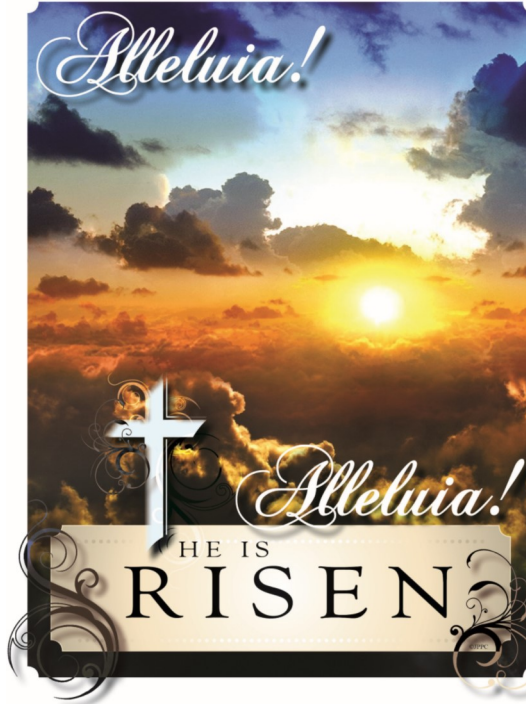


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

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

Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of the Lord, April 12, 2020



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



**Exult, let them exult,
the hosts of heaven, exult,
let Angel ministers of God exult,
let the trumpet of salvation
sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!**
(Beginning of the Easter Proclamation)

Truly we should all exult and rejoice because of God's saving love, for it is only through His love that we can even begin to hope in eternal life. The love so strong that Christ gave Himself up to death, so strong that it overcame death in the Resurrection, so strong that we are invited to rejoice and participate in God's tremendous love. This celebration is also a more upfront reminder that despite our current situation of isolation and pervasive illness and suffering that the love Christ shows to us from the cross and the empty tomb is a sign of hope. That hope helps us as we do what we are able to do in overcoming and surviving the COVID-19 pandemic, knowing that Christ is there helping and encouraging us in our lives each and every day. Happy and Holy Easter

Peace,

Fr. Mike

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



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

Easter Sunday, April 12 at 11:00 a.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**

Scripture Reflection Easter Sunday



"Set your minds on things that are above, not things that are on earth."

Matthew 27:32

Do you put God first in all things? Possessions, money, power, ego can easily become gods to many of us. Do a quick check of what is important to you. Is God at the very top of the list? If not, your priorities need to be re-adjusted. Don't let earthly things become a god before God. This is also the first commandment—I am the Lord your God, you shall not have strange gods before me.



*The Altar Bread and Wine
the week of April 12th:
For the intentions of IHM Parish*

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 Faccone | 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 listed below will be livestreamed on Facebook & on our website: www.ihmparish.net. The church building must remain closed due to the Covid-19 health crisis.

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

11:00 am **Divine Mercy Novena**

Monday, April, 13th

- 8:30 am **Rafael Scott DiVetta+** By Joe & Donna Conforti
Leonard Ehrlich+ By the Foley Family

Tuesday, April 14th

- 8:30 am **Washington Medina+** By the Chimento Family
Dolores O'Brien+ By Mary Beth Winsor

Wednesday, April 15th

- 8:30 am **Eric McEvilly+** By Rosemarie Halverson
Marvin Lefkowitz+ By Ceil Lefkowitz

Thursday, April 16th

- 7:00 am **Gus Anselmi+** By Denise D'Annunzio Klockner
8:30 am **Edward Gore+** By James & Janet Walsh

Friday, April 17th

- 8:30 am **Roberta Harris+** By Joan & Barry Polliam
Ethel Barth+ By Tom Barth

Saturday, April 18th

- 8:30 am **For the People of IHM Parish**
Edward V. Ryan+ By Kathleen Ryan

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19th

- 10:00 am **Frank & Wanda Bielanski+** By Mary Young
Joseph Sumanski+ By Anita & Steve Prato
James R. Kennedy+ By Alice Van Anda
Harold C. Knox+ By Arlene Knox

3:00 pm **Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet**

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: **John Cholankeril+**, **Thomas Peter Rowan+**, **Anthony Prato+**, **William McLaughlin+**, **Peter Cunicella+**, **Margie Sweeney+**

Sanctuary Light: Week of April 12th:

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for:
For the intention of Marvin Lefkowitz+
Requested by **Ceil Lefkowitz**



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.

Important Information
IHM's Summer Academy 2020
A Note from Mary Clinton:



Dear Parents,

There are so many unknowns right now. Everything, everywhere is up in the air with regard to all programs in light of the coronavirus restrictions. I hope that you and your families are doing okay, it is a difficult time for sure. I ask you to please not delay in registering your child(ren) for the Summer Academy session you were planning to have him/her attend, or our Families of Faith program.

Here's why:

-- **Our Summer Academy sessions will take place no matter what!** If we cannot meet on site at the parish, we will have "virtual" sessions during the same time frames. (Session #1 - June 29 - July 10; Session #2 - Aug. 17 - 28). But, we need to take care to order and prepare sufficient supplies and identify sufficient catechists and volunteers, and we need to know the numbers of children to plan effectively.

-- Families who are planning to register for our school year family model, *Families of Faith* program should also register now. This program has been well received by the families who participated this year. Should the corona virus restrictions continue into the fall (heaven forbid!), this program will run remotely as well and we will need time to plan effectively for the number of families who will participate.

It should be noted that any family who would like to participate in both Summer Academy and Families of Faith would be welcome, and would only pay one fee for both with an additional book fee of \$20/child. There was an email attached our Family Handbook so you can take a look at the description of the program.

A note about registration fees:

Please note that the registration fee is the same amount whether you choose Summer Academy or Families of Faith. (This year: \$175 for one/ \$275 for two or more, and these can be waived in case of financial hardship.) In the past 5 years we have never set individual fees for different programs as the costs for all religious ed programs exceed the actual costs of the programs themselves (materials, salaries, utilities, etc.) with the balance being subsidized by the Sunday collection. This is why it is so important that we contribute to the weekly IHM collection if we are financially able, even during the coronavirus. We can mail it in or use our Parish Giving accounts. The Sunday collection is the financial life blood needed to keep the parish running. So, even with the suspension of Sunday worship during the coronavirus, the parish still has to pay its bills to keep the lights on just as we need to do at our homes! If you continue to be financially able during this coronavirus situation, please support your parish with your weekly Sunday donations.

Thank you for your help at this time to assist us in being ready for whatever comes our way this summer. Email me any questions/input you have at maryclinton@ihmparish.net. May God bless you and your family, friends and neighbors, and our Blessed Mother wrap you in her mantle of love and protection.

Peace & blessings, Mary

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.

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.

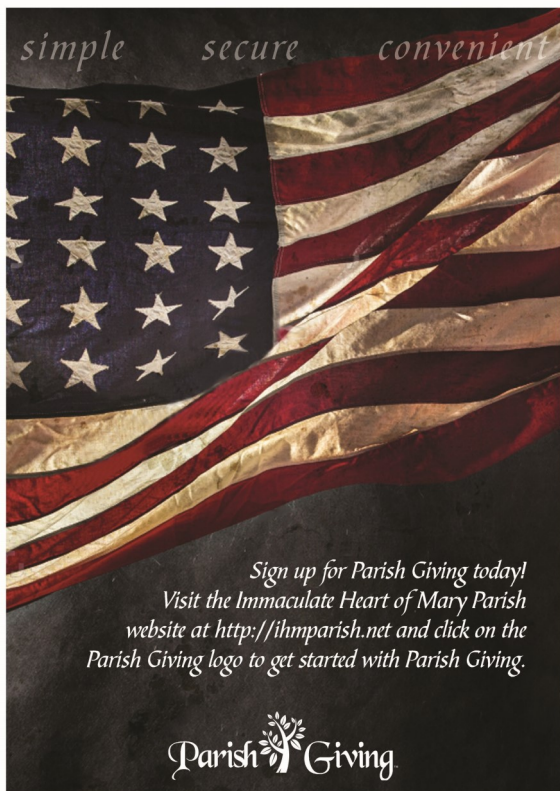
Go through your old clothes and put together a bag to donate to the needy.

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



Sentinel Management has just informed us that due to the Coronavirus and out of an abundance of caution, the Catholic Charities donation bin will be closed. It will be emptied and wrapped in plastic.

This is a temporary measure and we ask you to save all items for when we are operating again. We are so thankful for your generosity. Catholic Charities continues to reach out to the most vulnerable in our society. We pray for the safety of all throughout the world and ask for God's strength as we confront this invisible enemy. Stay safe and healthy!



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.**



**On behalf of Fr. Mike, Fr. Valentine,
Fr. Rob, Deacon Jack, and all of us who
have the privileged joy of serving you here
at Immaculate Heart of Mary, we pray that
your Easter is full of hope and joy.
Stay safe and healthy.**

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.

Calendar of Events at IHM

Easter Sunday, April 12th

- 10 a.m. - Mass livestream
- 11 a.m. - Divine Mercy Novena livestream

Monday, April 13th

- 9 a.m.- Divine Mercy Novena livestream

Tuesday, April 14th

- 9 a.m.- Divine Mercy Novena livestream

Wednesday, April 15th

- 9 a.m.- Divine Mercy Novena livestream
- 11 a.m.. - Food Pantry

Thursday, April 16th

- 9 a.m.- Divine Mercy Novena livestream

Friday, April 17th

- 9 a.m.- Divine Mercy Novena livestream

Saturday, April 18th

- 9 a.m.- Divine Mercy Novena livestream

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19th

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



Like us on Facebook at:
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ihmparish_sp

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!