

*Palm Sunday - April 2, 2023*



**Palm  
Sunday**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

1571 S. Martine Ave. Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 PHONE: (908) 889-2100  
FAX: (908) 889-9477 EMAIL: [office@ihmparish.net](mailto:office@ihmparish.net)

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

Facebook: **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church** | Instagram: **ihmparish\_sp**

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

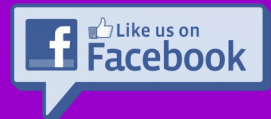
# Immaculate Heart of Mary Church





**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**

In Matthew’s account of the Passion of Jesus Christ which we hear today, we are shown how Jesus the Messiah is not only the fulfillment of the Hebrew Scriptures, but also brings about the Kingdom of God. Matthew is reassuring his community of Jewish Christians that they are still connected with their history, with their prophets, while also realizing that in the redemptive suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus a new order has been established, a transformation has occurred. Our participation in the liturgy today helps us to own that transformation in our daily lives. In a special way during Holy Week we meditate on the exodus represented by the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. For the community of Christians of all times, the narrative of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus is the source where we renew our faith, hope and love. Peace, Fr. Mike



**Recovering the Full Celebration of the Liturgy: Liturgical Music**

*The musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value...as sacred song closely bound to the text, it forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy.* – Sacrosanctum Concilium, 112

Music is all around us in every aspect of our lives. It accompanies us in our cars and on our walks. It is playing overhead in stores, salons and even elevators. It has been around since the first person hummed a tune, perhaps trying to imitate the chirps and songs of birds. Music is an integral part of the Church’s worship. Unlike much of the music heard in daily life, liturgical music is live and it invites participants to sing. The use of live church music is a reminder of the importance of authenticity in the liturgy. No artificial flowers; no artificial symbols; and no prerecorded music! It is also key to the participation of the assembly in the liturgy. Many parishes were forced to reduce the amount of singing or even eliminate it altogether during the height of the pandemic. Now that post-pandemic life is emerging, a moment of grace lies before us calling parishes to revitalize music; to return to fuller celebrations of the liturgy and fulfill the teaching of the church which requires that “Every care should be taken that singing by the ministers and the people not be absent in celebrations that occur on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation” (GIRM, 40). Music in the liturgy fulfills many purposes. It often accompanies liturgical action like the opening song of Mass which is sung during the entrance procession or the Lamb of God which accompanies the breaking of the bread. Music itself can be a prayer as in the singing of the Gloria or the Holy, Holy, Holy. Liturgical music shapes the liturgy and the seasons of the church year. It can voice hope at a funeral and joy on Easter morning. Music in liturgy is also key to participation. The assembly is united as one body when it sings together the hymns and acclamations of the Mass. Most of the vocalizing done by the assembly in a liturgy is singing. When the entire assembly sings along at Mass, it makes for a vibrant community of faith, which draws others into the church. The US Bishops’ document on music, Sing to the Lord, says that “good celebrations can foster and nourish faith. Poor celebrations may weaken it. Good music make [s] the liturgical prayers of the Christian community more alive and fervent so that everyone can praise and beseech the Triune God more powerfully, more intently and more effectively” (STL, 5). It is time for parishes to restore vibrant music and robust singing to their liturgies. It is time to promote rich, full celebrations which increase the faith and participation of all who come to worship.

Bulletin article 3 of 4 by the Worship Office Archdiocese of Newark

**Recovering the Full Celebration of the Liturgy: Receiving the Blood of Christ**

*Take and eat; this is my body... Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins.* – Matthew 26:26-28

In the Gospel of Matthew, at the Last Supper, Jesus specifically commanded his disciples to “eat” and “drink” his Body and Blood. This command is at the heart of all of our worship—the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Jesus gave his Body and Blood to be consumed. In the Gospel of John, Jesus taught: “Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you” (6:53). Because of concerns about sharing the chalice during the pandemic, the Archdiocese of Newark, like many others, placed a moratorium on its distribution for the assembly. It was reserved to the clergy who are obligated (for validity) to receive the Blood of Christ at every Mass. Communion from the chalice is being restored now, so that all may have the opportunity to participate more fully in the celebration of the Eucharist. The church rightly teaches that whoever receives Communion under only one kind receives the whole Christ, “Body and Blood, soul and divinity,” since the living Lord is totally and completely present in each of the species. However, it also states that “Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds” (GIRM, 281). Beginning as early as the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023, but no later than Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023, parishes across the Archdiocese of Newark will once again begin offering the Blood of Christ at Mass. This will allow all parishioners to respond to Jesus’ command to eat and drink at their own level of comfort. Parishioners wishing to receive Holy Communion from the chalice should approach the minister and bow their head slightly in a sign of reverence. When the minister says “The Blood of Christ,” the communicant replies audibly, “Amen,” takes the chalice from the minister and drinks. The minister then takes it back and firmly wipes both sides of the rim while turning it slightly for the next communicant. “The consecrated host may be received either on the tongue or in the hand, at the discretion of each communicant” (GIRM, 160). Saint Paul wrote, “As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes” (1 Cor 11:26). Eating and drinking the Body and Blood of the Lord fulfills his Last Supper command, commemorates his sacrifice on the Cross, and moves believers into deeper participation in the Eucharist.

Bulletin article 4 of 4 by the Worship Office Archdiocese of Newark

**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 April 2 - April 9, 2023

<b>Saturday April 1</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Ann McAuley+ from Karen & Joe Schurtz Dorothy Foulks+ from Dan & Roe Kelly Giuseppe Galazzo+ from The Barcellona Family
<b>Sunday April 2</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Marcus Andrew+ from Rekha Kulkarni Margaret Licata+ from The Lewis Family For the People from IHM Parish
<b>Monday April 3</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Francis Downey+ from Karen & Joe Schurtz Christopher Gorka+ from his wife Nancy
<b>Tuesday April 4</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Alice Lissemore+ from Maureen Grossman Denis Sullivan+ from Jerry & Mary Mahony
<b>Wednesday April 5</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Bruno Gialanella+ and Nate Switch+ from Marilyn Gialanella Anton Filo+ from The Nizner Family
<b>Thursday April 6</b>	8:30 am 7:30 pm	Morning Prayer Mass of the Lord's Supper for James R. Kennedy+ from Dave Van Anda
<b>Friday April 7</b>	8:30 am 12:00 pm 3:00 pm 7:00 pm	Morning Prayer Outdoor Stations of the Cross (weather permitting) Veneration of the Cross Living Stations of the Cross performed by IHM Youth Ministry
<b>Saturday April 8</b>	8:30 am 8:00 pm	Morning Prayer Easter Vigil from IHM Parish
<b>Sunday April 9</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Robert B. Coats+ from Donna Ayers Michael D'Agostino from The Pecoraro Family For the People from IHM Parish

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

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

© Please advise if any names can be removed from the sick list. Thank you! [office@ihmparish.net](mailto:office@ihmparish.net)

### For Those Who Have Lost A Loved One:

St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, 2032 Westfield Ave. Scotch Plains, will be offering a 7 week Bereavement Support Group. The support group will begin on Wednesday, April 19, and it will continue on the following dates: April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. The group meeting times are from 7pm to 8:30pm in the Cafeteria of the St. Bartholomew Academy. Please RSVP to: Jo-Ann at 908-889-7790 or Bernadette at 908-510-0995. If you wish to attend please call on or before April 12.

## Special Intentions for the week of April 2 - April 9, 2023



**Sanctuary Light**  
For the intention of:  
**Emily Rose Blum+**  
Requested by  
Love, Grandma



**Altar Bread & Wine**  
For the intention of:  
**Holy Name Society (living)**  
Requested by  
IHM Parish



**Flowers for the Blessed Mother**  
In memory of:  
**Charles Takacs+**  
Requested by  
Barbara Apgar

**Remember  
Our Departed**



Theresa M. Newell+  
Carol Ventre+





**Open House at Saint Peter's Prep**  
 Sunday, April 30 from 1 – 3 at the school's campus in historic downtown Jersey City. For more information on the Spring Open House please call 201-547-6389.

## Be an Eagle for the Day

Rising students in grades 5-8 are invited to spend the day at the Academy, attend classes and meet students and teachers.

Parents are invited for a Q&A with the Principal.

**APRIL 26, 2023**  
 8 am - 3 pm for students  
 8 am - Q & A for parents

**RSVP**  
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GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 7

(7PM)

IN THE CHURCH

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

PRESENTED BY THE YOUTH MINISTRY

**Sunday, April 2:** Living Stations Rehearsal 1-3pm  
**Good Friday, April 7:** Living Stations of the Cross @ 7pm  
**Sunday, April 16:** College Care Package Night ~ 7-8:30pm  
**Friday, April 28 - Saturday, April 29:** Lock-In!  
**June 25-June 30:** Summer Mission Trip to Drexel Hill, PA

**The Normalcy of Adoption**  
 presented by Willia McGurn  
**Sunday April 16 at 1pm**  
 (after noon Mass)  
 St. Helen's Church Gymnasium  
 For more information contact:  
[marykominsky@gmail.com](mailto:marykominsky@gmail.com)

UNION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

Food Truck Festival @ Union Catholic High School  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023 12-5 pm**  
 Live Music, Beer & Wine - Fun for All Ages!  
 For more info, or if you would like to be a vendor, email [alestarchick@unioncatholic.org](mailto:alestarchick@unioncatholic.org)

Union Catholic High School Spring Open House  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023 AT 7:00 PM**

Soar Beyond Your Dreams at Union Catholic! In our co-educational, faith-based environment you will reach your greatest potential. Join us and discover for yourself why Union Catholic High School is so special! Visit our website to reserve your seat or call us at 908-889-1600, ext. 302

2023 Lenten Regulations

I. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

II. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.

III. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

IV. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty\*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 26, 2023** to **The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 4, 2023.**

*Canon 920, §1: All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

## Holy Week Minister Assignments: April 6 - April 9

Thursday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
4/6 Holy Thursday 7:30pm	Jim Brennan	MaryKate Schiller (11 spots open)	Fr. Val
4/7 Good Friday 3:00pm	Janice Good Piga Rich Banasiak	(2 spots open)	Fr. Rob
4/8 Easter Vigil 8:00pm	Janice Good Piga Geraldine Keogh Colm Keogh	(2 spots open)	Fr. Mike
4/9 Easter 8:00am	Ed Sullivan (1 spot open)	Karen Schwaneberg Rich Banasiak (4 spots open)	Fr. Val
4/9 Easter 10:00am	MaryKate Schiller Heba Fortunato	Eileen Wagner Rich Wagner (4 spots open)	Fr. Mike
4/9 Easter 12:00pm	Carol Kiley (1 spot open)	(6 spots open)	Fr. Rob

Contact [tefoleyihm@gmail.com](mailto:tefoleyihm@gmail.com) if you would like to serve at Mass.

### IHM PARISH INFORMATION

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](mailto:office@ihmparish.net)

**Religious Education:** [faithformation@ihmparish.net](mailto: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 info.

**New Parishioners:** Registration forms available at [www.ihmparish.net](http://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**  
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## Rosary Altar Society News

### IT'S LIKE..... By Nancy Watson Dodrill

In Spring, when all of life's renewed, It's like a breath of air  
Has filtered through the countryside, And has chosen you to share.  
It's like the blossoms tight in buds, Have released their petals' fold,  
Just because you're walking by;  
They're giving you their gold. It's like the sky of pewter clouds,  
Has seen you walking near, And sent the breeze to clear the gloom,  
So the sun could meet you there.  
It's like the crystal waters flow, And sings its melody,  
To serenade your evening stroll; To set your worries free.  
It seems like Spring gets personal, Each time she passes through,  
And wants a little fellowship, To spend time with God and you.  
It's like she understands your heart, It's like it's been designed,  
That springtime follows Winter's storm. To clear the cobwebs from your mind.

♥ We are joining with IHM in promoting the "COMEDIC EVENING WITH JULIA CHILD" with Wine & Cheese on Friday evening, April 21st at 7PM in the Nazareth Center. The Julia Child impersonator is well known for her side-splitting re-creation of Julia's famous personality. Please contact Janice Good-Piga 908-759-6729 with questions or to reserve your seat. Please mail your checks, payable to IHM for \$20 per person, to Alice Mansfield-Smith, 3 Kennedy Drive, Clark, NJ 07066 by April 10th. Come join IHM's Family & Friends in this delightful night out!!

♥ We have once again planned a fabulous Dinner Theater experience at the HUNTERDON HILLS PLAYHOUSE on Saturday, August 12th. The show is "REMEMBER ME?" featuring the former star of Three's Company, Joyce Dewitt. This will be a full luncheon & show and parking is plentiful. Tickets are \$80. We have a limited number of tickets available. Please contact Janice Good-Piga 908-759-6729 with questions or to reserve your seat. Car pooling can be coordinated for those who prefer not to drive.

As we approach Holy Week, may you receive God's special Blessings and may you have the opportunity to pause to reflect on what Jesus's sacrifice really has brought to our lives.  
You remain close to our hearts and in our daily prayers.

♥ Janice



The Women's Prayer Group will gather for a meeting **Thursday April 13 at 7:30pm via Zoom**. The topic will be "The Corporal Works of Mercy". Email [tefoleyihm@gmail.com](mailto:tefoleyihm@gmail.com) for more details. Prayer connects us all!



### CENTERING PRAYER/LECTIO DIVINA

Centering Prayer will be taking days off on 4/6 and 4/13 in observance of Holy Week. Call Phyllis at 908-264-7456 for information & the Zoom link for future meetings. God Bless!



The next meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be **Saturday morning April 8 at 7:30am in the church basement**. Contact [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) for more info.



Collection Report		March 26, 2023
Weekly Target:		\$12,558.00
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)		\$7,979.68
Surplus/(Deficit)		(4,578.32)
Fiscal Year to Date:		
Budget		\$477,204.00
Actual:		\$424,523.80
Surplus/(Deficit)		(52,680.20)
Rolling 4 Week Averages:		
Average Collection:		\$11,911.99
Average Surplus/(Deficit)		(646.01)

## Annual Appeal <sup>the 2023</sup>

\$50,165.00 pledged  
80.75% of \$62,125.00 goal

### SUMMER FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Summer Families of Faith (Summer Academy) registration is on-going! 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 in the fall. 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](mailto:faithformation@ihmparish.net)

*Hosanna  
in the  
Highest!*



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

Think twice as you wave your palms and sing Hosanna today. As Jesus entered Jerusalem to shouts of joy, He was the only one who knew what awaited Him. As hard as the Lord attempted to explain to the Apostles, even they were incapable of understanding what was to come. However, we have the benefit of history and hindsight. We who wave our palms and sing loud Hosannas, will be the same ones to shout out we want Barabbas, and Crucify him, as we participate in the recitation of the Passion from the Gospel According to Matthew. If you are reading this during the recitation of the Gospel today, please put this down, and join in as an active participant. The glory of the resurrection of our Lord is only possible because of the misery and hopelessness of the passion and crucifixion. My beautiful prose will be awaiting you after Mass ;). Now let's get to the point. All but one of Jesus' closest friends abandoned Him during His trial and lowest moments. This was prophesied, "strike the shepherd, and the sheep will stray". It was a completely human reaction, a move towards self preservation. It's also a great lesson for us. As many times as we might turn away from our Lord and God, even to the point of betrayal (such as that of Saul who became Paul) we can always return, and in that return bring the Gospel to the World. God Bless and have a Holy, Holy Week. Read more at [www.ihmparish.net/childrensfaithformation](http://www.ihmparish.net/childrensfaithformation)

## IHM EVENT CALENDER

### Sunday April 2: Palm Sunday

All Day Easter Basket Collection Due  
9:00am Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast  
1:00pm BOLD Youth Group Living Stations Rehearsal

### Monday April 3

7:00pm Confirmation Session 6 (8th Grade)  
8:00pm Chrism Mass @ Sacred Heart Basilica Newark

### Tuesday April 4

7:15pm Julian of Norwich Spirituality Seminar @ Zoom

### Wednesday April 5

10:00am Food Pantry  
7:30pm Knights of Columbus Meeting  
8:00pm Choir Practice

### Thursday April 6: Holy Thursday

8:30am Morning Prayer  
7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
8:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

### Friday April 7: Good Friday

8:30am Morning Prayer  
12:00pm Outdoor Stations of the Cross  
3:00pm Veneration of the Cross  
7:00pm Living Stations of the Cross

### Saturday April 8: Holy Saturday

7:30am Men's Scripture Group LIVE  
8:00pm Easter Vigil

### Sunday April 9: Easter

### 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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