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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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

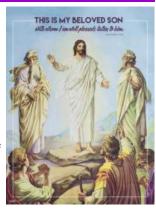


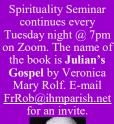
A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

Today's story of Abraham is a turning point in the story of salvation. After creation, until now, the book of Genesis related the story of sin and rebellion. Now we see God establishing a relationship with Abraham and calling him to a life of holiness. It is an invitation or call to holiness that continues for each of us today. It is a promise of everlasting life in the glory of God, a glory glimpsed in the transfiguration, which gave the disciples, and us, courage to persevere in our journey of faith.

As Jesus does with Peter, James and John, He invites us to participate in his life and glory. The call to holiness and faith can seem daunting at times. Other times it may seem not to be worth the effort. But Jesus continues to invite us into a deeper communion and relationship with him. The more we open our minds and souls to His redeeming love, the greater we become aware of and experience his divine presence in our lives and the call to share that divine love with others, building up the Kingdom here and now.

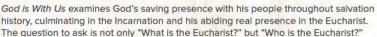
Peace, Fr. Mike











This week, login to formed.org and watch Presence, Episode 1.

Go to formation: Go to formation: formation formation: formation formation: f

FORMED

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 Mass Novena to the Miraculous Medal & St. Jude: Saturdays after 8:30 am Mass Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:15 - 4:45 pm

Mass Intentions		For the week of March 5 - March 12, 2023	
Saturday March 4	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	John Percoco+ from Robert, Paula, Dan & Rob Criscuolo Emilio Narcis+ from The Frazier Family Dorothy Foulks+ from Janice Good Piga & Bob Piga	
Sunday March 5	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Dorothy Foulks+ from Mary Jane Bergen For the People from IHM Parish Patricia Audi+ from Patricia & James Feeley	
Monday March 6	7:00 am 8:30 am	Tom Cress+ from Ann Butler Osualdo N. Dominguez+ from Cornelia Fernandez	2000
Tuesday March 7	7:00 am 8:30 am	Mary Jane Bergen+ from Gabriella, Anthony & Family Manus McGeady+ from Antoinette Guarna	A
Wednesday March 8	7:00 am 8:30 am	Antonia Soccodato+ from The Nizner Family Michael D'Agostino+ from Dan & Roe Kelly	
Thursday March 9	7:00 am 8:30 am	Sean Weldon+ from Ann Butler Eduard Faros+ from Cornelia Fernandez	3000 3000
Friday March 10	7:00 am 8:30 am	Mary Jane Bergen+ from Marilyn Gialanella Happy Birthday Allison Gara (living) from Christopher Lui	ndgren
Saturday March 11	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Ruth Wiegand+ from Ron Katims Michael D'Agostino+ from The Lewis Family Frances Thomas & John McKeown+ from Joanne & Gary G	Cogswell
Sunday March 12	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	For the People from IHM Parish Salvatore Wood+ from The Verdic Family Michael D'Ambrosio from The Kiley & D'Ambrosio Fami	lies

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

John Allen	James Brown	Amy Huebach	Bill Malone	Elisa Silversey	Ben Wheelock
George Becker	John Burkert	Juliann Junio	June McManus	Bernard Slaza	Evelyn Whitehorne
Fran Boglioli	Ray Clark	Gregory Kamouh	Marlene Mosko	Beverly Sopp	-
Erin Brennan	Albert Fischer, Jr.	Marie Keller	Hilda Pizza	Ryder Francis Spillane	
Anna Cassella	Phyllis Fischer	Anna Koch	Diane Pricken	Paul Szeker	
Paul Cassidy	Emily Fleming	Jillian Lapidus	Carmela Resnick	Phyllis Szeker	
Matthew Cassio	Mary Foster	Trish Longus	Marisol Rodriguez	Carole Ventre	Please advise if
Frank Chimento	Michele Gamako	Eileen Lynch	Susan Rozborski	Daniel Ventura	any names can be
Edward Clark	Nicole Griffin	Maureen Lynch	Dolores Rust	Sr. Elizabeth Vermaelen	removed from the
Colm Cosgrove	David Hens	William Maines	Diana Scariati	Stephanie Vernace	sick list. Thank you.
Samantha Bridge	Kathleen Herron	Jim Malfetti	Arty Shapiro	Stephen Voorhees	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 March 5 - March 12, 2023



Sanctuary Light For the intention of: The Volunteers Helping **Our Food Pantry (living)** Requested by **IHM Parish**



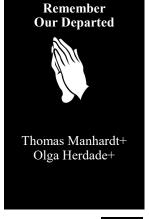
Altar Bread & Wine For the intention of: Women's Prayer Group (living)

Requested by IHM Parish



Flowers for the Blessed Mother In memory of: My Mom Frances+

Requested by Maureen Pecoraro









PIZZA NIGHT!
Friday Night March 24, 2023
8pm (After Stations of the Cross)
Sign-up at www.ihmparish.net
so we can prepare enough food &
drink for everyone.

Scan the QR code here with your mobile device to register for the retreat. Visit stbartholomewchurch.org/mens-cornerstone for

more information

Thank you!





SUMMER FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Summer Families of Faith (Summer Academy) registration will begin soon! If you have registered for this program in the past, you will automatically receive an email from Parish Giving with instructions on how to register your child(ren). Registration for the fall/spring Families of Faith religious education program will begin in late June. (TBA)

The Summer Families of Faith session will run from June 26th through July 7th (no sessions on July 3rd and 4th). Arrangements will be made to make up for the session missed on Monday, July 3rd.

The daily schedule will be from 8:45 am to 1:00 pm including daily Mass.

Fees are \$225 for one child and \$325 for two or more children. The deadline for registering is June 1st. If you have any questions or do not receive a notification from Parish Giving on or about March 6th, please contact the Faith Formation Office at: faithformation@ihmparish.net



March 5, 2023: Youth Ministry Discipleship Night 7-8:30pm June 25-June 30: Summer Catholic Heart Mission Trip to Drexel Hill, PA. Registrations begin March 2023. Restore homes, feed the hungry, lift the spirits of children, bring joy to the elderly and disabled, and offer assistance to social agencies. Join us for a life changing week, where together, WE CAN BE THE HOPE IN THE WORLD!

Questions? Contact Jean at jstroud@fiatventures.com

Minister Assignments: March 11 - March 12						
Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider			
3/11 5:00pm	Chris Zucosky	Dan Kelly Janice Good Piga	Fr. Mike			
3/12 8:00am	Karen Schwaneberg	Jean Bagdonas Chris Dill	Fr. Val			
3/12 10:00am	Heba Fortunato	David Diken MaryKate Schiller	Fr. Rob			
3/12 12:00pm	Michelle Gardella	Regina O'Connor Jean Naugle	Fr. Mike			



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

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 Like us on Facebook: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Follow us on Instagram: ihmparish sp



Rosary Altar Society News

GOD IS EVERYWHERE by Mary B. Conn

God is, truly, everywhere, Wherever we may be. God is there to be with us, And comfort you and me. In times of stress, and times of sorrow, He knows what's in our hearts. He sends His comfort down to Earth, And His love, imparts. Never are we out of reach of God's most loving care! He sees, and hears, and answers us At home, and everywhere. He answers every prayer we ask, In wavs that are His own. He uses mysterious ways to show That we are not alone. A greater companion, no one could have Than our dear Father, above! He accepts and forgives us all our faults, While surrounding us with His love!!

- ♥ A reminder that our Here's To Your Health Seminar will be held on March 7th at 7pm in the Nazareth Center. Please register by calling Mary Ann on 908-322-0279.
- ♥ There are reservations remaining for the San Alfonso Retreat from March 10-12 in Long Branch. Kindly reach out to Chris Haight for additional questions and registration details 908-322-6462.
- ♥ We join IHM in promoting the "Comedic Evening With Julia Child Event" with Wine & Cheese on Friday Evening, April 21 at 7PM in the Nazareth Center! Please see the bulletin for additional details OR CALL Maureen 732-560-0918 or Janice 908-759-6729. Reservations are \$20 per person. Checks may be made out to IHM and sent to Alice Mansfield-Smith, 3 Kennedy Drive, Clark, NJ 07066 by April 10th.
- ▼ It's never too late to join our wonderful Rosary Altar Society. Please contact Janice 908-759-6729 for information. You and your dear family members continue to be in our daily thoughts and prayers. May you week ahead be a Lenten week filled with special Blessings and moments of reflection.





The Women's Prayer Group will gather on Thursday April 13, 2023 at 7:30pm via Zoom. The topic will be "The Corporal Works of Mercy". Email tefoleyihm@gmail.com for the Zoom link.



CENTERING PRAYER/LECTIO DIVINA

Heart to Heart 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 Sat. morning 2/18 at 7:30am in church basement. Donuts & Coffee served! Contact David at dndiken@aol.com

Collection Report	February 26, 2023			
Weekly Target:	\$12,558.00			
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)	\$9,745.69			
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,812.31)			
Fiscal Year to Date:				
Budget	\$426,972.00			
Actual:	\$376,875.83			
Surplus/(Deficit)	(50,096.17)			
Rolling 4 Week Averages:				
Average Collection:	\$10,447.25			
Average Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,110.76)			

Annual Appeal \$36,445.00 pledged 58.66% of \$62,125.00 goal

Charitable Contribution Forms for 2022

For Collection Envelopes and Parish Giving Donations: Contact Tracey at 908-889-2100 or tefoleyihm@gmail.com

We need volunteers for **BINGO** @ **Ashbrook Nursing Home on**

Wednesdays from 2-3pm. If you would like to help, call Chris at 908-322-6462





30 Minute Chair Exercise Class Tuesday March 7 @ Nazareth Center! Party starts at 7:00pm. Call Mary Ann Sopko if you'd like to participate: 908-322-0279

IHM EVENT CALENDER

Sunday March 5

8:45am First Communion Family Retreat Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast 9:00am 7:00pm BOLD Youth Group Discipleship Night

Monday March 6

7:30pm Alpha Episode 3 on Zoom

Tuesday March 7

7:00pm 30 Minute Chair Exercise Class

7:15pm Julian of Norwich Spirituality Seminar @ Zoom

Wednesday March 8

10:00am Food Pantry

DVD Bible Study: Moses 1:00pm 7:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting

8:00pm **Choir Practice**

Thursday March 9

9:30am Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Zoom

Friday March 10

12:00pm Stations of the Cross

1:00pm Soup & Salad @ Nazareth Center

5:00pm San Alfonso Retreat Begins @ Long Branch, NJ 6:00pm Men's Cornerstone Retreat Begins @ St. Bart's

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 11

All Day CYO Basketball

11:00am Confirmation Retreat (9th Grade) 9:00pm Men's Cornerstone Retreat Ends

Sunday March 12

10:00am Sunday Food Pantry 3:00pm San Alfonso Retreat Ends



A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate John McGuire:

This weekend marks the beginning of preparation for First Holy Communion for families that plan on celebrating this year during the Easter season. This process begins with a morning of reflection, followed by 10:00 am Mass, and a light brunch and conversation. The children's parents are asked to reflect on what the Eucharist means in their lives. The children themselves are asked to reflect on who has been an example of love of the Eucharist in their lives, and why they believe it is important to receive. We currently live in a time, where the practice of faith has taken a back seat to other things, and it is said that people struggle with belief in the Eucharist. I've heard embarrassing statistics about belief, but also see some opportunity in this. For our parish, and the Church, this is a privileged time to begin asking certain questions. How can Catholics grow in love and respect for the Eucharistic Lord if the Mass isn't a priority in the lives of their families? How can we as a community better welcome, and encourage families to receive and believe in the Eucharist? How do we as a parish better welcome our first communicants and their families to the table of the Lord when they receive? How about this, the second week of Lent, we dedicate part of our prayer towards reflecting on these questions, and praying for those who will soon receive Jesus for the first time. Lord give us strength to find the words, and extend the welcome, that will bring others closer to you! God Bless and have a great week!



Want to donate but don't have any cash on hand?

Parish Giving is fast, safe & secure. Scan the QR code with your smart phone or tablet. This code will link you directly to our Parish Giving website. No sign-up required. Just click the "Pay Now" button. Thank you for your continued support to our community!







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