

1st Sunday of Advent - November 28th, 2021

*The People of God called to form the Christian Community of*  
**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**



**BE VIGILANT AT ALL TIMES.**

LUKE 21:36

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

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



**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  
 Mary Clinton: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation



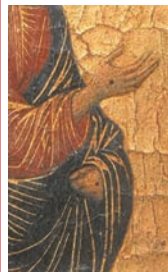
Mass will continue to Live Stream on Facebook and our website:  
[www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)

### A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

The Season of Advent is a season of preparation. We anticipate the coming of Christ in three manners: His coming among us as a child, born of the virgin Mary 2000 years ago, preparing to receive Him anew at the celebration of Christmas, and looking forward to his coming again in the fullness of the Kingdom of God.

Our readings today point us towards his future coming with a message of hope, a call to trust in the power of his love which brings redemption. It is in that hope that we await his coming, not by simply sitting and waiting, but actively living the peace, justice, love and mercy that are the signs of the fullness of God's Kingdom.

Peace, Fr. Mike



### EUCHARIST SPIRITUALITY: A JOURNEY

From the stable of the manger in Bethlehem, to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, the stories of the Eucharist are foundational and permeate the New Testament and our lives today. We shall use the text: *With Burning Hearts: A Meditation on the Eucharist Life* By Henri Nouwen.

This is a very easy read but can stir the spirit profoundly. I have some articles to supplement the text. We shall meet via Zoom on Tuesdays beginning November 30 at 7:15 for one hour. This is a reflection group. If you are interested, please contact me [FrRob@IHMParish.net](mailto:FrRob@IHMParish.net) I shall have books available, but I need to know the number of participants. *May our hearts burn within us as we journey through Advent to Christmas.*



**Introduction:** Given the reinstatement by the Bishops of New Jersey of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and the lessening of restrictions from the state, the following is provided as an update to the May 25 COVID-19 directives.

**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. Masks are still required on public transit and in health care settings, prisons, child-care facilities and schools, among other places. 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 all indoor and outdoor events.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS:** All ministries may return to full service – altar servers, lectors, ushers, greeters and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Masks are no longer required for all vaccinated ministers, including those distributing Communion (Priests, Deacons, and EMS). However, masks may be worn for those who prefer to wear one during the liturgy.

**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 should be done regularly. It is not required after every liturgy.

**SIGN OF PEACE:** The invitation to share the Sign of Peace should continue. Parishioners could be reminded that it is not required to touch during the sign of peace.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Ushers may take up the collection at the proper time or baskets may be placed at the entrance of the church for the collection. (Beginning July 17, 2021)

**BAPTISMAL FONTS:** Baptismal fonts and holy water receptacles may be filled.

**MUSIC:** Vaccinated music ministers (cantors, choirs, etc.) do not require masks or shields. Music ministers who are not vaccinated should wear a mask. All musical instruments are permitted. Hymnals are now permitted.

**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.

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:** The procession to present the gifts of bread and wine and the collection can be resumed. (Beginning July 17, 2021)

### 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 November 28th - December 5th, 2021**

<b>Saturday November 27</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Adele Gatins+ Lucille D'Agostino+ Mary Thomas Browne+	By Myrna & Ed McManus By The D'Agostino Family By The Hennessy Family
<b>Sunday November 28</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	John McGovern+ William Barry+ Arnie Cardenas+	By The McGovern Family By Carol & John Bergen By Patricia Markey
<b>Monday November 29</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Terry Jordan Perna+ Diane Morris+	By Ron Katims By Dan & Rosemary Kelly
<b>Tuesday November 30</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Fr. Frank Heinen+ Jack Clark+	By Tracey Foley By His loving wife Terry
<b>Wednesday December 1</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	David J. Tolan+ Jack Foulks+	By Ron Katims By Maureen Pecoraro
<b>Thursday December 2</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Bruce Richmond (living) Sam Fortunato	By Bernie Beck By Rich Fortunato
<b>Friday December 3</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Ro Ventura+ Rosa Carrascosa	By Michele Mallozzi By Glenn Carrascosa
<b>Saturday December 4</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Sr. Barbara Howard+ For the People Charles Takacs+	By SSJ By The Parish By Barbara Apgar
<b>Sunday December 5</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Jack Foulks+ Marge Malone+ Isabel & Walter Lundgren+	By Tony & Betty Perfilio By Jean & Ron Marciano By The Lundgren Family


► Mass & Special Intentions available upon request for a small donation. Call (908) 889-2100 or email office@ihmparish.net

<i>Remember Our Sick</i>	John Burkert	Sarah Dubay	Maureen Lynch	Susan Rozborski	Daniel Ventura
John Allen	Mary Calabrese	Albert Fischer, Jr.	Bill Malone	Dolores Rust	Sr. Elizabeth
Rose Badala	Anna Cassella	Emily Fleming	Owen Mike McCabe	Diana Scariati	Vermaelen
George Becker	Paul Cassidy	Mary Foster	June McManus	Elisa Silversey	Stephen Voorhees
Larry Biunno	Matthew Cassio	Nicole Griffin	Christine Morris	Bernard Slaza	Christy Ward
Fran Boglioli	Frank Chimento	Kathleen Herron	Thomas Moore	Beverly Sopp	
Erin Brennan	William Consovoy	Juliann Junio	Marlene Mosko	Ryder Francis Spillane	
Samantha Bridge	Colm Cosgrove	Anna Koch	Hilda Pizza	Paul Szeker	
James Brown	Edward Clark	Jillian Lapidus	Diane Pricken	Phyllis Szeker	
Kevin Brown	Ray Clark	Eileen Lynch	Marisol Rodriguez	Carole Ventre	


**Special Intentions for the week of November 28th - December 5th**



**Sanctuary Light**  
For the intention of:  
**Helen Sullivan+**  
Requested by  
Mary Mahony

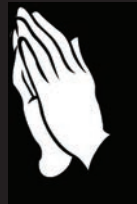


**The Altar Bread & Wine**  
For the intention of:  
**Marvin Lefkowitz+**  
Requested by  
Stephen & Donna D'Annunzio



**Flowers for the Blessed Mother**  
For the intention of:  
**Mary & Thomas Browne+**  
Requested by  
The Hennessy Family

*Remember Our Departed*



Patricia Dillon  
Nicholas Cotter  
Lois Spirko



**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.

### IHM Women's Prayer Group

The IHM Women's Prayer Group will meet via **Zoom** on **Thursday, December 2 at 7:30PM**. The theme is Joseph: The Silent Partner. All women are welcome to join! Please email Tracey Foley at [tefolevihm@gmail.com](mailto:tefolevihm@gmail.com) if you would like to participate. Prayer connects us all. If you have a special intention, please let us know and you will be lifted up in prayer.



### Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Meetings will resume every Thursday on Zoom

Centering prayer is a contemplative method of prayer which helps you deepen your personal relationship with the Lord, using Lectio Divina, Reflection and Meditation. This prayer is also known as "The Prayer of Quiet" or "The Prayer of the Heart". It's talking less and listening more, as you allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart. The words you pray do not matter as much as in the spirit you pray them. It's a way of reading and listening and discerning with the "eyes of your heart."

**"BE STILL, KNOW, I AM GOD"** If you would like to experience this prayer method which helps to deepen your spiritual journey with the Lord **we meet on Thursday mornings at 9:30am on Zoom**. Please call Phyllis at **908-264-7456** for further information and to receive the Zoom link.

### 8th Grade Confirmation Preparation 2021-2022

**Mon. December 6:** Session 2 | 7 - 8:30 pm  
**Sun. December 12:** Rite of Names | 10 am Mass  
**Mon. January 10:** Session 3 | 7 - 8:30 pm

### 9th Grade Confirmation Preparation 2021-2022

**Sat. December 11:** Advent Gathering - (Gift of the Incarnation) (4:30 - 7:30pm)  
**Sat. January 8:** Christmas Gathering (4:30 - 7:30pm)



### **Mother Seton Virtual Gala & Silent Auction**

Saturday January 15, 2022  
From 6:30 - 10:30pm  
Both virtual or in-person! Limited tickets available for live party. 2021 Awards & Silent Auction Bidding starts January 1st. Visit [MSRGala.org](http://MSRGala.org) for more info.

### **The IHM Food Pantry Needs Donations!**



Items needed include non-perishable food items, personal toiletry items and baby products. Please bring your donations to the back of the church. Place the items in the red bins near the backdoors. You may also drop donations off at the Nazareth Center. For a list of acceptable items visit [ihmparish.net/food-pantry](http://ihmparish.net/food-pantry).

### IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group

Next ZOOM session is **Thursday December 2 at 7:30PM**. Our next live session will be on **Saturday morning December 11 at 7:30AM** in the church basement. Email David Diken at [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) for an invitation.



## SAVE THE DATE

**MARCH 11TH & 12TH, 2022**

DO OTHER ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE...  
FAMILY, HEALTH, FINANCES, EDUCATION  
LEAVE VERY LITTLE TIME TO DEDICATE  
TO YOUR RELATIONSHIP  
WITH GOD?



TAKE A BRIEF TIME-OUT FROM YOUR HECTIC LIFE AND GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF TIME TO REINVIGORATE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

For more information or if you would like to talk to former participants you can contact David Diken, an IHM parishioner who is this year's Spiritual Director and Team Member at [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) or Colm Keogh, also an IHM parishioner and Team Member at [ckeogh925@yahoo.com](mailto:ckeogh925@yahoo.com)



Great night with Ray Boswell, "The Potter," who led our First Reconciliation parent/child retreat to kick off sacrament preparation at IHM! The children's tea light candle holders will be used to symbolize the Light of Christ shining brightly when they make their First Reconciliation during Advent.



Service to others is the hallmark of a Catholic Education and a virtue that is demonstrated by the students of St. Bartholomew Academy. The Student Council promoted a school-wide food drive for the St. Bartholomew Parish Food Pantry and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Thank you!!!



## Minister Assignments - December 4 - 5

Saturday /Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00pm	Jim Brennan	- Janice Good-Piga - John Torzewski	Fr. Val
8:00am	Karen Schwaneberg	- Lou DiBella - Alice Coquia	Fr. Mike
10:00am	Heba Fortunato	- Deacon Jack - Anthony Carlino	Fr. Val
12:00pm	Barbara Apgar	- Eileen Wagner - MaryJane Bergen	Fr. Rob



### 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

► **IHM Office is closed to the public until further notice...**

**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

I hope everyone had a very blessed, and joyful Thanksgiving Time! And that everyone is safely home, as we begin a new season in the church and our lives.

*"The Season of Advent is like springtime in nature, when everything is renewed and so is fresh and healthy. Advent is also meant to do this to us - to refresh us and make us healthy, able to receive Jesus in whatever form He may come to us."*

Quote from Mother Teresa's book "Do Something Beautiful for God."



1. Sunday December 5th, we invite all ladies of the parish to attend the Noon Mass followed by our Christmas Celebration. The celebration will include a movie on St. Joseph's life, a hot meal, a raffle and collection for the Missionaries of Charities, and sharing time with others all for \$10. Please call Erin Miller at 908-232-0394 or MaryJane Bergen at 908-753-2161 if you want to attend and reserve your place by sending your check to Barbara Apgar at 427 LaGrande Ave, Fanwood NJ 07023 by November 30th. Thank you.

2. Rosarians and parishioners, we need your help with the Altar linens. Don't be afraid, we will tutor you. To complete our schedule for 2022 we need 6 more people to Volunteer in order that each of us only have to wash and iron four times in 2022. So Please Help by calling/texting Erin Miller at 908-232-0394 or email Erins310@gmail.com, as she is helping Betty Swisher with scheduling and typing. Thank you.

3. If you have already donated to the 2022 Flowers for the Blessed Mother, there are Remembrance Cards available. You can pick up the cards from the plastic bin outside the doors of the Nazareth Center. Labeled "Blessed Mother Flowers Remembrance Cards". For questions, please contact Betty Perfilio at 908-889-4868.

4. Come and visit with Our Lord at IHM Adoration Chapel, He is waiting for you. Can you commit an hour of your time to Jesus? We have 7 open hours during the week where He is alone! Please contact Erin Miller if you can help or need the code. Thank you.

*"I can do things you cannot and you can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things."*  
- also from Mother Teresa's book.

We are still praying for you, our parish, and the world!  
Thank you and God Bless!  
MaryJane

IHM Youth Ministry powered by  
**BOLD**  
 Becoming Our Lord's Disciples

BOLD is the name of our vibrant Youth Ministry program at Immaculate Heart of Mary, led by IHM high school teens on the Peer Servant Team and members of our Adult Team; coordinated by Rachael Flanagan.



NEXT EVENTS FOR IHM BOLD YOUTH MINISTRY:

- 8th Grade Service Night "Warm Regards" ~ Putting together no-sew fleece hats for children in need:  
**Sunday, December 5** from 7 - 8:30pm.  
 Sign up at [boldym.com/ihmosp/events](http://boldym.com/ihmosp/events)
- BOLD Youth Ministry Christmas Party ~  
**Sunday, December 12** from 7 - 8:30pm ~ For ALL in high school! Bring a wrapped gift to exchange (\$10) and wear your CHRISTMAS JAMMIES!! Come for festivities and jolly surprises as we await Jesus at Christmas!



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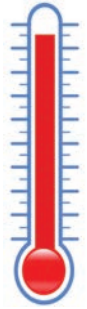
- Packers - Work in the kitchen from 9-10:45am making sandwiches, desserts and packing meals for delivery.
- Drivers - Drivers pick up the meals from church around 10:45am in insulated coolers and deliver food to the clients.

If you would like to volunteer with Mobile Meals, please visit our website and fill out the volunteer form.  
[www.mobilemealsofwestfield.org](http://www.mobilemealsofwestfield.org)



**Archbishop's Annual Appeal 90.87%**

The 2021 Annual Appeal is now underway. We have \$63,328.09 already pledged. **Our goal is \$69,693.00 = 90.87%**. The outpouring of support from many parishioners like you helps sustain the important ministries across the Archdiocese of Newark. If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge form at the back of the church or visit [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing). Thank you for your prayers and support.



**IHM EVENT CALENDER**

**Sunday November 28 - First Sunday of Advent**

**Monday November 29**

7:30 pm Alpha 14

**Tuesday November 30**

7:15 pm Eucharist Spirituality Zoom

**Wednesday December 1**

10:00 am Food Pantry

7:00 pm Men's Cornerstone Meeting

8:00 pm Choir Practice

**Thursday December 2**

9:30 am Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Zoom

7:30 pm Women's Prayer Group Zoom

7:30 pm Men's Scripture & Discussion Group Zoom

**Friday December 3**

**Saturday December 4**

10:00 am First Reconciliation

**Sunday December 5**

8:45 am Families of Faith December Gathering

9:00 am Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast

12:00 pm Rosary Mass & Christmas Party

7:00 pm BOLD: 8th Grade Service Night



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