

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, April 5, 2020



“My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by; nevertheless, let it be as You, not I would have it.” (Matthew 26)

The directive from Cardinal Tobin in light of what he calls “the rapidly changing landscape in dealing with the coronavirus: Until further notice, public celebration of both Sunday Mass and daily Mass is suspended. This decision comes after exhaustive discussion and with an especially heavy heart.”

Immaculate Heart of Mary Masses will be livestreamed on Facebook & our website: www.ihmparish.net.

Reconciliation suspended unless extreme emergency. If you are in need of assistance or have questions please call or email the office. We are monitoring our phones & email and look forward to helping you in any way we can.

The IHM Office & Eucharistic Adoration Chapel are closed until further notice. The Church building is also closed.

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



In Matthew's account of the Passion of Jesus Christ which we hear today, we are shown how Jesus the Messiah is not only the fulfillment of the Hebrew Scriptures, but also brings about the Kingdom of God. Matthew is reassuring his community of Jewish Christians that they are still connected with their history, with their prophets, while also realizing that in the redemptive suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus a new order has been established, a transformation has occurred. We may feel disconnected from many things in our lives at this point in time, including our community of faith, but our participation, even if only virtually, in the liturgy today helps us keep that connection alive and to own that transformation in our daily lives.

Peace,

Fr. Mike

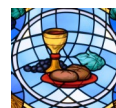
Scripture Reflection Palm Sunday



"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, this man they pressed into service to carry his cross."

Matthew 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him 'carry his cross'. These opportunities aren't usually big events, they are ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person's needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.



*The Altar Bread and Wine was donated
the week of April 5th:
For the intention of Frank Pecoraro+
Requested by his Wife Maureen & Family*

Divine Mercy Sunday April 19, 2020 at 3 p.m.



Novena begins Good Friday, April 10, 2020 and will be livestreamed at the following dates and times:

Good Friday, April 10 after the 3:00 p.m.
Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 11 at 3:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12 at 3:00 p.m.

Easter Monday, April 13 – Saturday, April 18th:
After 8:30 am Daily Mass

**Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19th:
The Novena will culminate 3:00 p.m. with
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
Prayer & Divine Mercy Chaplet**

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. 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.

3. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **1st Sunday of Lent, March 1 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 once a year.*

Remember Our Sick



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

Mass Intentions

The Masses and Holy Week Services listed below will be livestreamed on Facebook & posted on our website: www.ihmparish.net. The church building must remain closed due to the Covid-19 health crisis.

Palm Sunday, April 5th

- 10:00 am **Charles Takacs+** By Barbara Apgar
Helen McLane+ By McLane & Tricoche Family
Margaret A. Licata+ By the Lewis Family
Thomas Graham+ By the Family

Monday, April, 6th

- 8:30 am **Bruno Gialanella+** By Marilyn Gialanella
Alfred Stefnagle+ By Rosary Altar Society

Tuesday, April 7th

- 8:30 am **In honor of my 80th birthday** By Marie Keller
Joe Mulrooney+ By Dan & Ro Kelly

Wednesday, April 8th

- 8:30 am **Eileen McLaughlin+** By Terry Clark
Modestino Cristiano+ By Dr. Thomas & Maria Nucatola & Family

Holy Thursday, April 9th

- 7:30 pm **Frank Pecoraro+** By Betty & Tony Perfilio

Good Friday, April 10th

- 12:00 pm **Stations of the Cross**
3:00 pm **Veneration of the Cross**
First Day of Divine Mercy Novena

Holy Saturday, April 11th

- 3:00 pm **Divine Mercy Novena**
8:00 pm **Easter Vigil**
James Abrams+ By Bob & Betty Serry

Easter Sunday, April 12th

- 10:00 am **Mr. & Mrs. Donald Taravella** By Emil & Janet (living) Manfredonia
Frank Pecoraro+ By the Lewis Family
Aurora Lioanag+ By the Lioanag Family
Edward Gore+ By James & Janet Walsh
3:00 pm **Divine Mercy Novena**

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.

Flowers for the Blessed Mother



April & May 2020 flower orders have been canceled with Ponzio's Florist. They will be transferred to April & May 2021. The 2021 book will open officially on September 1, 2020. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us.



Remember those who have died:
Donald Walker+, Mark Dooley+, John Cholankeril+, Thomas Peter Rowan+ and Anthony Prato+

Sanctuary Light: Week of April 5th:

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for:
For the intention of George Geiger+
Requested by Rose Ann & Robert Thompson



IHM's Summer Academy 2020



Registration is now open.

Session Dates:

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

Second Session: August 17TH through August 28TH.

Families of Faith - mid-September through the following April.

IHM Religious Education registration for Summer Academy and for Families of Faith began on March 17th. All families who registered for either session of Summer Academy or for the Families of Faith program last year should have received an email from Parish Giving, the company that oversees the registration procedures, with registration information.

New families to the programs or the parish should access the IHM website and choose the menu for Faith Formation for Children. Once the information called for on the site is filled in and submitted, they too will receive an email from Parish Giving with instructions on how to complete registration.

Parish Giving maintains a help desk from 9:00-4:00 pm daily and will help with any registration issues you may encounter.

Phone number is 866-307-7140.

If you have any further questions, please email the Faith Formation office at Faithformation@ihmparish.net or call the Nazareth Center at 908-889-2100.

Fees: \$175 for first child, \$275 for two or more children

9th Grade Confirmation Prep Update



Although, we cannot meet in person, the 9th Grade Preparation Gathering scheduled for Saturday, April 25th will be done via Zoom that evening. We are very grateful to Rachael Flanagan, our youth minister, for taking the lead on working remotely.

Please watch for an email from Rachael with instructions for signing up for the Zoom Confirmation Preparation that will take place that evening with the focus on "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit" and a closer look at the Rite of Confirmation itself.

May God bless us during this difficult time. May the Holy Spirit fill us with fight and hope, fortitude and peace!

First Communion Families Collection of Easter Baskets for Needy Children



Donated items were picked up by the Elizabeth Coalition. We also donated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity.

BOLD Youth Ministries

. Looking for some things to do while you are home?

Live stream the Mass! IHM Daily Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook at 8:30 a.m. and available later on our website: www.ihmparish.net.

Go through your old clothes and put together a bag to donate to the needy.

Service Trip to Pittsburgh, PA is July 19-24
Check your email for registration information.

Catholic School Matters



Postponement of Casino Night and SBA 5K

In light of the growing Coronavirus concern, public health guidelines, and restrictions that are being implemented statewide, we are postponing both Casino Night and the SBA 5K.

Casino Night has been rescheduled to October 2, 2020, 7-11 pm, at the Italian American Club, Scotch Plains. If you require a refund for Casino Night, please contact Fabrizia Rotondo at Fabriziarotondo@gmail.com.

The SBA 5K will be Saturday, September 12 at 9 am. If you are registered for the 5k and can make the new date, your registration will rollover. If you require a refund for the 5K contact Maureen at sba5k@stbacademy.org.

If you can't make one of the events and would like to consider your registration a donation to the school, we greatly appreciate that!



**A New Giving Option to Support Our Parish
TEXT-TO-GIVE
908-224-3545**

Text a dollar amount to (908) 224-3545; you will then be directed on how to proceed through your existing Parish Giving account or setting up a new account.

Rosary Altar Society:

Flowers for the Blessed Mother: April & May 2020 flower orders have been canceled with Ponzio's Florist. They will be transferred to April & May 2021. The 2021 book will open officially on September 1, 2020. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us.

All Rosary Altar Society events are currently suspended including our Communion Mass and Breakfast at Shackamaxon Country Club, which we will reschedule. Please keep an eye on the bulletin for updates.

We are praying for you, our parish and the world.



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

Follow us on Instagram at:
ihmparish_sp

IHM Holy Name Society



Meetings are currently suspended, please keep an eye on the bulletin for updates. All interested men of the parish are invited to join us for breakfast. We serve eggs, sausage, crumb cake and coffee at every meeting.




The Nazareth Center is closed until further notice.
We are checking our email:
office @ihmparish.net.

Please call the office at (908) 889-2100 if you have any questions.

The Church building and Adoration Chapel are closed until further notice.

Holy Week

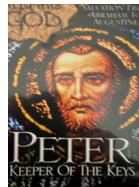


Please check our website: www.ihmparish.net later this week for information regarding Palm Sunday and Holy Week.

IHM Bible Study
Please join us as we study
“Peter – Keeper of the Keys”

This class will be rescheduled after the health crisis subsides.

Questions? Please contact Eileen Wagner at (908) 317-8554 or email eilwagner45@gmail.com.



Calendar of Events at IHM

Palm Sunday, April 5th

Monday, April 6th

Tuesday, April 7th

Wednesday, April 8th

11 a.m.. - Food Pantry

Holy Thursday, April 9th

7:30 pm - Mass of the Lord’s Supper livestream

Good Friday, April 10th

12 pm - Stations of the Cross livestream
3 p.m.. - Veneration of the Cross followed by the 1st Day of Divine Mercy Novena livestream

Holy Saturday, April 11th

3 p.m.- Divine Mercy Novena livestream
8 p.m. - Easter Vigil livestream

Easter Sunday, April 12th

10 a.m. - Easter Mass livestream
3 p.m. - Divine Mercy Novena livestream



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

March 29, 2020

Weekly Budget Need:	\$11,960.78
Collection:	4,742.00
Parish Giving:	1,598.61
Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$5,620.17)

Fiscal Year to Date:

Budget	\$478,431.20
Actual	\$404,155.23
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$74,275.97)

Shining the Light of Christ Annual Appeal:

\$23,850.00
Goal: \$75,445.00 (31.61% of goal)

Thank you for your generosity!