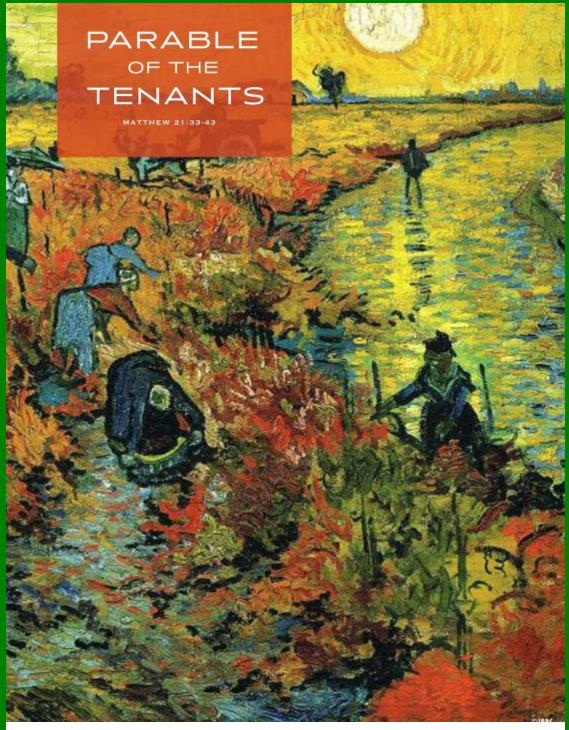
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Deacon Jack Lynch

Katie Wills: Director of Music Ministry

John McGuire: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation



A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

In baptism we are called to join in the mission of Christ to proclaim the Kingdom of God. We have been given the faith necessary to fulfill the mission. We have been given the gifts and talents to fulfill the mission and engage ourselves in an active relationship with Christ and His people, each in our own way. We have been given the support of the Church and parish to fulfill the mission. St. Paul encourages us to continue living out each day the faith we have received, giving thanks and praise to God. In doing this we fulfill our mission, we proclaim the Kingdom, we experience the life that can only come from God. We become the tenants in the Gospel that bear fruit in the vineyard.

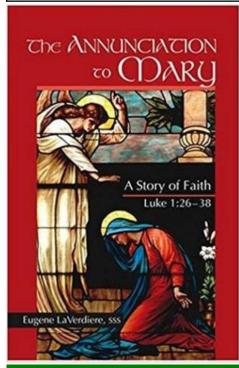
This week the universal church began the Synod on Synodality, part of an ongoing journey together as the church discerns the continued movement of the Holy Spirit in the people of God: the church, it membership, leadership and especially our mission in the world. Let us pray for an openness to the Holy Spirit that we may continue to discern and live the will of God in our lives. Peace, Fr. Mike





Attention families of 8th grade students planning to attend Catholic High School in Fall 2024!

The High School Placement Test (HSPT) administered as part of the Cooperative Admissions Exam Program for Catholic High Schools will be given on **Friday, November 10, 2023**. Registration for the HSPT exam is available online at www.njcoopexam.org beginning September 1st . For more information about the Cooperative Admissions Program, go to www.catholicschoolsnj.org.



The Annunciation to Mary: A Story of Faith

The prologue of Luke's Gospel is both simple and profound. As we prepare for Christmas let us take a close look at Mary of the scriptures. At the heart of the book, each chapter examines a particular phase of the Annunciation story through a biblical perspective.

The deep mystery of the Incarnation is revealed in this passage of Luke's Gospel.

We shall meet on Zoom on Tuesdays from 7:15pm until 8:15pm beginning November 7th, 2023.

Please register at FrRob@ihmparish.net and contact him if you have any questions.



Special thanks to Severio Paradiso for building our new and improved donation crate for our Food Pantry. Thank you Severio! Please place any food donations in this new crate. And don't forget, we are collecting candy for the month of October.

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 October 8 - October 15, 2023			
Saturday October 7	7:00am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Bruno Gialanella+ from Marilyn Gialanella William Dobbs+ from Donna Ayers Joseph Milashone+ from Joan Milashone			
Sunday October 8	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Mrs. Dorothy Foulks+ from Marion, Marc, Julianne, Kevin, Steven & Elise Berger For the People of IHM Parish Mildred & Joseph Mrozek+ from Barbara & Joe Mrozek			
Monday October 9	9:00 am	Mary Sopko+ 40th Anniversary of Death from the Sopko Family			
Tuesday October 10	7:00 am 8:30 am	Jean Vallerio+ from Marilyn Gialanella Nancy Santanello+ from John & Tracey Foley			
Wednesday October 11	7:00 am 8:30 am	John Garibaldi+ from Karen & Joe Schurtz Patricia Scherer+ from the Ward Family			
Thursday October 12	7:00 am 8:30 am	Tara Verch (living) from Anne Butler Nancy Santanello+ from Maureen Pecoraro			
Friday October 13	7:00 am 8:30 am	Tara Verch (living) from Anne Butler Mary Jane Bergen+ from Saturday Rosary Group			
Saturday October 14	7:00am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Joan McParland+ from the Camisa Family Manuel Macapinlac+ from the Valera Family Mary Jane Bergen+ from Pat & John Hennessy			
Sunday October 15	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Owen McCabe+ from Karen & Joe Schurtz For the People of IHM Parish Mary Calabrese+ IHM Women's Prayer Group			

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

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

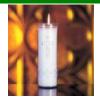
★ Please advise if any names can be removed from the sick list. Thank you. office@ihmparish.net

St Bartholomew Bereavement Ministry will be offering a Grief Support Group starting Wednesday October 4 and continuing October 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15. Meeting times 7 pm to 8:30 pm. Meetings will be held in the cafeteria of St Bartholomew Academy. Please contact Jo-Anne 908-889-7790 or Bernadette 908-510-0995.

Living with Grief: 4 week lecture series, explores the normal, natural and unavoidable reactions to loss. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the effect grief has on our lives, our loved ones and our relationships.

Tuesdays, October 3,10,17,24 on ZOOM from 6:30 to 8 pm Contact Raul to register: regular.cadavid@atlantichealth.org

Special Intentions for the week of October 8 - October 15, 2023



Sanctuary Light
For the intention of:

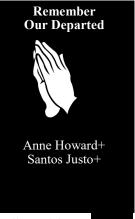
Isabel & Walter Lundgren+
requested by:
The Lundgren Family



Altar Bread & Wine
For the intention of:
Guy Lazur+
requested by:
Chris Lazur



Flowers for the Blessed Mother
In memory of:
Mary Rose Cowhey+
requested by:
Kathleen Ryan

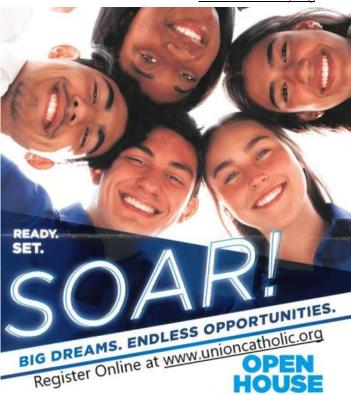




September marks the beginning of the end of the St. Bartholomew Academy eighth-grade grammar school career. As the students reflect on their time at St. Bartholomew Academy and prepare for high school, they also contemplate their place in the greater community and learn what it means to be a servant leader. Visit us at www.stbacademy.org



Five seniors from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School have been commended in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship program! Including IHM's very own Alex Allegra! These students place among the top 50,000 students in the country who entered the 2024 competition. Congratulations to Alex, Emily Juckes, Diti Nainwal, Benjamin Nathan and Emily Park.



Union Catholic

HIGH SCHOOL

October 11th | 7pm November 4th | 12pm



CYO Basketball is Back!

Final registration for youth basketball players ages 3-8 (both boys and girls) will be on Tuesday October 31st. Registration forms are available for at the Nazareth Center. Or you can download & print the registration form at our webpage: www.ihmparish.net/sports Any questions, please contact John McNulty at johnmenulty144@hotmail.com





Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations for Coats for Kids October 14-15 and October 21-22. Please support the children! Thank you!





Retreat for Women



IHM Bus Trip to NYC SOME LIKE IT HOT Friday November 24 Bus Leaves @ 9:15am Lunch @ Tony DiNapoli \$185 per ticket For tickets call Janice at 908-759-6729



Minister Assignments: October 14 - October 15						
Saturday - Sunday Lectors		Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider			
10/14 5:00pm	Jim Brennan	Chris Haight Dan Kelly Janice Good Piga	Fr. Rob			
10/15 8:00am	Colm Keogh	Lou DiBella Geraldine Keogh	Fr. Mike			
10/15 10:00am	Heba Fortunato	Ed Sullivan (S) David Diken Anthony Carlino	Fr. Mike			
10/15 12:00pm	Michele Gardella	Carol Kiley Jean Naugle	Fr. Rob			



Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours Monday - Wednesday 9:00am - 9:00pm Thursday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm Closed Saturday. Sunday. Holy Days & Holidays For more information contact Kerby at: kpershay123@gmail.com | 908-406-0493

IHM PARISH INFORMATION

Fall 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 <u>www.ihmparish.net</u> 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

A MEADOW by Author Unknown O Jesus, Make my life like a meadow. A beautiful meadow.

A meadow where love blooms like wildflowers. A meadow where Your light shines like sunlight through the trees. A meadow where in the vast openness, I run to You. No matter how many times I stumble, in this beautiful meadow, I will never stop running to You. For it is You who created all this beauty. It is You who created life itself. In this beautiful meadow, I give my life to You.

- ♥ Please plan on joining us on October 10th For A Special Retreat At The St. Joseph's Shrine In Stirling. The cost for the day is \$45 which includes the day's presentations, confessions, a self-guided tour of the beautiful grounds and chapels and lunch. Please contact Eileen to register: 908-472-0463.
- ♥ Join us for IHM's "Broadway Show Extravaganza Trip To New York City" to see the Award-Winning "SOME LIKE IT HOT" on Friday, November 24th, 2023. Luxury Bus Transportation (Leaving 9:15AM From IHM); Delicious Family Style Luncheon At The Famous TONY'S DI NAPOLI Restaurant In Times Square; and The Broadway Show (Mezzanine Seating). Total Cost Is \$185. Tickets are limited. Please call Janice 908-759-6729 to reserve your place.
- ♥ We welcome you to consider joining our wonderful Rosary Altar Society. For more information please contact Janice Good-Piga at 908-759-6729. Whether you can attend all or only some of our meetings and events, we know that you will find in very fulfilling.

May your week ahead be a blessed one with joy-filled sunny fall days, renewed old friendships and special new ones! Please remember to take a moment to breathe in the fresh fall air and to thank God for all of the beautiful gifts that he showers upon us daily. You and your families remain in our daily thoughts and prayers.

♥ Janice



The Women's Prayer Group will gather on Thursday October 19 at 7:30pm LIVE at the Nazareth Center. Please email tefoleyihm@gmail.com for more details. Prayer connects us all!



Join us for Lectio Divina: Reflection, Discussion & Quiet. Three times a month: twice at the Nazareth Center & once on Zoom. Thursday mornings from 9:30am until 10:45am. Contact Phyllis at $\underline{tman18912@comcast.net}$ or call the parish office at 908-889-2100 to sign-up.



The next meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be Saturday morning October 14 at 7:30am in the church basement. Contact dndiken@aol.com for info.

We have been reporting our weekly collection "target" to reflect what was submitted in our budget to the Archdiocese. However, this number does not give us a balanced budget. So moving forward, we have revised our "goal" to balance our budget.

,	3	8
Collection Report		October 1, 2023
Weekly Target:		\$11,670.00
Collection (Mass + P	arish Giving)	\$10,194.53
Surplus/(Deficit)		(1,475.47)
Fiscal Year to Date:	<u>.</u>	
l		* 4.5 * * 00.00

Budget \$163,380.00 Actual: \$155,992.08 Surplus/(Deficit) (7,387.92)

Rolling 4 Week Averages:

Average Collection: \$11,615,35 Average Surplus/(Deficit) \$46.36

A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate: John McGuire

Catholic parents have to do a better job of building community, and that isn't the job of priests to do. The thing is, we do not live in an insular society. We are not called to seclude ourselves from the world we live in. Jesus told us to be in the world, but not of the world. That didn't mean that we were supposed to hold ourselves above others around us, but that we are to be examples of following Christ. This can be extremely demoralizing if we're doing this alone. In our families and friend groups, we are very likely to come in contact with morality directly in conflict with what we believe in. Wildly non-traditional relationships, weird mysticism and Eastern Philosophies, deception, and a lack of reconciliation in time of deep hurts. We as followers of Christ are called to do better, heal a broken world, and again be a light to others. How can we do this alone? How can we find joy in our faith? Through developing deeper Catholic/Christian friendships and support. This doesn't mean isolating ourselves from all that we encounter. I'd actually say the opposite. Having stronger relationships with those who follow Christ is a way to empower us to face what we encounter more gracefully. I bring this up, because I lead the family faith formation of our parish. So often when I say that, someone envisions CCD. Children sitting in a classroom being talked at for 45 minutes to an hour. That is slowly fading away. What I find my personal ministry to be is a Family Ministry. So parents, that raises an important question. How can our parish staff develop deeper connections among the families in our parish? What needs are currently not being met? How can we grow together? This week, pray that there can be an increase in fellowship among Catholic families, that we can better go about the building of the kingdom of heaven.

God Bless and have a good week.



IHM Youth Group Carnival Theme Party Sunday October 15th 5PM @ Naz. Center Contact Rachael at ihmsp@boldym.com/ Sign-up: www.boldym.com/ihmsp/events

IHM SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday 10/8

10:00am - Food Pantry Sunday (Open until 11:30am) 1:00pm- IHM Open House/Wine & Cheese Party

Monday 10/9- Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day

Office Open (regular business hours)

Tuesday 10/10

9:30am—Retreat to St. Joseph Shrine Begins @ Sterling NJ 7:15pm—Spirituality Seminar on ZOOM

Wednesday 10/11

10:00am - Food Pantry (Open until 11:30am)

7:00pm— Adult Choir Practice

7:00pm - Pastoral Council Meeting

Thursday 10/12

9:30am - Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Meeting

Friday 10/13

5:00pm– Pee Wee Basketball

Saturday 10/14

ALL DAY-KOC Coats for Kids Collection

7:30am- Men's Scripture Group LIVE @ Church Basement

8:30am— Saturday Morning Basketball

Sunday 10/15

ALL DAY-KOC Coats for Kids Collection

8:45am- Families of Faith October Gathering

9:30am - Family Choir Practice

11:00am- Prayer Shawl Meeting @ Nazareth Center

5:00pm- IHM Youth Group Carnival Theme Party





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