

4th Sunday of Advent - December 18th, 2022

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



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

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
John McGuire: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation



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

A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

We see in today's first reading and Gospel God reaching out to his people. Ahaz rejects God's offer for a sign. Joseph trusts in the message of the angel. God follows through with both signs showing his love and care for His People. Joseph is instructed to name the child Jesus because he will save his people. The connection between the name and destiny is not clear in English, in ancient Hebrew and Aramaic it would have been clear.

Jesus derives from the name Joshua which means to save or deliver. Thus the death and resurrection of Jesus saves us, or delivers us, from our sins because he is indeed Emmanuel or God with us, who offers himself on the Cross. This is the Good News, or the Gospel, preached by Jesus. This is the good news that we live out as disciples of Christ, experiencing the Joy of His love as He frees us to live as His cherished daughters and sons. Peace, Fr. Mike



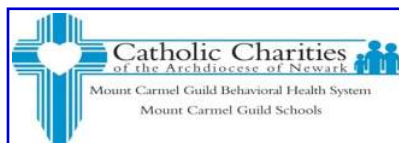
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The cold winds of winter and harsh weather are reminders that life is never smooth and comfortable at all times. There are many who do not have the resources to meet the demands of daily living. Catholic Charity is the lifesaver for many such people. Donation Bins are located in our parking lot. Thank you!

Archdiocese of Newark - COVID-19 Directives - Updated May 15, 2022

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. 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 Masses and activities in Church. Archdiocesan protocols for Religious Education and Basketball programs remain in effect.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: All ministries may return to full service – altar servers, lectors, ushers, greeters and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Ministers of Holy Communion must still sanitize their hands and wear a mask when distributing Communion.

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 is done regularly. It is not required after every liturgy.

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.

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 18th - December 25th, 2022

Saturday December 17	7:00 am	David Ferro+ by Mom & Dad
	8:30 am	David McWilliams+ by Patricia & John McNulty
	5:00 pm	Benjamin Rozborski+ by The Zelonis Family
Sunday December 18	8:00 am	For the People by The Parish
	10:00 am	Claire Rita Lewis+ by The Lewis Family
	12:00 pm	Robert L. Scully+ by The Scully Family
Monday December 19	7:00 am	Aurora Lioanag+ by The Lioanag Family
	8:30 am	Anthony Maimone+ by Antoinette Guarna
Tuesday December 20	7:00 am	Bob Piasecki+ by The Angelo Family
	8:30 am	Geraldine "Geri" Smith by Al Smith
Wednesday December 21	7:00 am	Paul Hart Jr.+ by The Angelo Family
	8:30 am	Louis Schmitt+ Anniversary of Death by Mary Jane Bergen
Thursday December 22	7:00 am	Agnes Reilly+ by The Reilly & Farrell Families
	8:30 am	Attilio V. Badala+ by Rose Badala
Friday December 23	7:00 am	Ronin Bryce DelRosario 6th Birthday (living) by The DelRosario Family
	8:30 am	James J. Grossman+ by June G. Grossman
Saturday December 24	8:30 am	Joyce DeRose+ by Mr & Mrs Jack Kresge
	4:00 pm	Mary Zucosky+ by Chris & Amy Zucoski
	6:00 pm	Frank Pecoraro+ by Maureen Pecoraro & Daughters
	10:30 pm	Fernando Velez+ by Vicente, Jashzmin & Olive
Sunday December 25	8:00 am	For the People by The Parish
	10:00 am	Michael Irrapino Sr.+ by The IHM Building Committee
	12:00 pm	Isabel & Walter Lundgren+ by The Lundgren Family


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

John Allen	Colm Cosgrove	David Hens	Bill Malone	Arty Shapiro	Stephanie Vernace
George Becker	Samantha Bridge	Kathleen Herron	Owen Mike McCabe	Elisa Silversey	Stephen Voorhees
Mary Jane Bergen	James Brown	Juliann Junio	June McManus	Bernard Slaza	Ben Wheelock
Fran Boglioli	John Burkert	Gregory Kamouh	Marlene Mosko	Beverly Sopp	Evelyn Whitehorne
Erin Brennan	Ray Clark	Marie Keller	Hilda Pizza	Ryder Francis Spillane	
Anna Cassella	Albert Fischer, Jr.	Anna Koch	Diane Pricken	Paul Szeker	
Paul Cassidy	Phyllis Fischer	Jillian Lapidus	Carmela Resnick	Phyllis Szeker	© Please advise if
Matthew Cassio	Emily Fleming	Eileen Lynch	Marisol Rodriguez	Carole Ventre	any names can be
Frank Chimento	Mary Foster	Maureen Lynch	Susan Rozborski	Daniel Ventura	removed from the
Edward Clark	Michele Gamako	William Maines	Dolores Rust	Sr. Elizabeth	sick list. Thank you.
William Consovoy	Nicole Griffin	Jim Malfetti	Diana Scariati	Vermaelen	office@ihmparish.net




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.

Special Intentions for the week of December 18th - December 25th, 2022



Sanctuary Light
For the intention of:
Sr. Ann Sullivan S.S.J.+
Requested by
Sisters Alice, Elaine,
Maureen & Percylee




Altar Bread & Wine
For the intention of:
Dorothy Foulks+
Requested by
Barbara & Joe Mrozek



Flowers for the Blessed Mother
In thanksgiving to:
Our Blessed Virgin Mary+
Requested by
Marlene & Peter Mosko

**Remember
Our Departed**



Mary Calabrese+

Share
thoughts
questions
doubts
hopes



Explore life, faith and
meaning together.
#TryAlpha

Thank you to the Alpha Fall/Winter 2022 Class for joining us this past session. We hope you enjoyed the experience! The Winter/Spring 2023 Alpha series starts with a LIVE dinner/presentation on **Monday February 13, 2023** followed by 11 ZOOM sessions throughout the season. Seating is limited! Sign up today at www.ihmparish.net/alpha



Congratulations to Jillian Miele, Ryan Matulonis, Alana Beardsley and Steve Prato! We are happy to say that, because of their commitment and dedication to leadership at Immaculate Heart of Mary, the parish staff has nominated them for the Archdiocesan Youth Discipleship Award! The awards were presented at Youth Ministry Recognition Day: Sunday, December 4, 2022 at Sacred Heart Cathedral Basilica in Newark, NJ.

IHM Word Search © How many words can you find?

A	W	X	Y	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	R	F	Z	A
W	D	X	G	O	S	P	E	L	A	H	A	A	M	N
S	A	V	I	O	R	Y	Z	W	R	A	C	I	O	G
P	C	H	E	A	V	E	N	X	T	N	E	T	U	E
E	L	Y	Z	N	W	G	O	D	H	K	G	H	N	L
O	E	S	O	N	T	H	O	L	Y	S	R	L	T	R
P	A	V	I	R	G	I	N	J	X	Y	A	O	A	E
L	N	P	O	W	E	R	L	O	V	E	C	R	I	A
E	H	I	M	G	L	O	R	Y	Z	W	E	D	N	D

Find clues inside the "Breaking Bread 2023" book. Page 42



ATTENTION: If you submitted a photo of a loved one for the All Souls Mass, please stop by the Nazareth Center and pick up your pictures. The office is open Monday—Thursday from 9am until 4pm. Call the office if you'd like to make alternate arrangements. Thank you! 908-889-2100

IHM Youth Ministry powered by BOLD! Sign-up for events @ www.boldym.com/ihmsp/events



Snapshots from IHM BOLD Youth Ministry Christmas Party



Scenes from the Living Nativity. Hosted by IHM Youth Ministry!



SAVE THE DATES!

- ~IHM Youth Ministry Events for 7th & 8th Graders~
- ▶ SERVICE NIGHT: **Sunday, January 29** (7:00-8:30pm)
- ▶ LOCK-IN: **Friday, April 28 - Saturday, April 29** (8:30pm-8:30am)

Questions? Contact the Youth Ministry Coordinator at ihmsp@boldym.com

*** Prayers to Rachael Flanagan & her family! Congratulations! ***

IHM Lector & Extraordinary Minister Schedule

“Please let us know if you would like to serve at Christmas Mass. Email tefoleyihm@gmail.com or call 908-889-2100”



Christmas Eve Mass: 4pm, 6pm, 10:30pm
Christmas Day Mass: 8am, 10am, 12 noon



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

Fall/Winter 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 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
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Like us on Facebook: **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

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Rosary Altar Society News

TAKE TIME

-Author Unknown
Take time to Think,
It is the source of Power.
Take time to Play,
It is the secret of perpetual Youth.
Take time to be Friendly,
It is the road to Happiness.
Take time to Work,
It is the price of Success.
Take time to PRAY,
It is the greatest power on Earth.
Take time to Love and be Loved,
it is the Way of God.

♥ Our Annual Rosary Winter Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, January 10th (Snow Date January 17th) at Max's Bistro in Downtown Scotch Plains. This will be a multiple course, gourmet luncheon with door prizes!! Please secure your reservation by sending your check for \$30 to Treasurer Alice Mansfield-Smith, 3 Kennedy Drive, Clark, NJ 07066 no later than January 4th, 2023. Friends and significant others are also invited!! Please contact Janice 908-759-6729 or Maureen 732-560-0918 with any questions or and dietary restrictions. Please don't miss this wonderful after the holidays event.

♥ We have some wonderful events planned for 2023 and welcome your interest & participation. Please see additional details in next week's Rosary Column.

A DAILY DEVOTIONAL FOR ADVENT

Your light will come, O Jerusalem
The Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.
We shall see the glory of the Lord,
The Splendor of our God.
The sign of the Cross shall appear in the Heavens,
When our Lord shall come to judge the world.

♥ May your week be a most Blessed & Joyous one and please know that we continue to hold you and your families close in our thoughts and prayers.

♥ Janice



The Women's Prayer Group will gather on **Thursday January 5, 2023 at 7:30pm** via Zoom. The topic will be "The Letters of St. Paul". Email tefoleyihm@gmail.com for the Zoom link.



CENTERING PRAYER/LECTIO DIVINA

Every Thursdays from 9:30 - 10:45 am on Zoom. Reflection, Discussion, Meditation in the Mystic and Contemplative way of prayer. Call Phyllis at 908-264-7456 for information & the Zoom link.



The next meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be **Thursday December 29th at 7:30am on Zoom**. For more info contact David at dndiken@aol.com

Merry Christmas

God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If he gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it.

- Pope Francis

Christmasjournals.com

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16



Annual Appeal
We did it! Thank you!
 \$67,170.14

Goal: \$67,107
100% of goal!



Here's a glimpse of our Families of Faith team assembling care packages for those in need. Just in time for the holidays. Thanks & blessings to everyone in attendance! Have a Merry Christmas!



IHM EVENT CALENDER

Sunday December 18: 4th Sunday of Advent

11:00am IHM + PAL Christmas Market @ Nazareth Center
 1:00pm Living Nativity with IHM Youth Ministry
 1:00pm Christmas Tree Memorial Lighting

Monday December 19: Hanukkah

7:00pm Penance Service

Tuesday December 20

7:15pm Julian of Norwich Seminar on Zoom

Wednesday December 21: Winter Begins

10:00am Food Pantry
 7:30pm Advent Reflection with Fr. Mike on Zoom
 8:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday December 22

9:30am Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Zoom

Friday December 23

Saturday December 24: Christmas Eve

All Day Merry Christmas! Office & Chapel Closed

Sunday December 25: Christmas

All Day Merry Christmas! Office & Chapel Closed

A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate John McGuire:

How has your Advent been going for you? Did you make plans for how you would have liked it to go? Was there a goal for your faith life that you set that you accomplished? Was there something that did not receive the attention you hoped it would? If the season was so busy for you, that it got away from you, I have some good news. We have one week left until Christmas. You may have to reevaluate your goals, make them more realistic or attainable, but there is still time. Even better news, if one of the unmet goals you set was to experience the sacrament of Reconciliation, there is one more opportunity. On Monday, December 19th, at 7 pm, there will be a Penance Service, with the opportunity for individual Confession. Are you feeling a little rusty on the procedures for celebrating the sacrament? Great news, you can use the free Formed.org membership the parish has provided you with, to watch a few episodes of the Forgiven Series! Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession - FORMED. Living an intentional faith life can be challenging, and there are many barriers to living up to even our own expectations. That is why we are lucky to belong to a faith of new beginnings, constant conversion, and a yearly liturgical calendar. Do the best with the time that you have this year, and if you didn't accomplish your goals, they can always be revisited. This week, let's pray for the insight to evaluate our goals, and reset them as needed, to accept the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and to grow ever more faithful in the days to come. God Bless and have a great last week of Advent.

www.ihmparish.net/childrensfaithformation



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