January 3	
Wednesday January 4	
10:00am	Food Pantry
8:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday January 5	
9:30am	Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Zoom
7:30pm	Women’s Prayer Group Zoom
Friday January 6	
Saturday January 7	
Sunday January 8	
10:00am	Food Pantry Sunday
7:00pm	BOLD Discipleship Night



**A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate John McGuire:**

What are some ways that we can mark the beginning of a new year? Our culture tends to set priority on setting resolutions. There is nothing wrong with that, but these are usually materialistic resolutions about weight loss, self care, decluttering, and avoiding indulgence. In themselves, these aren’t terrible things to resolve, but they do not get to the core of who we are, or significantly alter our lives. Most resolutions will last a month, or six months if we are lucky, and have no bearing on our immortal souls. I know what you are thinking, do not worry, I am not going to drop that sort of assertion at your feet without presenting a constructive alternative. That would be counterproductive, and outright rude!

So, our Catholic faith considers the beginning of our liturgical year to be Advent. A season of repentance, and preparation that is often overshadowed by the hustle and bustle of commercialized, and oft secular Christmas. Gift shopping, feasts and travel planning. All nice things, but running counter to the deepening of our faith. Often people are left feeling like they failed to live up to their Advent Aspirations™. How about instead of setting mundane expectations for the new year, we were to call a mulligan on our Advent plans, and use the new year as an opportunity for spiritual growth, and increased involvement in our parish community? Are you in, or will it be another new year of Special K and sporting equipment that doubles as a clothing rack?

This week, let us pray for a wonderful, happy and healthy New Year. God Bless, and hope to see you soon!

**[www.ihmparish.net/childrensfaitformation](http://www.ihmparish.net/childrensfaitformation)**



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