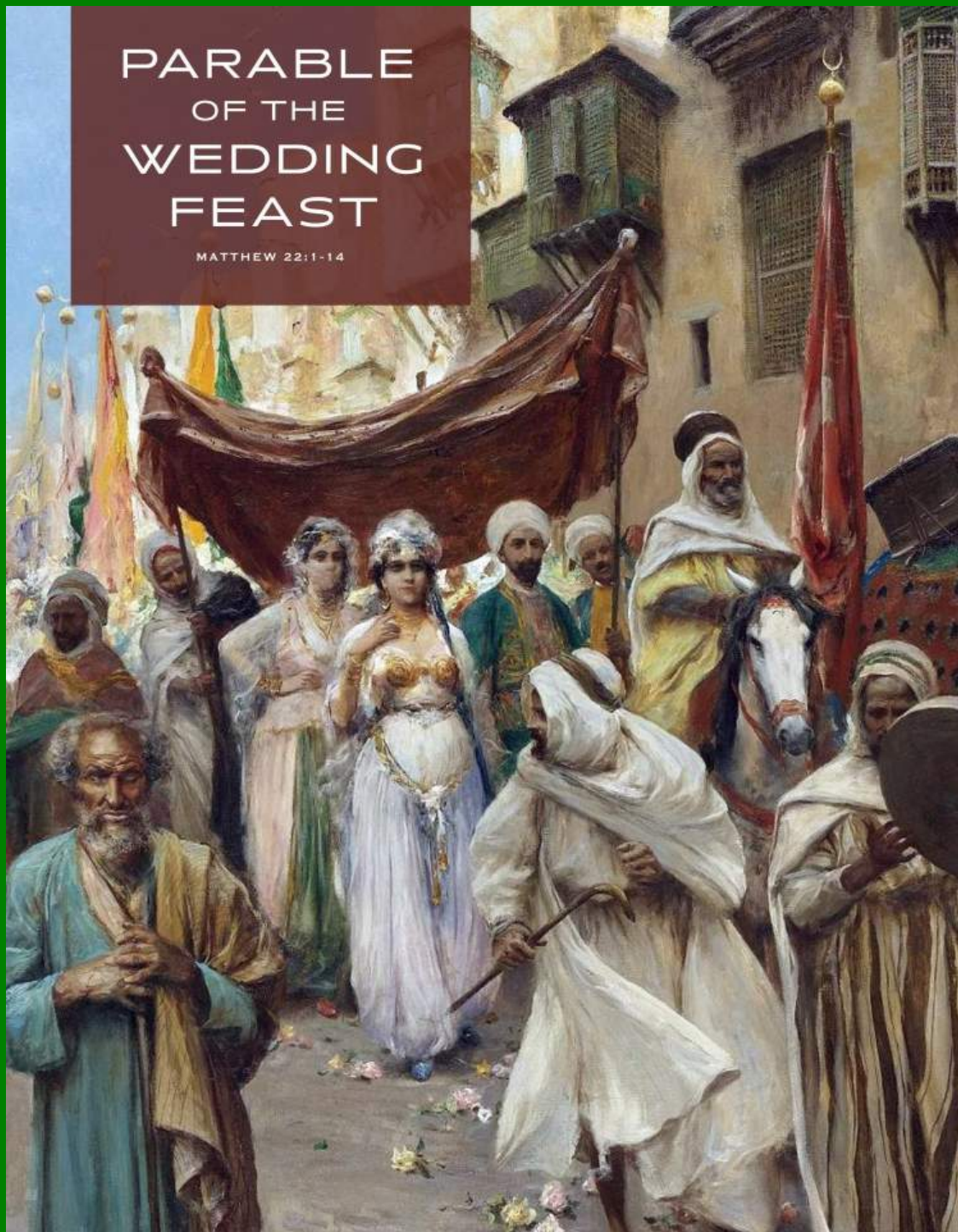


28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 15, 2023

PARABLE  
OF THE  
WEDDING  
FEAST

MATTHEW 22:1-14



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

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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. 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**

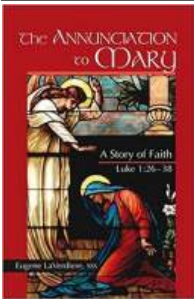
Very often the coming of the messiah is imagined in a wedding banquet, as in today's 1st reading and Gospel. It is much anticipated and there is a tremendous amount of effort that goes into the planning and the celebrating. Each time we participate in the Eucharist we participate in this messianic banquet. Each time we participate in the Eucharist we have a taste of the heavenly kingdom. How often do we take the Eucharist for granted, ignore the invitation, rationalize our absence either physically or spiritually? How often do we let life get in the way, or allow some hurt, perceived or real, or regret or attitude keep us from a fuller encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist?

We are invited and called not only to celebrate the Eucharist and the coming of the messiah, but also to prepare ourselves and respond to the invitation each and every day by living out our faith and allowing the grace that comes from God to pour out of us into the world, thus building up the Kingdom of God in our midst. It is then we experience more profoundly the love and joy of God in our hearts here and now. 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](http://www.njcoopexam.org) beginning September 1st. For more information about the Cooperative Admissions Program, go to [www.catholicschools-nj.org](http://www.catholicschools-nj.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](mailto:FrRob@ihmparish.net) and contact him if you have any questions or would like to obtain a copy of the book.

Holy Trinity is pleased to welcome Brother Emile from the Taizé Ecumenical Monastic Community of Burgundy, France!

Brother Emile will lead an Ecumenical Prayer Service on **Sunday, October 29th, at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Westfield.** ALL ARE WELCOME to the song, silence, and contemplation service as we gather to pray for the Church as the Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops closes in Rome. The service will be held in the church on Sunday, October 29th, at 7:30 p.m. at the following address:

Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
506 Westfield Ave  
Westfield, NJ



Sign-Up before October 15th at [www.st-teresa.org](http://www.st-teresa.org)

ST TERESA OF AVILA PRESENTS  
**Ministry in a Diverse Church**  
Insights and Best Practices for Theology, Education, Catechesis, and Ministry  
Featuring Special Guest Speaker  
**Hosffman Ospino, PhD**

**Monday October 23**  
St Teresa of Avila Church  
Memorial Hall  
306 Morris Ave, Summit

**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 October 15 - October 22, 2023

<b>Saturday October 14</b>	7:00am	Joan McParland+ from the Camisa Family
	8:30 am	Manuel Macapinlac+ from the Valera Family
	5:00 pm	Mary Jane Bergen+ from Pat & John Hennessy
<b>Sunday October 15</b>	8:00 am	Owen McCabe+ from Karen & Joe Schurtz
	10:00 am	For the People of IHM Parish
	12:00 pm	Mary Calabrese+ IHM Women's Prayer Group
<b>Monday October 16</b>	7:00 am	Robyn Philpotts (living) from Lucia Wang
	8:30 am	James R. Kennedy+ from the Family
<b>Tuesday October 17</b>	7:00 am	Virginia & Carmel Kerr (living) from Bernie Beck
	8:30 am	Anne Marie Bonner+ from Eileen & Rich Wagner
<b>Wednesday October 18</b>	7:00 am	Marguerite H. Ayers+ from Donna Ayers
	8:30 am	Margery Palmer (living) Happy 101st Birthday! from IHM Parish
<b>Thursday October 19</b>	7:00 am	Sr. Mary Raphael P.B.V.M+ from Patricia & James Feeley
	8:30 am	John E. Buckley+ from Jenn McDonald
<b>Friday October 20</b>	7:00 am	Fr. Alex Pinto+ from Bob & Adele
	8:30 am	Mary DiPace+ from John & Dorian DiPace
<b>Saturday October 21</b>	7:00am	Nancy Santanello+ from Karen & Joe Schurtz
	8:30 am	Dorothy Stephanik Lenarwicz+ from Kathleen J. Jotz & Family
	5:00 pm	Mary & George Good+ from Janice Good Piga & Bob Piga
<b>Sunday October 22</b>	8:00 am	Thomas & Mary Graham+ from the McGuinness Family
	10:00 am	Ann Mullen+ from the Compiercho Family
	12:00 pm	For the People of IHM Parish


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

John Allen	David Connell	Mary Foster	Jillian Lapidus	Jacob Rivera	Ryder Francis Spillane
George Becker	Colm Cosgrove	Michele Gamako	Mary Frances Leon	Jaxson Rivera	Daniel Ventura
Fran Boglioli	Samantha Bridge	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	★ Please advise if any names can be removed from the sick list.
Frank Chimento	Phyllis Fischer	Dorothy Klein	Diane Pricken	Bernard Slaza	
Edward Clark	Emily Fleming	Anna Koch	Carmela Resnick	Beverly Sopp	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS**

<p>St Bartholomew Bereavement Ministry will be offering a Grief Support Group <b>continuing October 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15.</b> 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.</p>	<p>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 17 and 24 on ZOOM from 6:30 to 8 pm Contact Raul to register: <a href="mailto:raul.cadavid@atlantichealth.org">raul.cadavid@atlantichealth.org</a></p>
---	---

**Special Intentions for the week of October 15 - October 22, 2023**



**Sanctuary Light**  
For the intention of:  
**AnnMullen+**  
**(1st Anniversary of Death)**  
requested by: Her Family




**Altar Bread & Wine**  
For the intention of:  
**Emil Manfredonia (living)**  
requested by:  
IHM Food Pantry Garden



**Flowers for the Blessed Mother**  
**"In Gratitude..."**  
requested by:  
Anonymous

**Remember Our Departed**



All Souls+



### CYO Basketball is Back!

Final registration for youth basketball players grades 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](http://www.ihmparish.net/sports)  
Any questions, please contact John McNulty at [johnmcnulty144@hotmail.com](mailto:johnmcnulty144@hotmail.com)



St. Bartholomew Academy hosted its first school year social event last week with Family Bingo. "BINGO" was shouted, prizes were won, and families had a chance to gather and socialize. It was a fun event to kick off the school year. Family Movie Night is up next on October 13 featuring a multi-cultural dessert potluck! Want to learn more about St. Bartholomew Academy? Sign up for a tour [www.stbacademy.org/schedule-a-tour](http://www.stbacademy.org/schedule-a-tour)



### Farmer Emil's Garden Report

Good Afternoon All Gardeners! After yesterday's harvest...  
IHM: 572.98 lbs - Others: 11.25 lbs  
**Total 584.23 lbs**  
This year has been great! Now is clean up time, final weeding, pulling up all dead plants and getting the beds ready for next year.



Retreats at St. Walburga Monastery  
The Spirituality Center at St. Walburga Monastery in Elizabeth, NJ, offers affordable weekend, Saturday, virtual and "mini" retreats. To learn more about upcoming programs, visit [www.bensisnj.org](http://www.bensisnj.org) or send an email to [center@bensisnj.org](mailto:center@bensisnj.org)

#TRYALPHA @ [www.ihmparish.net/alpha](http://www.ihmparish.net/alpha)

### Coats For Kids



Knights of Columbus



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



### SETON HALL PREP

Seton Hall Preparatory School will be hosting its annual Open House for 7th & 8th grade boys on **Sunday October 29, 2023**. Please register at [www.shp.org/openhouse](http://www.shp.org/openhouse)  
Contact Michael at 973-325-6640 or visit [www.shp.org](http://www.shp.org)

### Own Your Belovedness

Retreat for Women  
Friday Evening and Saturday  
**November 3rd and 4th, 2023**

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



Women's Cornerstone X

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith  
a Pontifical Mission Society

### World Mission Sunday 2023

October 22nd

Were not our hearts burning within us?  
Luke 24:13-35

BE THE SPARK THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES. GIVE NOW. *SE LA CINTAPIQUE TRANSFORMA VIDAS. DONA AHORA.*



## Minister Assignments: October 21 - October 22

Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
10/21 5:00pm	Janice Good Piga	Chris Zucosky Connie Boruch David Boruch Alice Schaffernoth (C)	Fr. Rob
10/22 8:00am	Ed Sullivan	Jean Bagdonas Karen Schwaneberg Rich Wagner (C)	Fr. Rob
10/22 10:00am	Andy Davis	Steve Prato Heba Fortunato Jason McCann	Fr. Mike
10/22 12:00pm	Tracey Foley	Eileen Wagner Carol Kiley	Fr. Mike



### 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](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 information.

**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**

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



## Rosary Altar Society News

### THE GLORY OF THE YEAR by Margaret Peterson



♥ Thank you to Eileen Wagner for planning our wonderful retreat to St. Joseph's Shrine. It was a very special and fulfilling day spent in a picturesque setting with special friends and truly the spirit of God.

♥ 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](mailto: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 [tman18912@comcast.net](mailto:tman18912@comcast.net) or call the parish office at 908-889-2100 to sign-up.



The next virtual meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be **Thursday night October 26 at 7:30pm on Zoom.** Contact [dndiken@aol.com](mailto: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.

<b>Collection Report</b>		<b>October 8, 2023</b>
Weekly Target:		\$11,670.00
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)		\$12,508.19
Surplus/(Deficit)		\$838.19
<b>Fiscal Year to Date:</b>		
Budget		\$175,050.00
Actual:		\$168,500.27
Surplus/(Deficit)		(6,549.73)
<b>Rolling 4 Week Averages:</b>		
Average Collection:		\$11,300.77
Average Surplus/(Deficit)		(369.23)



**IHM YOUTH GROUP EVENTS powered by BOLD**

Sat. October 28 @ 2:00 PM: Scotch Plains Trunk or Treat  
 Sun. October 29 @ 7:00 PM: College Care Package Night  
 Sun. November 5 @ 7:00 PM: Box of Joy  
 November 17-19: Embolden Retreat at Pittstown, NJ

**IHM SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK**

**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

**Monday 10/16**

7:00pm- Confirmation Year 1: Session 1  
 7:30pm– Alpha Episode 4 on Zoom

**Tuesday 10/17**

7:00pm– Hospitality Ministry Open House  
 7:15pm– Spirituality Seminar on ZOOM

**Wednesday 10/18**

10:00am - Food Pantry (Open until 11:30am)  
 1:00pm– DVD Bible Study: David/Solomon  
 7:00pm– Adult Choir Practice  
 7:00pm– Knights of Columbus Meeting  
 7:00pm - Finance Council Meeting

**Thursday 10/19**

9:30am - Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Meeting  
 7:30pm– Women’s Prayer Group LIVE @ Nazareth Center

**Friday 10/20**

5:00pm– Pee Wee Basketball

**Saturday 10/21**

ALL DAY– KOC Coats for Kids Collection  
 8:30am– Saturday Morning Basketball

**Sunday 10/22**

ALL DAY– KOC Coats for Kids Collection  
 ALL DAY– World Mission Sunday Collection  
 8:45am– First Reconciliation Family Morning of Reflection

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

How often is a climber's first summit Mount Everest? Do many quarterbacks throw their first ever touchdown pass in a Super Bowl? How many actors skip commercials and tv movies to star in a blockbuster movie (no, I don't mean a straight to video movie we might have rented from a Blockbuster in the 90's). Either by law or the markets, almost no one gets to that level immediately. The Eucharist, and therefore the Mass are the source and summit of Catholic life and theology. Yet, when we seek to introduce someone to Catholicism, or bring them back what do we usually think of as a first step? Come to Mass with me. We bring them to the rarified place, where the air might be too thin to breathe, or where they won't have context or appreciation for what is going on. Before they get their grip strength, before they have their initial hours of climbing in, we feel inclined to bring them to Mount Everest. Will they reach the summit, or will they never return. There is a reason children attend first grade, and second grade religious education before they approach the altar for the first time. They become part of the community before they are further initiated.

This doesn't mean to abandon all hope of bringing family and friends to Catholicism, or the Eucharist. No, this is just a caution, that we should attempt other methods of introduction. Christmas is a time that we try to bring people back. Here are two ideas. Find a Christmas Concert to attend with someone you care about who is away. Our parish will hold one with St. Helen's again this year. Also on December 10th following the 10:00 am Mass we'll once again have the Living Nativity, a vendors fair, and pictures with Santa. There will be members of parish staff, ministry leaders, and enthusiastic parishioners around to offer welcome, information, and invitation! So, this week, let's pray for all who are away from the Church, or who have yet to embrace Christ, and those who seek to aid them find that relationship. Pray that as a community we might create encounters with Christ as we grow to be disciples of Christ. God Bless and have a wonderful 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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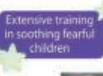
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