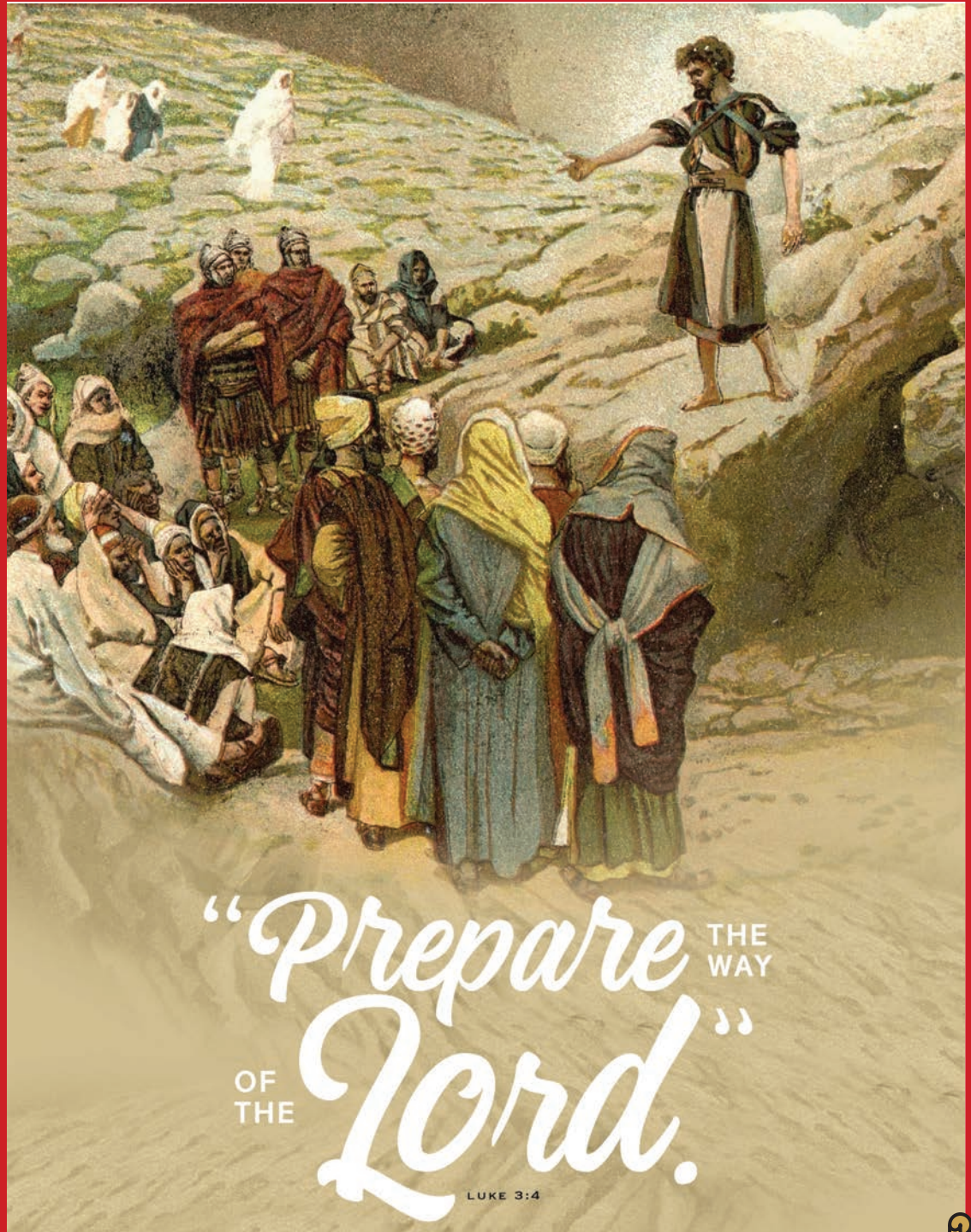


2nd Sunday of Advent - December 5th, 2021

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



“Prepare THE WAY
OF THE
Lord.”
LUKE 3:4

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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FAX: (908) 889-9477 EMAIL: office@ihmparish.net



Website: www.ihmparish.net

Facebook: [Immaculate Heart of Mary Church](#) | Instagram: [ihmparish_sp](#)



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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
Mary Clinton: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation



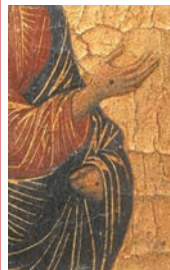
Mass will continue to Live Stream on Facebook and our website: www.ihmparish.net

A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

In the first reading the people of Israel are either in exile or in dispersion, and Jerusalem has fallen, in the 2nd reading the people of Phillipi are divided and Paul is in prison, in the Gospel the secular and religious forces threaten the people and cast a shadow over the possibilities of redemption and the coming of the messiah. Despite this negative atmosphere and difficult situations, Baruch, Paul, John the Baptist and Luke offer hope. God has not forgotten His people and will save them and bring them together. This hope is based in a call to repentance, conversion, mercy and love.

Opening ourselves to repentance, conversion, mercy and love will help us to realize more abundantly the presence of God and His Kingdom, and will help us to live more in the joyful hope and expectation that the season of Advent represents.

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 every Tuesday at 7:15 for one hour. This is a reflection group. If you are interested, please contact me 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
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 December 5th - December 12th, 2021

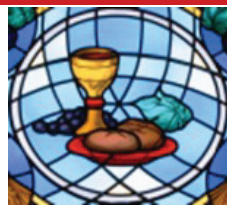
Saturday December 4	7:00 am	Sr. Barbara Howard+	By SSJ
	8:30 am	For the People	By The Parish
	5:00 pm	Charles Takacs+	By Barbara Apgar
Sunday December 5	8:00 am	Jack Foulks+	By Tony & Betty Perfilio
	10:00 am	Marge Malone+	By Jean & Ron Marciano
	12:00 pm	Isabel & Walter Lundgren+	By The Lundgren Family
Monday December 6	7:00 am	Marie Ann DeVito+	By Bernie Beck
	8:30 am	Joe Handy+	By Dan & Rosemary Kelly
Tuesday December 7	7:00 am	James Peri+	By Bob & Kate Franciscus
	8:30 am	Dominic Guarna+	By Antoinette Guarna
	7:00 pm	Marion Barrett+	By Thomas Barrett
Wednesday December 8	7:00 am	Patricia Castelli (living)	By Janet & Emil Manfredonia
	12:00 pm	Garrett Rudricki+	By Marion, Mark, Julianne & Steven Beryer
	7:00 pm	Mary & George Good+	By Janice Good Piga & Bob Piga
Thursday December 9	7:00 am	Laurice Najjar+	By The Chimento Family
	8:30 am	Debbie Johnston+	By Marc & Marion Berger
Friday December 10	7:00 am	Marie McAuley+	By John & Tracey Foley
	8:30 am	Mary Saks+	By Marc, Marion, Julianne, Kevin, Steven & Elise
Saturday December 11	7:00 am	Gail A. Gurry+	By Patricia & James Feeley
	8:30 am	Marie Farrell+	By Mary & Peter Zazzarino
	5:00 pm	John "Jack" Foulks	By Arlene Knox
Sunday December 12	8:00 am	Juliette Lewis+	By Maureen Pecoraro
	10:00 am	Donald F. Reeves Sr.+	By His Family
	12:00 pm	Madeline C. Pravata+	By Mitch & Kimberly Taraschi

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

Special Intentions for the week of December 5th - December 12th



Sanctuary Light
For the intention of:
Gary F. Takacs+
Requested by
Barbara & Bill Apgar



The Altar Bread & Wine
For the intention of:
Sopko & Hajducek Families
Requested by
Mary Ann Sopko



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

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, January 6 at 7:30PM**. All women are welcome to join! Please email Tracey Foley at tefoleyihm@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 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.

IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group

Our next live session will be on **Saturday morning December 11 at 7:30AM** in the church basement. Coffee and donuts will be served! Please email David Diken at 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 or Colm Keogh, also an IHM parishioner and Team Member at ckeogh925@yahoo.com

WEEKLY PEARL OF WISDOM



"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." - James 1:5



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- 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.mobilemealswestfield.org

Minister Assignments - December 11 - 12

Saturday /Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00pm	Kathy Mitchell	- Alice Schaffernoth - Chris Zucosky	Fr. Mike
8:00am	Rich Banasiak	- Rich Wagner - Chris Dill	Fr. Rob
10:00am	Lou Zappo	- Deacon Jack - David Diken	Fr. Mike
12:00pm	Edwin Hernandez	- Jean Naugle - Carol Kiley	Fr. Val



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

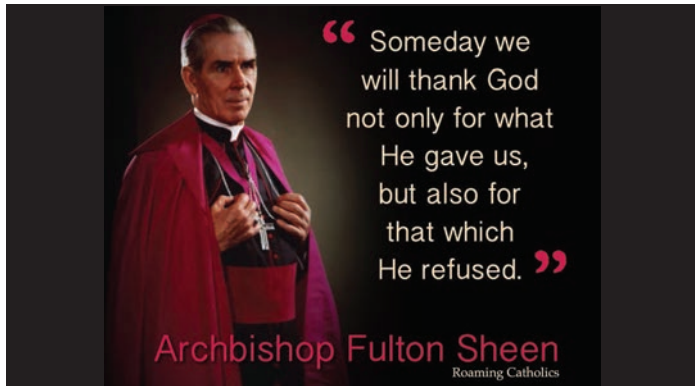
Website: www.ihmparish.net

Like us on Facebook: **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**
Follow us on Instagram: **ihmparish_sp**



Rosary Altar Society News

From the book "The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen" comes these quotes: *"The Rosary is the best therapy for these distraught, unhappy, fearful, and frustrated souls, precisely because it involves the simultaneous use of three powers: the physical, the vocal, and the spiritual, and in that order."*



1. Our Rosary Christmas Celebration is finally here after the Noon Mass in the Nazareth Center. Looking forward to sharing this time with you, as we begin the Second week of Advent. The movie on St. Joseph 's life I hope will inspire you on his struggles and the strength he found. There is a raffle to raise money for the Missionaries of Charity, that they may continue their good works. I hope that you will enjoy the meal and experience of sharing with one another! Thank you.

2. Executive Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 14th, at 11:30AM in the Nazareth Center Meeting room. Remember if you are an officer, chairwoman of a standing committee or a monthly event you are invited to attend. Please RSVP to me by December 11th at 908-753-2161 if you can or cannot make the meeting! Thank you.

3. Rosarians and parishioners, we still need your help with the Altar linens. Don't be afraid, we will tutor you. So Please Help by calling/texting Erin Miller at 908-531-0128 or email Erins310@gmail.com, as she is helping Betty Swisher with scheduling and typing. Thank you.

4. 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 of Nazareth Center. Labeled "Blessed Mother Flowers Remembrance Cards". Any questions contact Betty Perfilio at 908-889-4868.

5. Can you commit an hour of your time to Jesus? Please come and visit Our Lord at the IHM Adoration Chapel, He is waiting for you! There are 7 hours during the week where He is alone! Please contact Erin Miller if you can help or need the code at 908-531-0128. Thank you.

"God walks into your soul with silent step. God comes to you more than you go to Him. Never will His coming be what you expect, and yet never will it disappoint. The more you respond to his gentle pressure, the greater will be your freedom." - also from Fulton Sheen 's book.

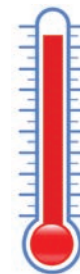
We are still praying for you, our parish and the world!
Thank you and God Bless!
MaryJane

Collection Report		November 28, 2021
Weekly Budget Need:		\$11,300.00
Collection:		4,297.00
Parish Giving:		2,555.56
Surplus/(Deficit)		(4,447.44)
<u>Fiscal Year to Date:</u>		
Budget		\$248,600.00
Actual:		\$229,101.74
Surplus/(Deficit)		(19,498.26)
<u>Rolling 4 Week Averages:</u>		
Average Collection:		\$10,061.60
Average Surplus/(Deficit)		(1,238.40)

Archbishop's Annual Appeal Update

91.5%

The 2021 Annual Appeal is now underway. We have \$63,770.46 already pledged. **Our goal is \$69,693.00 = 91.5%.** 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. Thank you for your prayers and support.



IHM EVENT CALENDER

Sunday December 5 - Second Sunday of Advent

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

Monday December 6

7:00 pm 8th Grade Confirmation Prep Session 2
 7:30 pm Alpha 15

Tuesday December 7

7:15 pm Eucharist Spirituality: Advent to Easter
 7:30 pm Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday December 8

10:00 am Food Pantry
 8:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday December 9

9:30 am Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Zoom

Friday December 10

Saturday December 11

All day Retirement Collection for the Religious
 7:30 am Men's Scripture & Discussion Group
 4:30 pm 9th Grade Confirmation Advent Gathering

Sunday December 12

All day Retirement Collection for the Religious
 10:00 am Sunday Food Pantry
 10:00 am 8th Grade Confirmation Rite of Names
 11:00 am Living Rosary
 7:00 pm BOLD: Christmas Party

BOLD
youth ministry by fiat Ventures

IHM Youth Ministry
CHRISTMAS PARTY

Christmas Jammies Theme

FOR ALL IN HIGH SCHOOL
 Sunday - Dec 12
 7:00-8:30pm
 Nazareth Center
 Text Rachael to RSVP:
 908-280-2893

Bring a WRAPPED \$10 gift to exchange!

- 8th Grade Service Night "Warm Regards" ~ Putting together no-sew fleece hats for children in need: Sunday, 12/5 from 7-8:30pm. 8th Graders sign up at boldym.com/ihmosp/events
- IHM BOLD Youth Ministry Christmas Party ~ Sunday, 12/12 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! Please text Rachael Flanagan to RSVP: (908) 280-2893

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