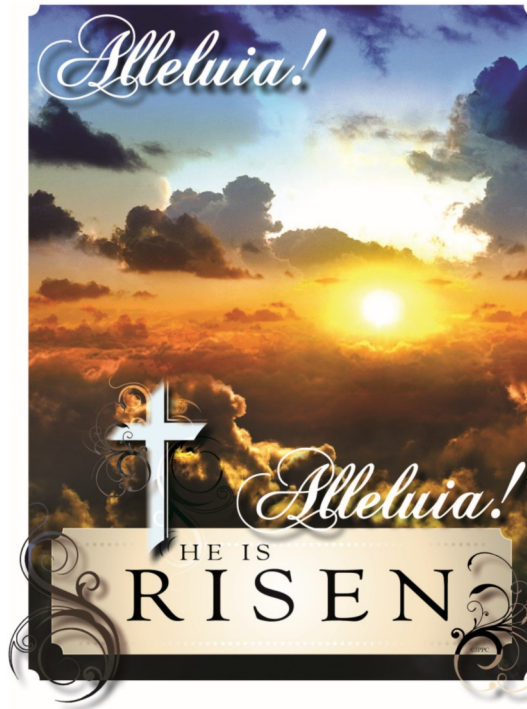


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

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

Third Sunday of Easter, April 26, 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 is 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



Each time we celebrate the Eucharist we follow in the footsteps of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. We listen to the stories of our faith history, the scriptures are opened to us, the bread and wine is blessed, broken, and given to us and we come to a greater recognition of the presence of Jesus in our midst. The story of the disciples is our story, and we long to enter more deeply into that intimate relationship with our risen Lord. Opening our minds and hearts to the presence of Christ in the scriptures, in one another and in the Eucharist brings us closer to Jesus and to one another so that as one Body of Christ we live out our faith in the resurrection of Jesus the Christ. It is that faith in Jesus, risen from the dead, which dispels the darkness of fear, sin and death, as it did for the disciples, so that we may continue to rise with Him into a new life filled with the peace and joy of God's love.

Peace,
Fr. Mike

Scripture Reflection Third Sunday of Easter



"Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?" **LUKE 24:32**

How often do we take the time to discern what Jesus wants from us? Are our prayers always petitions asking Jesus to do things for us? If so, that's a one-sided relationship. Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is a give and take, each side listening to each other and helping each other out. Take time in silence to listen to what Jesus is asking of you.



*The Altar Bread and Wine
the week of April 26th:
For the Victims of the Covid-19 Pandemic*

IHM Women's Prayer Group Thursday, May 7th at 7:30 p.m.

Please Join Us for
Our Virtual Prayer Gathering
If you would like to participate, please email
Tracey Foley at tfoleyihm@gmail.com,
so she can send you the link.



IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group Virtual Meeting Saturday May 2nd at 10:00 a.m.



The next meeting of IHM's Men's monthly scripture study and discussion group will take place "virtually" on Saturday, May 2nd at 10 am on ZOOM. All men of the parish (as well as neighboring parishes) are welcome. We will discuss Sunday's (the 3rd) scripture and open the meeting up for discussion for about an hour.

ZOOM is a user friendly video conference call that can be accessed through smartphones, PCs or tablets. You can also call into the meeting with a regular phone and participate without video. You should get the details (phone number to call, computer link, etc.) ahead of time, **so if you wish to participate please email David Diken at dndiken@aol.com for an invitation to the session.**

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 Hennessy |
| John Allen | John Heiling |
| Eileen Arnold | Juliann Junio |
| Rose Badala | Eileen Lynch |
| Marion Barrett | Maureen Lynch |
| Larry Biunno | Owen (Mike) McCabe |
| Fran Boglioli | Christine Morris |
| James Brown | Jim McLean |
| Kevin Brown | June McManus |
| John Burkert | Bob McMillion |
| John Byrne | Margaret Mulrooney |
| Anna Cassella | Timothy Murphy |
| Matthew Cassio | Charlie Plungis |
| Donald Checchio | Madeline Pravata |
| Frank Chimento | Diane Pricken |
| Colm Cosgrove | Joel Rivera |
| Edward Clark | Susan Rozborski |
| Joe Clarke | Jeannie Schroeder |
| Ray Clark | Bernard Slaza |
| Elle Crofton | Beverly Sopp |
| Enrique Curbelo | Ryder Francis Spillane |
| Dorothy D'Angelo | 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 | Annie Whitehouse |
| | Norah Yokom |

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.

Sunday, April 26th

10:00 am **Joseph Guidi+** By Eileen Guidi
Anne Kunze+ By the Keogh Family
For the People of IHM Parish
Richard T. Cimino+ By John Gibson & Family

Monday, April, 27th

8:30 am **Margot & Bernard Hinner+** By Martina & Stanley Kosloski
Joshua Athansius Wills+ By Betty Swisher

Tuesday, April 28th

8:30 am **Heidi Sonalan+** By the Nizner Family
Cecilia Valera & Family By Betty Swisher
(Thank you - living)

Wednesday, April 29th

8:30 am **Thomas Roman+** By Chris Gonch
Denis Sullivan+ By Mary & Jerry Mahony

Thursday, April 30th

8:30 am **Nancy Manto+** By Joe & Karen Schurtz
Angelina N. Ugwuanya+ By Fr. Valentine Ugwuanya
(For the repose of her soul)

Friday, May 1st

8:30 am **Deceased Sisters of St. Joseph+** By S.S.J.
Natalie Rozborsky+ By the Zelonis Family
(2nd Anniversary)

Saturday, May 2nd

8:30 am **Gladys Baldeon+** By Mary Clinton
Gary Stanton+ By the Lundgren Family

Sunday, May 3rd

10:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**
John & Robert Stephanik+ By Karen & Jim Murphy
Frank & Elsie Marcigliano+ By Janet & Emil
Manfredonia
James Lissemore+ By Irene Ciccarino

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: **Fr. Frank Heinen+**, **Carol Rizzo+**, **Antonio Ciullo+**, **Andrew Holowka+**

Sanctuary Light: Week of April 26th:

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for:
For the intention of **Michael Reeves+**
Requested by his family



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 to 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

Faith Formation Zoom Classes

Although, we cannot meet in person, the Faith Formation Gatherings will be done via Zoom. We are very grateful to Rachael Flanagan, our youth minister, for taking the lead on working remotely.

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

Faith Formation Zoom Meetings:

Sun., April 26th @ 8:30am (Families of Faith Final Gathering of the Year)

Spiritual Communion Prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to YOU.

Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

BOLD Youth Ministries

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.

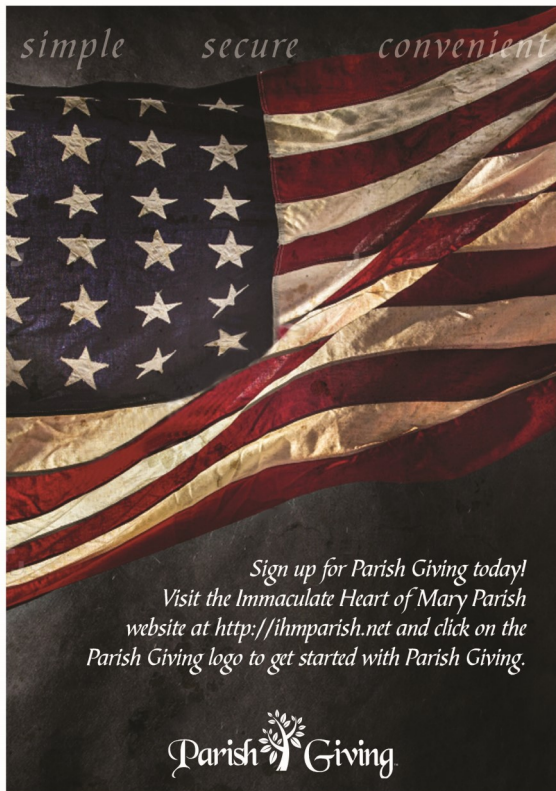
Service Trip to Pittsburgh, PA is July 19-24

Check your email for registration information. Registration has been extended to April 30th.



The Catholic Charities donation bin is temporarily closed due to the health crisis.

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.

WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

During the current health environment IHM Parish would like to reach out to support our neighbors in need of help. Our seniors and immune compromised neighbors are at the highest risk levels. As a result grocery shopping & medicine pick-up have been more difficult. Please join us in helping our community to stay healthy and become a buddy volunteer during this difficult time.

Call the office at (908) 889-2100 or email: office@ihmparish.net if you want to be a buddy or know someone in need.



Immaculate Heart of Mary Food Pantry



During this difficult time the IHM Food Pantry is still distributing food. If you would like to make a non-perishable food or money donation you may drop it off behind the church in the red bins.

Items most needed are non-perishables, canned vegetables, pasta, tomato sauce, rice, cake mix, cereal and crackers. Thank you.



Do You Shop on Amazon.com?

If so, please choose Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scotch Plains through your AmazonSmile account. There is no cost to you and Amazon will donate a portion of the sale to IHM.

Just go to **smile.amazon.com**, search for Immaculate Heart of Mary Scotch Plains and then click on "select".

Calendar of Events at IHM

Sunday, April 26th

8:30 a.m. - Families of Faith Zoom Mtg

Monday, April 27th

Tuesday, April 28th

Wednesday, April 29th

11 a.m. - Food Pantry Collection & Distribution

Thursday, April 30th

Friday, May 1st

Saturday, May 2nd

10 a.m. - Men's Scripture Zoom Meeting

Sunday, May 3rd



Like us on Facebook at:
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



Follow us on Instagram at:
ihmparish_sp

Mother's Day Novena



If you would like to honor your mother, grandmother or someone special, Mother's Day Novena Cards can be found in front of the Nazareth Center. The Novena will be prayed from May 10 - May 18.

Please take the card and return the donation envelope to the mailbox in front of the Nazareth Center.

Offertory Collection

April 19, 2020

Weekly Budget Need:	\$11,960.78
Collection:	3,695.00
Parish Giving (includes TEXT to GIVE):	3,020.25
Surplus/(Deficit):	(5,245.53)

Fiscal Year to Date:

Budget	\$502,352.76
Actual	\$423,135.05
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$79,217.71)

Easter Collection to Date: \$44, 505.96

Shining the Light of Christ Annual Appeal: \$23,850.00
Goal: \$75,445.00 (31.61% of goal)

Thank you for your generosity!