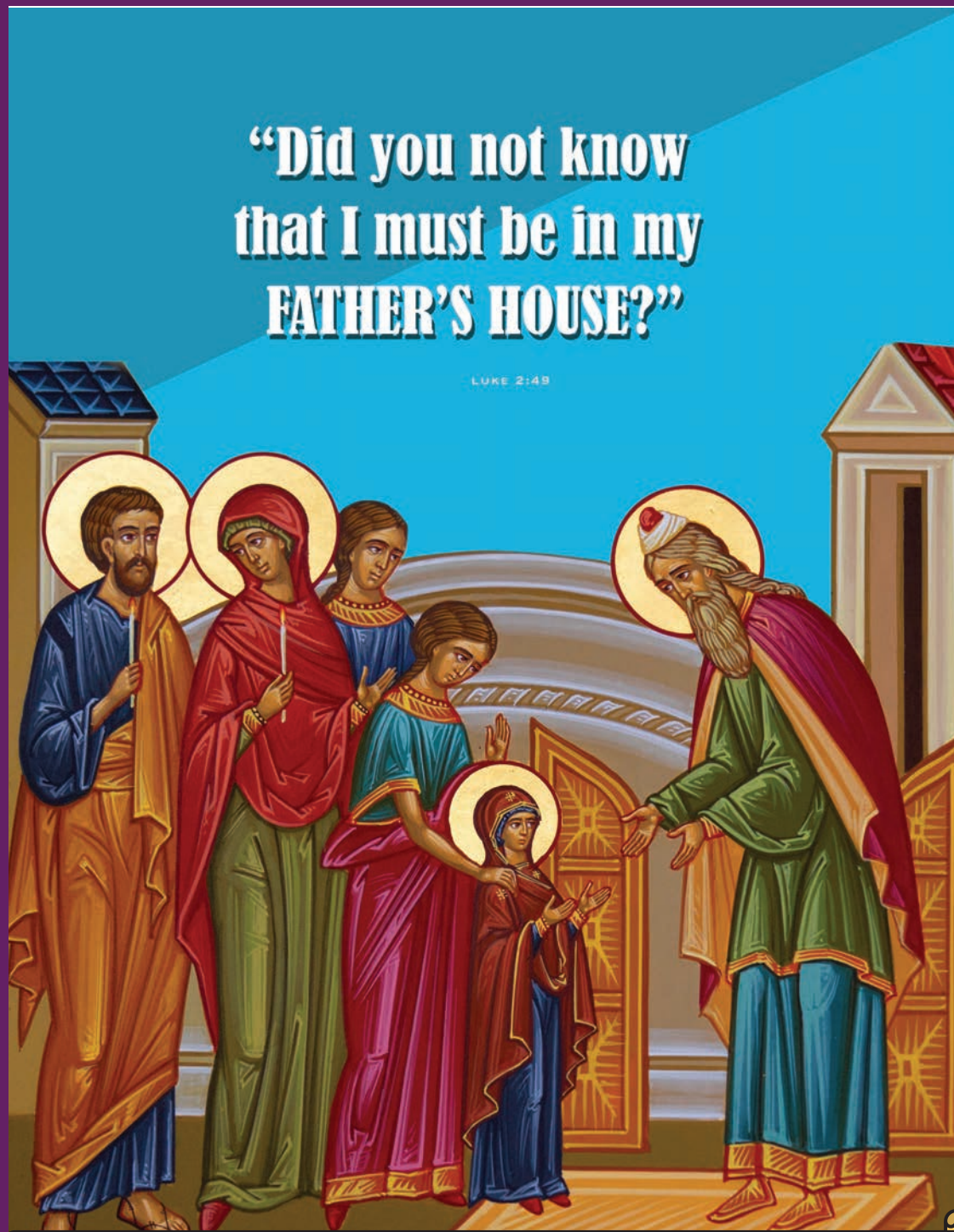


The Holy Family - December 26th, 2021

# Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

*The People of God called to form the Christian Community of*



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



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

Our celebration today of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, as well as our celebration of Christmas, help us to recognize more poignantly the Word made flesh. Our God is not a God who leaves us alone, He does not sit on his throne and ignore us. No, He enters into our humanity, into our lives and into our flesh. The infinite and divine binds himself into our limited and human nature, to our space and time, thus opening the door for us to participate in the divine. Jesus grows up under the care of Mary and Joseph, in the context of the human family, much the same way we grow up, as seen by their regular and traditional celebration of Passover.

It is because of this that we are able to see God in the ordinary every day events of our lives, it is because of this that we see the opportunities to reflect God's love in the simple human and earthly things in our lives, and not just in the great spiritual and mystical events we sometimes encounter. To be sure they are a good and necessary part of living our faith, but they serve to encourage us in the everyday and practical aspects of living our faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Peace, Fr. Mike



**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 December 26th, 2021 - January 2nd, 2022

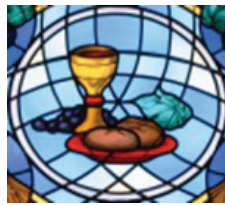
<b>Saturday December 25</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Marge Malone+ Joseph Castelli+ Deceased Members of the Reilly & Molnar Families	By The Rosary Altar Society By Janet Friscia & Family By The Family
<b>Sunday December 26</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Deceased Members of the Piasecki Family+ Marge Malone+ Bessie Sullivan+	By Helen & Bob Piasecki By Terry Clark By Dan & Nina Gowaty
<b>Monday December 27</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Thomas Miller+ Deceased Members of the D'Andrea Family+	By Bernie Beck By The Carlino Family
<b>Tuesday December 28</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Joseph G. McLane+ Romulo Lioanag+	By The Tricoche Family By The Lioanag Family
<b>Wednesday December 29</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Zach Bryan+ Josephine Verdic+	By The Fabricatore Family By The Verdic Family
<b>Thursday December 30</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am	Renato R. Razal (living) Maureen Clark+	By Renna, Arc & Mart Razal By Terry Clark
<b>Friday December 31</b>	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Amelia Sollitto 100th Birthday (living) Ann Gallagher+ Fieseler & Hennessy Families+	By The Carlino Family By John & Tracey Foley By The Hennessy Family
<b>Saturday January 1</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	Amanda Ford+ Margaret Mary Stubeck+ Manuel A. Vera+ For the People	By The Fabricatore Family By Bernie Beck By Rosemary & Vincent McCallion By The Parish
<b>Sunday January 2</b>	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	John Foulks+ Szeker Family (living) Joseph Brennan+	By Bill & Lenore Born By The Bonaccolto Family By Eileen & Rich Wagner

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

## Special Intentions for the week of December 26th - January 2nd



**Sanctuary Light**  
For the intention of:  
**Beverly Ellen Liftman+**  
Requested by  
The Chimento Family



**The Altar Bread & Wine**  
For the intention of:  
**Charles Plungis+**  
Requested by  
Dan & Roe Kelly



**Flowers for the Blessed Mother**  
For the intention of:  
**Frank Pecoraro**  
Requested by  
Maureen, Melissa and  
Kimberly Pecoraro

## Remember Our Departed



Bernadette Chemidlin  
Madeline Koch  
Edward Clancy  
Richard Garcia  
Michael Iarrapino Jr.  
(father of Mike Iarrapino)



**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**. Our theme will be "In the Beginning." We will examine the creation stories in Scripture and the many influences that yielded the "final" edit. 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!

### IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group

(Virtual) Thursday December 30, 2021 - 7:30pm @ Zoom  
(Live) Saturday January 8, 2022 - 7:30am @ IHM Basement

Coffee & Donuts served during live meetings. Please contact David Diken at [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) for more details.



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

Centering Prayer group meetings on Zoom will be on Holiday recess starting December 16th. Meetings will resume again on Thursday January 20th. Please call Phyllis at **908-264-7456** for further information and to receive the Zoom link when meetings start again. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



**Choir Practice** on Wednesday nights will be on break for the Holidays December 29 and January 5. Choir practice resumes Wednesday night January 12 at 8:00pm.

Anyone who would like to share their gift of music with the church, please contact Katie Wills at [ktwills1973@gmail.com](mailto:ktwills1973@gmail.com). Happy Holidays!



### **Congratulations to our parish members that completed IHM's first Alpha session for Fall 2021!**

It was a pleasure to experience this journey of faith with you all! Keep our Alpha participants in your prayers and keep an eye out for our next Alpha series on Tuesday nights in 2022...



### **We Need Hospitality Ministers (Ushers) for all the Masses and Special Events**

Men and women, young and not so young are encouraged to volunteer! Responsibilities would be:

- Welcoming and assisting our parishioners and guests when they come to worship.
- Finding a family or an individual to bring up the Offertory Gifts during Mass especially if there is no one from the family for whom the Mass is being celebrated.
- Assist in the distribution of flyers or bulletins before or after Mass, hopefully when we get back to normal.
- Assist the presiding Priest as may be required.

There is no long term commitment. If you cannot come to the same Mass each week but are willing to substitute when the need arises – we can use your assistance! If you are interested, please leave a message for Maureen Pecoraro or myself at the office and we will contact you. Please leave a phone number and/or e-mail address and we will call back to set up a meeting. If possible, please indicate what mass would be good for you. Once we have a list of candidates, Fr. Mike will have a training session. Thank you for your consideration!  
- Emil Manfredonia

### 8th Grade Confirmation Preparation 2022

**Mon. January 10:** Session 3 | 7 - 8:30 pm

**Mon. February 7:** Session 4 | 7 - 8:30 pm



### 9th Grade Confirmation Preparation 2022

**Sat. January 8:** Christmas Gathering | 4:30 - 7:30 pm

**Sat. February 12:** Pre-Lent Gathering | 4:30 - 7:30 pm

### SAVE THE DATE: Sunday February 13, 2022

Bus Trip to Cathedral | Bus leaves IHM Parking Lot 11:00am



### **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

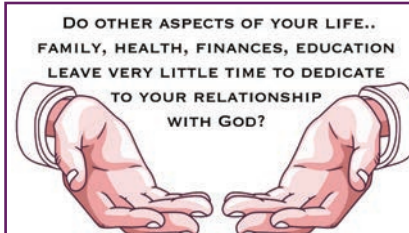
Bidding starts January 1st. Visit

[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).



**SAVE THE DATE**  
March 11+ March 12

### **MEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT 2022**

Starts on Friday evening - Ends Saturday evening. Located at St. Bart's in Scotch Plains, NJ. Contact David Diken: [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) or Colm Keogh: [ckeogh925@yahoo.com](mailto:ckeogh925@yahoo.com)

## Minister Assignments - January 1 - 2

Saturday /Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00pm	Volunteers	Volunteers	Fr. Mike
8:00am	Karen Schwaneberg	- Lou DiBella - Alice Coquia	Fr. Val
10:00am	Heba Fortunato	- Deacon Jack - Anthony Carlino	Fr. Mike
12:00pm	Carol Kiley	- Jean Naugle - Eileen Wagner	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

The quotes this weekend is from Meister Eckhart, thoughts on the birth of Jesus Christ.

*“What good is it to us? For the Creator to give birth to the Son, If We do not also give birth to him. In our time. And our culture? This, then, is the fullness of time: When the Son of God is begotten In us.”*



1. We want to take this time to wish everyone a very Beautiful and Blessed Christmas! May you celebrate with Joy the wonder of Christ 's birth with Hope and Peace on earth.
2. Ladies of the parish save the date— January 11, 2022—the Rosarians will be holding their annual winter luncheon! A time to gather and relax after the holidays. So look for more information in the coming weeks!
3. Rosarians and parishioners, we still need your help with the Altar linens. Don't be afraid, we will tutor you. There are a few volunteers who have signed up for more than the 4 times a year, some are doing it 20 times a year. We need 8 more volunteers! So please help by calling Betty Perfilio at 908-889-4868 or/ and texting Erin Miller at 908-531-0128. The schedule for the Linens can be obtained in the sacristy. Thank you.
4. Can you commit an hour of your time to Jesus? Think of what he did for us! Please come and visit Our Lord at the IHM Adoration Chapel, there are 12 critical openings. So check your schedule with these openings that you might be able to match a time. If so please call or text Erin Miller at 908-531-0128.

Monday 12, 5, 6, 8 and 9pm

Tuesday 12, 2, 3, and 8pm

Wednesday 2pm

Thursday 2, and 8pm

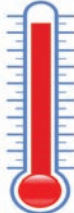
If not, please, come any hour that the Chapel is open. Celebrate the birthday of Our Lord. Thank you. The final quote from Meister Eckhart, *“We are all called to be mothers of God, for God is always waiting to be born.”*

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

Collection Report		December 12, 2021	
Weekly Budget Need:		\$11,300.00	
Collection:		6,689.00	
Parish Giving:		5,943.33	
Surplus/(Deficit)		1,332.33	
<b>Fiscal Year to Date:</b>			
Budget		\$271,200.00	
Actual:		\$252,005.53	
Surplus/(Deficit)		(19,194.47)	
<b>Rolling 4 Week Averages:</b>			
Average Collection:		\$9,767.75	
Average Surplus/(Deficit)		(\$1,532.25)	

**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. Visit [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing). Thank you for your prayers and support!




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**February 4th - 6th, 2022**  
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**IHM BOLD Youth Ministry's Annual Ski Trip is BACK!**

All teens in grades 9-12 are invited to join us for a ski weekend! All are welcome. Registration opens soon. Hotel & travel are included. Contact Rachael Flanagan for more information: [ihmsp@boldym.com](mailto:ihmsp@boldym.com)

**WEEKLY PEARL OF WISDOM**

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”  
- Colossians 3:16

IHM EVENT CALENDER	
<b>Sunday December 26</b>	
<b>Monday December 27</b>	
<b>Tuesday December 28</b>	
<b>Wednesday December 29</b>	
10:00 am	Food Pantry
<b>Thursday December 30</b>	
7:30 pm	Men's Scripture & Discussion Group Zoom
<b>Friday December 31 - New Year's Eve</b>	
All Day	Office Closed - Happy New Year!
<b>Saturday January 1 - New Year's Day</b>	
<b>Sunday January 2</b>	
9:00 am	Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast



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