

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](mailto:office@ihmparish.net)

*The First Sunday in Advent, November 29, 2020*



*Immaculate Heart of Mary is now celebrating Mass in church on a limited basis, please see page 2 for details. Mass will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook & our website: [www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net).*

*Reconciliation is now available on Saturdays from 4:15 – 4:45 p.m.. 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 is closed to the public until further notice.  
The new Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is now open.*

*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](http://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”*

### Note from Fr. Mike



What does it mean to be watchful and alert? It can be described as a holy longing for Christ. When we listen to Isaiah we see that we are the work of God’s hands, that we are called to be the instruments that God uses to bring about His kingdom. Each day, each moment needs to be guided by the will of God. It is allowing the grace of God to work in and through us that brings us the necessary strength, courage, awe and humility to build up His kingdom. Then we need not fear the end, rather we place our hope in the coming of Christ.

Peace,

Fr. Mike

### Scripture Reflection November 29, 2020 First Sunday of Advent



“Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come.” - MARK 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our time, our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

### The IHM Giving Tree Goes Virtual!



Please visit the church website: [ihmparish.net](http://ihmparish.net) to view the “Wish List” on Sign Up Genius. Monetary donations will also be accepted to purchase gifts until December 1st.

Please make checks payable to IHM Church and place “Christmas Gifts” in subject line. Checks can be sent to the parish office: c/o Maureen Pecoraro.

Thank you for helping others during this difficult time! God Bless you!

### Coats for Kids

Each \$20 donation provide a child with a brand new winter coat. \$220 pays for a case of a dozen coats. No donation is too small. What better way to give to charity when you the money goes directly to those in need?

Check donations should be made payable to the Knights of Columbus, Council #5730. Donations should be mailed to:

K of C #5730  
PO Box 302  
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076



Or donate online at [www.mkt.com/kofc5730](http://www.mkt.com/kofc5730)  
Thank you!

### Mass Update in Accordance with COVID-19 Guidelines

All Masses are now celebrated publicly in church with COVID 19 protocols. The 8:30 am daily Mass and the Sunday 10:00 am Mass will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook & on our website: [www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net).

Remember the obligation to attend the Sunday Eucharist remains suspended until further notice. IHM will continue to livestream our Masses. In charity and love for our parishioners and clergy, please keep in mind the following protocols:

- *In accord with national, state and local health directives, those who show symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been exposed to an infected person are not permitted to enter the church for 14 days.*
- *Those who are at risk because of an underlying health issue or who are 60 or older are strongly encouraged to avoid the risks posed by attendance at public celebrations of the Mass.*
- *Masks must be worn while in the church. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the church, please use it when entering and exiting.*
- *Our church has been sanitized and is cleaned on a regular basis.*

Space is limited as social distancing guidelines are still in place and must be followed. Reservations must be made to attend mass through our website or by calling the office at (908) 889-2100. Complete details can be found on our website: <https://ihmparish.net> as well as the link to sign up for specific masses. Stay healthy!

# Mass Intentions

## Sunday, November 29th

8:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**  
 10:00 am **George Suminski+** By the Family  
 12:00 pm **Isabel & Walter Lundgren+** By the Lundgren Family

## Monday, November 30th

7:00 am **Arlene Kacvinski+** By Al Smith  
 8:30 am **Jack Clark+** By his loving wife, Terry

## Tuesday, December 1st

7:00 am **Rob O'Connor+** By his wife  
 8:30 am **Helen Sullivan+** By Jerry & Mary Mahony

## Wednesday, December 2nd

7:00 am **Jake Cregg+** By Judy McManus  
 8:30 am **Sam Fortunato+** By Rich Fortunato

## Thursday, December 3rd

7:00 am **Jake Cregg+** By Rich & Heba Fortunato  
 8:30 am **Irene McElroy+** By the Piasecki Family

## Friday, December 4th

7:00 am **Jean & Mary Young+** By Mary Young  
 8:30 am **Patricia Glaydura+** By Marion & Marc Berger

## Saturday, December 5th

7:00 am **Helen Rembish+** By Geri & Ron Rembish  
 8:30 am **Ugo D'Andrea+** By Mary & Don Clinton  
 5:00 pm **Charles Takacs+** By Barbara Apgar

## Sunday, December 6th

8:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**  
 10:00 am **Claire Rita Lewis+** By the Lewis Family  
 12:00 pm **Dominic Guarna+** By Antoinette Guarna

## Remember Our Sick



John Allen	Juliann Junio
Rose Badala	Eileen Lynch
Marion Barrett	Maureen Lynch
Larry Biunno	Owen Mike McCabe
Fran Boglioli	June McManus
Erin Brennan	Christine Morris
Samatha Bridge	Jim Morris
James Brown	Bob McMillion
Kevin Brown	Marlene Mosko
John Burkert	Danielle Nabinger
Anna Cassella	Hilda Pizza
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 Szecker
Dorothy D'Angelo	Carole Ventre
Marie Farrell	Daniel Ventura
Albert Fischer, Jr.	Sr.Elizabeth Vermaelen
Emily Fleming	Stephen Voorhees
Nicole Griffin	Christy Ward
John Healing	



**Remember those who have died:**  
**Thomas Tremblay+**

## 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.

## The Altar Bread & Wine for the Week of November 29th:

For the intention of:

For the People of IHM Parish



## Sanctuary Light: Week of November 29th:

The Sanctuary Light will burn for:

Robert Seery+

Requested by:

Ceil & David D'Agostino



## Flowers for the Blessed Mother



For the week of November 29th:

In memory of :  
**Mary and Thomas Brown**  
 Requested by:  
**The Hennessy Family**

**Giving Thanks**



Covid-19 has forced all of us to modify how we gather and celebrate but with a little creativity we can still come together. Usually our 8th grade students get together for monthly social hours. However, they have been unable to so this school year. Undeterred and determined, the students instead gathered outside on a chilly day for a prayer service and outdoor Thanksgiving lunch. The students started by expressing their gratitude to God for the gifts they have been given and prayed for those less fortunate. They were then served a traditional turkey dinner by several of the 8th grade parents. Despite the chill the students enjoyed coming together as a class.

We would like to share some of the students' reflections on what they are thankful for this year:

- Morgan-** Everything God did for us
- Dominic-** My family, the food I am given, the roof over my head, my friends
- Michelle-** God for protecting my family and my grandma being healthy
- Shelby-** The roof over my head and good health
- Christopher-** My family, my friends, and how fortunate I am
- Keyla-** My family and the financial status we have
- Naomi-** My family, friends, and all of the things I have
- Michael-** My family and friends
- Manuela-** My family, my classmates, friends, hope, and love
- Jadyn-** My friends and family
- Nia-** My family, friends and health
- Justin-** My family, friends, and my education
- AJ-** God's blessing of my family and friends
- Ella-** My Family and friends
- Luca-** The great people around me that give me the opportunity to enjoy life and help me succeed.
- Victoria-** Being safe and healthy with my family during this difficult time. I am thankful to have everything that I could ever ask for, a caring and loving family, friends, and a good education.
- Megan-** for all my family and friends and that they are safe and healthy. I am thankful to be surrounded by people that love me and to be going to a nice school.
- Donavan-** My family and friends
- Chelsea-** I am thankful that I have that opportunity to go to an amazing school and that we are all healthy. I am also thankful for God's love and my family for helping me everyday!

**Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Advent and Christmas 2020**

**Paint a Pallet**



Paint, reconstruct or create a pallet using the images and themes of Advent and Christmas. Use your own pallet or we can provide one. Use parts or the whole pallet. We will display them on the church property or you can display yours at home!

Share the faith, hope, joy and peace of Advent and Christmas!



**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".



Catholic Charities is deeply thankful for your positive response to the donation bin. As we all know, one way to give "thanks" is by "giving." Just as the Lord has given so many blessings, this is an ideal time to give any unwanted clothing to the Catholic Charities donation bin. Please note that in addition to all forms of used clothing we also welcome small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, toys, novels and children's books. Happy "Thanks-giving"!

**Minister Assignments  
Weekend of December 5-6**

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00 pm	* Please check your email for schedule.		Fr. Rob
8:00 am			Fr. Rob
10:00 am			Fr. Mike
12:00 pm			Fr. Valentine

**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 Christmas Party will start with Mass on December 6 at 10 am. Please register for Mass on sign up genius. At 1pm we will have a meeting via Zoom followed by a movie. Please see the bulletin insert for more details.

As always at our Christmas Party we have a collection for the Missionaries of Charity. They, more than ever, need our help. If possible please write a check for them and send it to Barbara Apgar at 427LaGrande Ave, Fanwood, NJ 07023. Thank you.

“The Rosary is the best therapy for these distraught, unhappy, fearful, and frustrated (Times) souls precisely because it involves the simultaneous use of three powers: the physical, the vocal, and the spiritual.” Venerable Fulton Sheen.

“A world at prayer is a world at peace.” Father Patrick Peyton. That’s why we are praying for you, our parish and the world. Thank you.

**Parish Information**

**Religious Education Classes**

Questions? [Faithformation@ihmparish.net](mailto:Faithformation@ihmparish.net)

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

**Adoration Chapel:**

The new Adoration Chapel is open. Contact Betty Swisher at 908 889-2100 for details. Chapel closed on Holy Days & Holidays.

**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](http://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](http://www.ihmparish.net)



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ihmparish\_sp**

**Bible Basics for Beginners**

**Six Sundays via Zoom**

**Nov. 1, Dec. 6, Jan 10,  
Feb. 7, March 7, April 25  
11am - 12 noon**



**Check your email for sign up link.  
Presented by Immaculate Heart of Mary**

**Instructor: Allan Wright**

**Offertory Collection**

**November 15, 2020**

Weekly Budget Need:	\$10,784.32
Collection:	4,433.00
Parish Giving: (includes TEXT to GIVE)	3,254.39
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,796.93)
<b><u>Fiscal Year To Date:</u></b>	
Budget	\$215,686.40
Actual:	190,861.34
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$24,825.06)

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**All Souls Mass & Novena**



**All our departed loved ones were remembered on November 2nd at our special All Souls Mass and we continue to pray for them during the novena.**

We will display photos of our deceased loved ones in the church vestibule from All Souls Day until the First Sunday in Advent. If you forgot your loved one's candle, please call or email the office and we will arrange for you to pick it up.

***Immaculate Heart of Mary Food Pantry Needs Food and Money Donations***

We are seeing unprecedented requests for food at IHM. The line starts over 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.

Thank you to everyone in the community who has donated food, money & time to the IHM Food Pantry. You have truly made a difference.



**Calendar of Events at IHM**

**Sunday, November 29th**

**Monday, November 30th**

**Tuesday, December 1st**

**Wednesday, December 2nd**

9:30 am - Centering Prayer Meeting  
10 am - 12 pm - Food Pantry Distribution

**Thursday, December 3rd**

**Friday, December 4th**

**Saturday, December 5th**

**Sunday, December 6th**

10:00 am - Rosary Christmas Mass  
11:00 am - Bible Basics Zoom Meeting  
1:00 pm - Rosary Meeting & Movie on Zoom



**Website:** [www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)



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**A Note from Fr. Father Rob:**

My long-awaited book has finally arrived! Its release was held up for almost a year due to pandemic issues. As I went through the courses for spiritual direction at Neumann University my foundational spirituality was in St Teresa of Avila's *The Interior Castle*. Going through any spiritual direction is an arduous task, ever mindful of the need for humility and deeper self-knowledge.

I have wanted to have a workshop on the spirituality of St Teresa. Now that this study guide is available, I shall start a virtual workshop beginning in January. Since there is the pre-order 40% discount, I thought I would share it for those who might be interested.

Men and women are invited to join. Please check the book out the website: [www.ICSPublications.org](http://www.ICSPublications.org).

**Please contact me if you are interested in ordering this book and doing a workshop with me.**