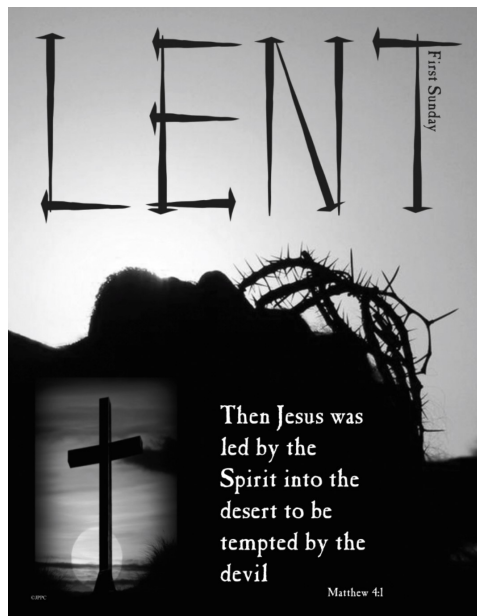


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

1571 S. Martine Ave. Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 Phone: (908) 889-2100 FAX: (908) 889-9477 EMAIL: office@ihmparish.net

The First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2020



“One does not live by bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4)

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Saturday: 5 p.m. (Anticipated Mass)
Mass Schedule Sundays: 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon
Daily Mass Monday - Saturday 7 a.m. & 8:30 a. m.
Holy Days of Obligation - *See Mass Schedule on page 3*
Morning Prayer: Monday - Friday at 8:15 a.m.
Rosary: Monday - Saturday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass
Novena to the Miraculous Medal & St. Jude - Saturday after 8:30 a.m. Mass
Office & Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours: Mon - Thur. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.;
Fri. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Reconciliation: Saturdays: 4:15 - 4:45 p.m. Please call the office for a private confession.

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
Website: www.ihmparish.net

Like us on Facebook: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Follow us on Instagram: [ihmparish_sp](https://www.instagram.com/ihmparish_sp)

MISSION STATEMENT

“We reach out to all through prayer and service, as we live our Catholic faith in Christ with Mary”

Notes from Fr. Mike



The story of the temptations in the desert is not simply a story about the triumph of good over evil. It is a recognition that seeking food without work, power over death, or glory and riches for ourselves can lead to death. It is only in using our gifts in the service of God and neighbor, trusting in God, and in seeking to fulfill God’s will that we can truly experience life. During this Lenten season of repentance we seek God’s mercy for the times that we have fallen into these temptations so that we may rise again to new life in Christ. We also seek to grow in our relationship with Jesus, so we can better engage ourselves in building the Kingdom of God in our daily lives.

Peace,
Fr. Mike

Archdiocese of Newark 2020 Lenten Regulations



1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted **and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.**

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence “substantially,” or as a whole, is serious.

3. Fridays of the year outside of Lent are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self- denial as penance.

4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2020 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 7, 2020.**

*Canon 920 §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

Scripture Reflection The First Sunday of Lent



“ It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and Him alone shall you serve...” MATTHEW 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things. Ask God how He is calling you to serve.

IHM Women’s Prayer Group Thursday, March 5th from 7:30—9pm

Please Join Us
For Our March Prayer Gathering
Our Theme will be
The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary
We will meet in the Church basement



Refreshments will be available!



Altar Bread and Wine Intentions



*The Altar Bread and Wine was donated the week of March 1st:
For the intention of
Agnes Reilly+
Requested by her family*

Archdiocese of Newark Anniversary Liturgies for 2020



Our Archdiocese will be celebrating five, twenty-five, and fifty years of **Christian** marriage in the year 2020. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 19th at 3pm - celebrating 5 & 25 years
May 3rd at 3pm - celebrating 50 years

Please contact Terry Clark at (908) 889-2100 if you would like to take part in this beautiful Mass. RSVP by April 3rd.

Remember Our Sick



Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 1st

8:00 am For the people of IHM Parish
10:00 am Leonard Ehrlich+ By Janice Reilly
12:00 pm Helen, Dorothy & Herman Eckert+ By Lundgren Family

Monday, March 2nd

7:00 am Marilyn Schott+ By Anita & Steve Prato
8:30 am Leni Becker+ By Barb & Norm Swenson

Tuesday, March 3rd

7:00 am Catherine Marie Weber+ By Rob & Dan Criscuolo
8:30 am Nicolina Vacca+ By Carmela Cicchino

Wednesday, March 4th

7:00 am Paul Goode+ By Bernard Whalen
8:30 am My beloved parents, Edward & Jean Winsor+ By Mary Beth Winsor

Thursday, March 5th

7:00 am Dorothy O'Neill+ By Barb & Norm Swenson & Family
8:30 am Frank Pecoraro+ By Regina O' Connor

Friday, March 6th

7:00 am Karen Elizabeth Stober+ By Robert, Paula, Dan & Rob Criscuolo
8:30 am Regina Clark+ By Eileen & Rich Wagner
12:00 pm Stations of the Cross
4:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 7th

7:00 am For the people of IHM Parish
8:30 am Frankie Dombrowski+ By Ed, Maggie & Family
5:00 pm Joan Tuomey+ By George & Joyce Bizink

Sunday, March 8th

8:00 am Helen A. Peer+ By Robert, Alexander, John Kostakos
10:00 am James Kennedy+ By Kerry Casperson
12:00 pm Agnes Reilly+ By her Family

Lee Achiron Colleen Guidera
John Allen John Heiling
Eileen Arnold Juliann Junio
Rose Badala Janet Kanelos
Larry Biunno Eileen Lynch
Thomas Bodenberd Maureen Lynch
Fran Boglioli Christine Morris
James Brown Jim McLean
Kevin Brown June McManus
John Burkert Bob McMillion
John Byrne Timothy Murphy
Anna Cassella Charlie Plungis
Matthew Cassio Hilda Pizza
Donald Checchio Madeline Pravata
Frank Chimento Diane Pricken
Colm Cosgrove Cheryl Reid
Edward Clark Joel Rivera
Joe Clarke Susan Rozborski
Ray Clark Jeannie Schroeder
Elle Crofton Bernard Slaza
Enrique Curbelo Beverly Sopp
Dorothy D'Angelo Ryder Francis Spillane
Taylor Dill Paul Szeker
Denise Donnelly Samuel Testa
Barbara Faccone Carole Ventre
Albert Fischer, Jr. Daniel Ventura
Emily Fleming Sr.Elizabeth Vermaelen
Mary Flynn Stephen Voorhees
Anna Franke Christy Ward
Nicole Griffin Norah Yokom

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.



Remember those who have died: Irene McElroy+, Rick Holt+, Most Reverend Charles J. McDonnell+

Sanctuary Light: Week of March 1st: The Sanctuary Candle will burn for:

For the intention of Mary Donnelly+ Requested by the Foley Family



Flowers for the Blessed Mother



For the week of March 1st:

In memory of the McCrystal and Perfilio Families

Requested by : Betty & Tony Perfilio



IHM's Summer Academy 2020
Registration will begin on or about March 1st

Session Dates:

First Session: June 29TH through July 10
(No classes on July 3RD)

Second Session: August 17TH through August 28TH.
More details to follow...

**Centering Prayer
"Be Still, Know, I am God"**

Have you ever felt the call to **"Just be"**
or perhaps heard that **"still, small voice"**
inviting you to spend some **quiet time** with the Lord?
Join us, Thursday, March 19th from 9:30 a.m.
to approximately 11 a.m. for our first session
in the Nazareth Center for **Centering Prayer**,
which focuses on Lectio Divina, (Divine Reading),
Reflection and Meditation.

This prayer method helps to **deepen our
Spirituality** and our **Personal Relationship** with the Lord.

It also helps us to become more **aware** of
constantly being in the **"presence of God"**.

You enter into the **Sacred Silence**, deep within
the **center of your being** where

**You and God are one, as you allow your
Heart to "touch the heart of God".**

Please call Phyllis Manno at 908-264-7456 or
Mary Jane Bergen at 908-753-2161 for more information.

We'll be reflecting on The Stations of the Cross
for Lent. Looking forward to praying with you.

Catholic School Matters

Checking in with Third Grade



When we last checked in on our 3rd grade students, Mrs. Maria Stetin was just starting to help them make the transition from our early childhood education program to grammar school. In just a few months they have made great strides in their education and social development. Mrs. Stetin encourages her students to do their best and uses many creative projects to enable them to do that.

As part of the technology curriculum, Mrs. Stetin has been utilizing the students' Chromebooks to enhance their math skills. They have been using software games to supplement their classroom learning, which reinforces multiplication skills, types of angles, and shapes. Using both traditional learning techniques and modern technology ensures that each child is reached according to their own learning style. This allows each child to reach their full potential.

**Families of Faith-
February 9th Trip to Gray Friars**

What an excellent trip we had to visit the Gray Friars' Monastery in Newark back on Sun. Feb. 9th! Brother Thomas and Brother John took us on a tour of the Monastery while explaining some of the history and interesting insights of their lives as Franciscan Friars. A couple of interesting facts: The Friars beg for everything they have. They do not have TV. Br. John was barefoot, even though it was very cold out that day. Below is a picture from our trip.



**IHM Engaging Disciples
Community Team Men's Scripture
& Discussion Group**



2nd Saturday Morning of the Month 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.
3/14/20, 4/11/20, 5/9/20, 6/13/20

Open to All Men.

Coffee & light refreshments will be served.

Sessions will be in the IHM church basement.

**Wanted: New or Used Communion
Dresses & Suits**



Immaculate Heart of Mary will again be collecting gently used and new communion outfits and accessories. First Communion is one of the seven sacraments of the Catholic faith, usually celebrated when children are around 7 or 8 years old. Sometimes preparations can be a strain on a family's budget. Your donations will go to families in need at St. Joseph's Parish in North Plainfield.

Our collection period is now through March 15th. Please bring your donations to the Nazareth Center or to the front vestibule of the church. Thank you.

**Minister Assignments
Weekend of March 7-8**

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00 pm	Mulrooney B	Haight* Haight* Good-Piga Kelly* Cassidy	Fr. Mike
8:00 am	Henkels	Gibbons* Bagdonas* Wagner Conforti	Fr. Mike
10:00 am	McClellan	Staniec (S) Fischer Cregg Carlino Fortunato Diken*(cup) Prato*(cup)	Fr. Rob
12:00 pm	O'Connor	Sullivan Wagner Sapienza Sapienza McGuinness	Fr. Rob

Rosary Altar Society:



On March 3rd, we have our “Lions and Lambs” baby shower to benefit Raphael House in Elizabeth. The list of acceptable items is posted in the church vestibule. Donations must be new. No wrapping necessary just put your donation in the Pack-n-Play. The new mothers are sure to appreciate our help. We meet in the Nazareth Center from 1 to 3 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Thank you for your support.

The Night of Inspiration with Fr. Rob is scheduled for April 14th at 7 p.m. in the Nazareth Center. That night, we will be collecting costume jewelry donations to be delivered to children of Elizabeth in need of Mother’s Day gifts. So, mark your calendars to enjoy light refreshments and hear one of Fr. Rob’s wonderful talks.

Please mark your calendar for a good time on the May 17th, we will have the Rosary Altar Society’s Communion Mass and Breakfast. It will start with a 10 a.m. Mass, where the new officers will be inducted. This will be followed by a Communion Breakfast at Shackamaxon Country Club. More details to follow soon.

Parish Information

Religious Education Classes

Questions? Faithformation@ihmparish.net

Baptisms: Please call the office at (908) 889-2100.

Adoration Chapel:

Temporarily located in the Nazareth Center. See page 6 for new hours. Chapel closed on Holy Days and Holidays. Please note, if SPF schools are closed due to bad weather, the chapel will be closed.

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 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 at any time.

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.

Parish Schools:

St. Bartholomew Academy (908) 322-4265
Union Catholic Regional High School (908) 889-1600

Website: www.ihmparish.net



**Like us on Facebook at:
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**



Holy Name Society



The next meeting is this Sunday, March 1st after the 8:00 am Mass in the church basement. All interested men of the parish are invited to join us for breakfast. We serve eggs, sausage, crumb cake and coffee at every meeting. Please join us.



Nazareth Center Office & Adoration Chapel Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 8 pm
Friday: 9 am - 4 pm
Saturday: 9 am - 12 pm
***Sunday:** 8:30 - 11:30 am

**The Nazareth Center Office is open Sundays when Faith Formation classes are taking place. Office is closed Sunday, March 8.*

**Stations of the Cross
 Fridays in Lent at 12 noon & 4pm**



12 Noon - Stations & Soup

Join us for the Stations of the Cross in Church. We will continue our tradition of serving a soup & salad luncheon following the noon Stations every Friday, except Good Friday.

Stations of the Cross for Families

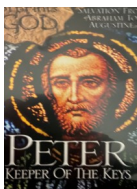
Mark your calendars for 4pm each Friday in Lent and participate with your family in the Stations. For parents who experienced the Stations of the Cross during childhood, we know it can help us grow in our relationship with Jesus, as we walk with Him to Calvary.

IHM Bible Study

Please join us as we study
 "Peter – Keeper of the Keys"

Wednesdays at 1pm

4 Sessions: March 4, 11, 18 & 25
 Nazareth Center Meeting Room
 RSVP to Eileen Wagner at 908 317-8554
 or email eilwagner45@gmail.com.



Calendar of Events at IHM

Sunday, March 1st

Rosary Altar Society San Alfonso Retreat
 8:30 a.m. - Families of Faith Gathering
 9 a.m.- Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast

Monday, March 2nd

7 p.m. - 8th Grade Confirmation Prep Class

Tuesday, March 3rd

1 p.m. - Rosary Altar Society Baby Shower for Raphael House

Wednesday, March 4th

11 a.m.. - Food Pantry
 1 p.m.- Bible Study: Peter –The Keeper of the Keys
 4:15 p.m. - Children’s Choir Practice
 8 p.m.– Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, March 5th

7:30 p.m. - IHM Women’s Prayer Group

Friday, March 6th

12 p.m. - Stations of the Cross & Soup Luncheon
 4 p.m. - Stations of the Cross for Families

Saturday, March 7th

9 a.m. - Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, March 8th

Food Pantry Sunday



Like us on Facebook at:
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



Follow us on Instagram at:
ihmparish_sp

Charitable Contribution Forms for 2019

There are several different ways to receive charitable contribution forms for tax purposes from IHM:

- * **Collection Envelopes:** If you are using envelopes for your Sunday collection contribution, you will receive a form in the mail from our envelope company, provided you have contributed \$100 or more in 2019.
- * **Capital Campaign:** Any cash or check contributions to our "Praise for the Past... Building for the Future" Capital Campaign will be acknowledged by a letter from IHM being mailed later this month.
- * **Parish Giving:** You can print a contribution history activity form for all electronic fund transfer contributions through Parish Giving by visiting your account at www.parishgiving.org.
Contact Tracey in the office if you need assistance.

Offertory Collection

February 23, 2020

Weekly Budget Need:	\$11,960.78
Collection:	7,512.00
Parish Giving:	1,867.39
Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$2,581.39)
Fiscal Year to Date:	
Budget	\$418,627.31
Actual	\$367,698.30
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$50,929.01)

Shining the Light of Christ Annual Appeal: \$21, 240
Goal: \$75,445.00 (28.15% of goal)

Thank you for your generosity!