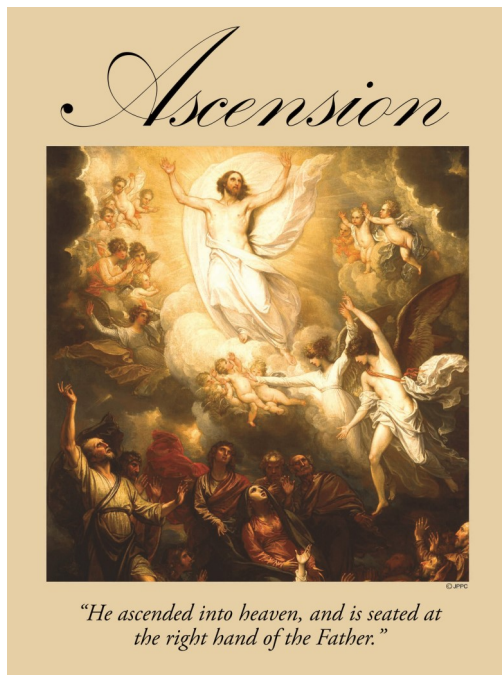


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

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 Ascension of the Lord
Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 24, 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 began Phase 1 re-opening on May 17th, please see page 2 of this bulletin for details.

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



Today's Gospel gives us what we call the Great Commission. The final instructions of Jesus before He returns to the Father. He is not abandoning His disciples or us, rather He is fulfilling His promise to be with us always. There is doubt, but there is also reassurance. Jesus invites us to **go**, reach out of ourselves in faith. Then to **make** disciples, not just be a disciple. **Baptising**, bringing others into this joy filled relationship with Jesus, with the Father, with the Holy Spirit. And to **teach** by word and work the transforming power of this relationship. Here we can also experience the transforming power of our loving God.

As we celebrate another aspect of the Christ Event, the Death, Resurrection, Ascension and coming of the Spirit, we continue our Easter celebration, our Easter journey by being reminded that Christ has not abandoned us, but in His return to the Father, can be with us always. Reassuring us of His presence. Inviting us to trust in His love. Sending us to proclaim the Good News. So we don't just experience His ongoing presence in our lives but also be His presence in the world today by continuing the mission He entrusted to His disciples then and now.

Peace,
Fr. Mike

Re-opening the Church - Phase 1

Good News. Last Sunday, May 17, 2020, we began phase 1 of re-opening our church. Following strict guidelines of protection and social distancing people may now come to church for personal prayer. Please see the notices on the church doors and our website for specific guidelines that must be adhered to, as well as more details concerning the re-opening of our church in the coming weeks or months.

The church is now open for private personal prayer according to the following schedule: Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Please keep an eye on the bulletin, website and our social media pages for future updates.

Scripture Reflection Seventh Sunday of Easter



"I am praying for them..." JOHN 17:9

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Pray in good times and in bad. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation, not just the last resort. Pray for friends and family and for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given to you.

*The Altar Bread and Wine
was donated for
the week of May 24th:*



*For the intention of Mary Fitzsimmons+
Requested by the Mulrooney Family*

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



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Monina Abella | Juliann Junio |
| John Allen | Eileen Lynch |
| Rose Badala | Maureen Lynch |
| Marion Barrett | Owen (Mike) McCabe |
| Larry Biunno | Christine Morris |
| Fran Boglioli | Jim Morris |
| James Brown | June McManus |
| Kevin Brown | Bob McMillion |
| John Burkert | Timothy Murphy |
| Anna Cassella | Danielle Nabinger |
| Paul Cassidy | Charlie Plungis |
| Matthew Cassio | Diane Pricken |
| Frank Chimento | Susan Rozborski |
| Colm Cosgrove | Bernard Slaza |
| Edward Clark | Beverly Sopp |
| Joe Clarke | Ryder Francis Spillane |
| Ray Clark | Paul Szeker |
| Dorothy D'Angelo | Dino Velez |
| Marie Farrell | Carole Ventre |
| Albert Fischer, Jr. | Daniel Ventura |
| Emily Fleming | Sr.Elizabeth Vermaelen |
| Mary Graham | Stephen Voorhees |
| Nicole Griffin | Christy Ward |
| John Heiling | Annie Whitehouse |

Mass Intentions

The Masses listed below will be livestreamed on Facebook & on our website: www.ihmparish.net. The church is open for private personal prayer according to the following schedule: Sunday 11:30 am to 3:30 pm. Monday-Saturday 8:00 am to 12 noon.

Sunday, May 24th

- 10:00 am **Anne M. Kunze+** (1st Anniversary) By IHM Parish Staff
Jessica Czajkowski+ By the Chimento Family
Edward V. Ryan++ By Kathleen Ryan
James Lissemore+ By June & John Mooney

Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th

- 9:00 am **Dr. Frank Pecoraro** By Kathy Mitchell

Tuesday, May 26th

- 8:30 am **Cary May+** By Charles & Geri Barcellona
Tom Barth+ By Eileen & Rich Wagner

Wednesday, May 27th

- 8:30 am **Patricia Abermthy+** By IHM Chapel Adorers
James Kennedy+ By Kerry Caspersen

Thursday, May 28th

- 8:30 am **Edward Oleksy+** By the Nizner Family
Anne Kunze+ By Father Rob

Friday, May 29th

- 8:30 am **Rick Holt+** By Meggie & Mary Smith
Tom Barth+ By Dan & Roe Kelly

Saturday, May 30th

- 8:30 am **Merideth Getsinger+** By the Chimento Family
Ugo D'Andrea+ By the Lewis Family

Sunday, May 31st

- 10:00 am **Joan Tuomey+** By George & Joyce Bizink
For the People of IHM Parish
Leonard Ehrlich+ By the IHM Staff
Nicolina Vacca+ By Danny & Marisa Ferrara

Mass Cards, Sanctuary Light & Bread & Wine Intentions:

If you need a Mass Card, Sanctuary Light or Bread & Wine Intention, please email : office@ihmparish.net. We would be happy to mail the card out or arrange for a pick up.



Remember those who have died: Niel Hoefling, Karen Crane+, Thelma Lee Keiser+ and Abraham Navia+

Sanctuary Light: Week of May 24th:

*The Sanctuary Candle will burn for:
Stephanie Parze+
 Requested by the Malone's*



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.



Important Information

IHM's Summer Academy 2020 will be Virtual

Dear Parents,

Registration for Summer Academy Sessions 1 and 2 is ongoing. If your child attended Summer Academy in the past, you should have received a "welcoming" email from Parish Giving on or about March 17th. If you no longer have the email, let Janet Manfredonia know (janet@ihmparish.net) and she will have Parish Giving re-send the email to you since it includes the registration login/link information. If you have any difficulty registering, Parish Giving maintains a Help Desk and will assist you with any problem. Their phone number is 866-307-7140. They are very accommodating.

If you are new to the parish, please use the IHM website under Faith Formation for children for registration directions. Using information you provide on the website, Parish Giving will contact you to complete registration.

Please read the information below on how Summer Academy (both sessions) will be conducted this year:

In light of Governor Murphy's announcement to keep schools closed through the remainder of the year, and the feedback received from parents and catechists, Father Mike and I have decided that in the interest of safety, both sessions of Summer Academy 2020 will be "virtual."

We will run two distinct sessions during the originally scheduled time frames: Session #1 from June 29 - July 10 (no class July 3) and Session #2 from August 17 - 28. BOTH sessions will be virtual. Although we are saddened not to be able to meet in person, it is our hope that the plans we are working on for virtual Summer Academy 2020 will allow us to offer an experience that is educational, engaging and fun, too! When our plans are finalized, I will send an email with the particulars to both parents and catechists.

Depending on how the summer shapes up, we will leave the door open for the possibility of having onsite family Masses and/or family service projects in the evenings during the August session. All parish families will be invited to participate in the evening Masses and/or service projects if we are permitted to gather in person later in the summer.

Parents who have already registered their children for Summer Academy but wish to switch to a different session may do so. Please contact Janet Manfredonia (janet@ihmparish.net) for instructions on how to switch to a different session.

Please contact me (maryclinton@ihmparish.net) with any questions you may have.

With prayers for safety and good health,
Mary



**IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group
Virtual Meeting
Saturday May 30 at 9:15**

The IHM Men's Scripture Study and Discussion Group has meetings "virtually" on ZOOM. All men are welcome. We discuss scripture for about an hour. Our next meeting is Saturday, May 30th at 9:15 a.m.

ZOOM is a user friendly video conference call that can be accessed with smartphones, PCs or tablets. You can 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 email David Diken at dndiken@aol.com for an invitation to the session.**



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.

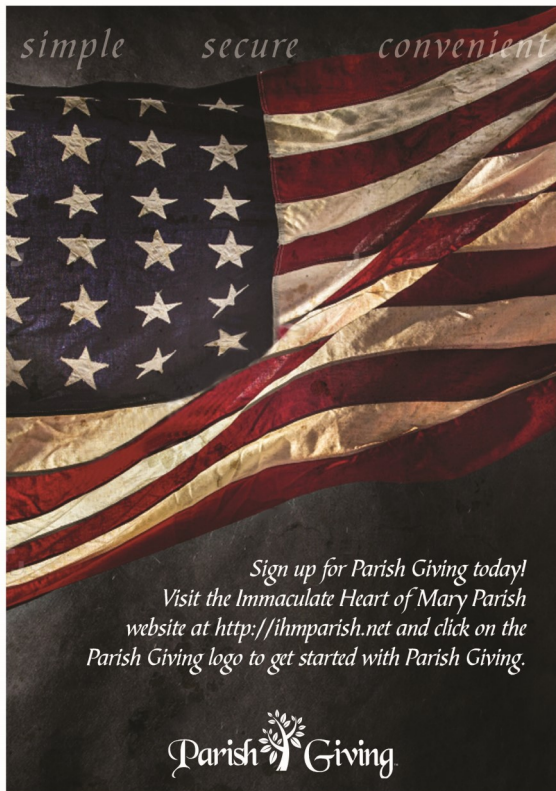
BOLD Youth Ministries

Teens, would you like to join our weekly zoom call? We have a call every Sunday at 5pm. If you would like to participate, please call or text Rachel Flanagan at (908) 280-2893.

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.



**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:

The Rosary Altar Society donates to the Parish every year. During the current building campaign, last year's gift was deferred and combined with the gift for 2019-2020. Last week, Rosary gave Fr. Mike a sizable check for the lighting of the new chapel. In addition Rosary provided 40 ShopRite gift cards for Food Pantry users.

Thank you to the members and parishioners who have supported the Rosary Altar Society projects for the past two years.

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 closed due to health crisis. 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 Needs Food and Money Donations



We are seeing unprecedented requests for food at IHM. The line starts an hour before the food bank opens. 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 paper products, canned vegetables, peanut butter, jelly, pancake mix, syrup and instant potatoes.

A huge thank you to the Rosary Altar Society who generously donated 40 Shoprite gift cards to our food pantry. We would like to thank everyone in the community who has donated food, money and time to the IHM Food Pantry.

IHM Women's Prayer Group Thursday, June 4th at 7:30 p.m.

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



Calendar of Events at IHM

Sunday, May 24th

No BOLD Meeting due to Memorial Day Weekend

Memorial Day, May 25th

Tuesday, May 26th

Wednesday, May 27th

10 a.m. - Food Pantry Distribution

Thursday, May 28th

Friday, May 29th

Saturday, May 30th

9:15 a.m. - Men's Scripture & Discussion Zoom Meeting

Sunday, May 31st

5 p.m. BOLD Youth Ministry Zoom Mtg.



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Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



Follow us on Instagram at:
ihmparish_sp



The Catholic Charities donation bin is open again! Would you be willing to clean out your closets and share any unwanted items to our bin?

We are so thankful for your generosity. Catholic Charities continues to reach out to the most vulnerable in our society. Stay safe and healthy!

Offertory Collection

May 17, 2020

Weekly Budget Need:	\$11,960.78
Collection:	4,490.00
Parish Giving (includes TEXT to GIVE):	3,466.29
Surplus/(Deficit):	(4,004.49)

Fiscal Year to Date:

Budget	\$550,195.88
Actual	\$459,648.05
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$90,547.85)

Easter Collection to Date: \$48,663.48

Thank you for your generosity!