

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 First Sunday of Advent, December 1, 2019



Liturgy of the Eucharist

Saturday: 5:30pm (Anticipated Mass)
Mass Schedule Sundays: 7:45am, 9:00am, 10:30am and 12 noon
Daily Mass Monday - Saturday 7am & 8:30am
Holy Days of Obligation - *See Mass Schedule on page 3*
Morning Prayer: Monday - Friday at 8:15am
Rosary: Monday - Saturday after the 8:30am Mass
Novena to the Miraculous Medal & St. Jude - Saturday after 8:30am Mass
Office & Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours: Mon - Thur. 9am - 8pm;
Fri. 9am - 4pm; Sat. 9am - 12pm & Sun. 8:30am - 11:30am
Reconciliation: Saturdays: 4:45-5:15 pm. Please call the office for a private confession.

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"

A Note from Fr. Mike



The image of swords and spears being transformed into plowshares and pruning hooks is an image of peace. But it is a peace that can only come about by our letting Jesus transform us as well. It forces us to ask ourselves the questions: What are the weapons I use to hurt others? How can I transform them into instruments of peace and love to build and lift up others? It is in developing our relationship with Christ and becoming better disciples that we can allow ourselves to continue to be transformed by the Good News of the profound love that God has for each of us.

Peace,

Fr. Mike

**Scripture Reflection
The First Sunday of Advent**



“Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come” Matthew 24:42

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each days as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God’s active presence in your life.

All Souls Remembrance Candles and Photos

You may pick up your loved one’s picture this Sunday, December 1st in church or this week in the Nazareth Center.

Did you remember your loved one’s candle? If not, it is in the Nazareth Center ready for you.

Men’s Scripture and Discussion Group



IHM is starting a Men’s Scripture and Discussion Group. The group’s monthly Saturday morning meetings in the church basement will allow the men of the Parish to meet, socialize a bit over coffee and donuts and discuss the next Sunday’s scripture. The meetings will last an hour or less, and are a great opportunity to meet like-minded men of the Parish in a low pressure environment while gaining a better understanding of the next week’s Gospel. Participants in similar programs find that it is really much more rewarding to participate in Sunday Mass and listen to the Gospel and the homily when they’ve heard, thought about and discussed the Gospel ahead of time with a group of lay men.

The initial meeting of the group is Saturday, December 7th, at 7:30 am, with future meetings scheduled for the second Saturday of each month.

**IHM Women’s Prayer Group
Thursday, December 5th from 7:30 - 9pm**

Please Join Us
For Our December Prayer Gathering
In Celebration of
The Immaculate Conception of Mary!
Meeting in the Church Basement
Refreshments will be Served



Altar Bread and Wine Intentions



*The Altar Bread and Wine was donated
the week of December 1st:*

*For the intentions of
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish*

Remember Our Sick



Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 1st

7:45 am For the People of IHM Parish
9:00 am Guy Lazur+ By Debbie Richmond
10:30 am Rose & Charles Mannino+ By Dolores & Judy Rust
12:00 pm Marc Fusillo+ By Betty Swisher

Monday, December 2nd

7:00 am Nancy Nimon+ By the Agnello Family
8:30 am Sam Fortunato+ By Rich & Heba Fortunato

Tuesday, December 3rd

7:00 am Paula Pace+ By Bob & Helen Piasecki
8:30 am Robert O'Connor+ By the Carlino Family

Wednesday, December 4th

7:00 am Ralph E. Monte+ By Mary Buchbinder & Family
8:30 am Charles Takacs+ By Barbara Apgar

Thursday, December 5th

7:00 am Joseph Boyle+ By the Lundgren Family
8:30 am Donald Reeves+ By Jerry & Linda Zoufaly

Friday, December 6th

7:00 am Dee O'Brien+ By Joe & Karen Schurtz
8:30 am Dominic Guarna+ By Antoinette Guarna

Saturday, December 7th

7:00 am Carmel Griffin By the Burke Family
8:30 am Robert O'Connor+ By the Fanwood Rescue Squad
5:30 pm George & Mary Good & Nellie & Bruno Dawid+
By Janice Good-Piga & Bob Piga

Sunday, December 8th

7:45 am For the People of IHM Parish
9:00 am John DiCrisofaro+ By his family
10:30 am Mary & Stephen Sopko+ By the Sopko Family
12:00 pm Isabel & Walter Lundgren+ By the Lundgren Family

Lee Achiron	Nicole Griffin
John Allen	Colleen Guidera
Eileen Arnold	John Healing
Rose Badala	Janet Kanelos
Larry Biunno	Eileen Lynch
Thomas Bodenberd	Maureen Lynch
Fran Boglioli	Christine Morris
James Brown	Jim McLean
Kevin Brown	June McManus
John Burkert	Bob McMillion
John Byrne	Thomas Moore
Anna Cassella	Timothy Murphy
Matthew Cassio	Charlie Plungis
Donald Checchio	Hilda Pizza
Frank Chimento	Madeline Pravata
Colm Cosgrove	Diane Pricken
Edward Clark	Cheryl Reid
Joe Clarke	Joel Rivera
Ray Clark	Susan Rozborski
Elle Crofton	Jeannie Schroeder
Enrique Curbelo	Bernard Slaza
Dorothy D'Angelo	Paul Szeker
Taylor Dill	Samuel Testa
Denise Donnelly	Carole Ventre
Marie Farrell	Daniel Ventura
Albert Fischer, Jr.	Sr.Elizabeth Vermaelen
Emily Fleming	Stephen Voorhees
Mary Flynn	Christy Ward
Lillian Fortunato	Norah Yokom
Anna Franke	

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:

Sanctuary Light: Week of December 1st:

The Sanctuary Light will burn this week for:
For the intention of Janice Mitchell+
Requested by Alice Schaffernoth



Flowers for the Blessed Mother



For the week of December 1st
In memory of:
My loving parents,
Edward & Jean Winsor
Requested by:
Mary Beth Winsor

HIGH SCHOOL TEENS:

Teen Bus Trip to NYC

Who: All High School Teens

When: Friday, December 6

Depart: 4:15 SHARP on the bus

Return: Between 11-11:30pm

What: We will visit St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Tree at Rockefeller Center and have a full sit down dinner at Tony DiNapoli’s in Time Square!

Why: For a fun whirlwind trip with friends in the city!

Permission form/payment due November 26

Cost: \$70 (includes dinner and bus)

How: Download permission form at boldym/ihmsp/forms

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**BOLD Youth Ministry
Christmas Party**

Who: All High School Teens - Invite your friends! They don’t even have to belong to the parish - all 9th - 12th grade are invited.

What: A party! Festive games, treats and prayer in anticipation of Christmas!

Where: Nazareth Center

When: Sunday, December 15 from 7 - 8:30pm

Please join us!



Coat Drive Thank You

The North Ward Center Family Success Center in Newark emailed a nice thank you to our parish. We collected approximately 350 coats for their 4th Annual Spreading the Warmth Coat Distribution happening on December 4th.

Thank you for your generosity.

thank you!

Thank you to everyone who donated turkeys and fixings to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Food Pantry. We truly appreciate it!



We Give Thanks!

Thanksgiving is a time for togetherness and for counting our blessings.

Our school community gathered together Tuesday at our annual Thanksgiving luncheon. This beloved tradition began with a prayer service organized by the Student Council and then everyone enjoyed a turkey dinner with all of the fixings. The Kindergarten and first grade children dressed in Pilgrim and Native American headdresses, and were helped throughout the dinner by their seventh and eighth grade prayer buddies. The children were thankful for the food they shared and prayed for the many who go without. We thank the parent volunteers who gave of their time to prepare, serve, and clean up.

Counting our blessings is very important. We are very fortunate to have the support of the St. Bartholomew parish community. We thank all of you for your prayers, your attendance at our events, your financial support, and most importantly your support of Catholic Education.

We are thankful for the faculty and staff who create a loving, academically challenging environment. Their knowledge, dedication to their craft, and love of their students produces a wonderful learning environment that stimulates our students’ minds and souls.

We are extremely grateful to the parents of our students who choose to send their children to St. Bartholomew Academy. It is because of their fundraising, their volunteerism, and diverse talents that help create exciting events for our students that we can provide such a high quality education.

**Minister Assignments
Weekend of December 7 - 8**

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:30 pm	Mitchell	Apgar Cassidy Kelly Torzewski* Schafferntoh*	Fr. Mike
7:45 am	Henkels	Gibbons Bagdonas* Foulks Fahrman	Fr. Rob
9:00 am	Lewis	(N) Dougherty* (N) Sullivan (N) Perfilio Coquia*	Fr. Rob
10:30 am	Fortunato	Aiere Fischer DiBella Allegra* Alexandre* Leone (cup) (S) Naugle (cup)	Fr. Mike
12:00pm	O'Connor	Palomares Power Kiley Fajardo* Fajardo*	Fr. Mike

Rosary Altar Society:



December 3rd is almost here! That is the date of our Christmas Mass and party. If you haven't reserved your place, hurry a \$10 check to Barbara Apgar at 427 LaGrande Ave., Fanwood, NJ 07023. Mass will be at 7pm with festivities and food to follow. Come and bring a friend.

To beat the January "Blahs" our January Winter Luncheon is planned for Jan. 7th with a snow date of Jan. 14th to be right here in Scotch Plains at the Stage House. All men and women of the parish are invited to this wonderful luncheon. We will have a choice of three seasonal courses: appetizer, entree and dessert. Your \$40 check will reserve your place. Please send to Barbara Apgar at the above address by Dec. 15th and include your phone number in case we have to utilize our snow date.

During Advent, the beautiful, blue commemorative Christmas ornament will be available to purchase before and after Mass. Each ornament is \$5 or 4 for \$15. They make a very nice Christmas present.

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: 4:45-5:15 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



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IHM Holy Name Society

The next meeting is this Sunday, December 1st at 8:30am in the church basement. All interested men of the parish are invited to join us for a short scripture reflection and breakfast. We serve eggs, sausage, crumb cake and coffee at every meeting.

Please join us.



Nazareth Center Office & Adoration Chapel Hours
Monday - Thursday: 9am - 8pm
Friday: 9am - 4pm
Saturday: 9am - 12pm
**Sunday: Closed December 1. Open December 8 & 15 from 8:30-11:30am*
**The Nazareth Center Office is open Sundays when Faith Formation classes are taking place.*

**Crockpot Christmas Campaign
 Help St. Bart's Raise 120 Crockpots**



Valley Brook Village housing development in Lyons, New Jersey provides fully furnished housing to veterans. Crockpots are any easy way to make a home cooked meal. You can drop of new or gently used crockpots at St. Bartholomew's Rectory. For more info please contact Elaine Coupe at 908 322-5192 x141.

**Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart
 Office for Music Ministry
 89 Ridge Street, Newark, NJ 07104**

Candlelight Carol Sing - The 49th annual Candlelight Carol Sing will be at the Cathedral Basilica on Wed., December 11th & Thursday, December 12th at 8pm (2 performances). Doors open at 7pm both nights. Christmas music in nine languages will be sung by the Cathedral Choir with the assembly and will be accompanied by the great Cathedral organs and brass ensemble. Free-will donation. For more info call 973 -484-2400 or visit www.cathedralbasilica.org.

Calendar of Events at IHM

Sunday, December 1st
 IHM Office Closed
 8:30am - Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast
 1pm - Baptism Preparation Class

Monday, December 2nd

Tuesday, December 3rd
 7pm - Rosary Altar Society Christmas Mass & Party

Wednesday, December 4th
 11am - Food Pantry Open

Thursday, December 5th
 7:30pm - Women's Prayer Group

Friday, December 6th
 4:15pm - Youth Group Trip to NYC


Saturday, December 7th
 7:30am - Men's Scripture & Discussion Meeting
 10:30am - Sacrament of First Reconciliation
 11:30am - First Reconciliation Reception

Sunday, December 8th
 Food Pantry Sunday
 8:45am - Families of Faith Gathering

For more info visit: www.ihmparish.net

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**The Elizabeth Coalition
 to House the Homeless
 Cordially Invites You to Their
 "Annual Christmas Boutique Event"
 Friday, December 6th
 St Michael's Hall**

899 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ
 9am - 12pm, Volunteers needed for set up
 3-7pm Volunteers needed for managing stations
 and clean-up.

For more information call Carina Grajales
 (908) 355-2060 x203
 Or email cgrajales@theelizabethcoalition.org



Offertory Collection

November 17, 2019

Weekly Budget Need:	\$11,960.78
Collection:	\$8,140.00
Parish Giving:	\$2,436.39
Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$1,396.39)

Fiscal Year to Date:

Budget	\$251,176.60
Actual	\$215,910.28
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$35,278.10)

Sharing God's Blessings:

Pledged to date: \$43,140.00 (60% of goal)
 Goal: \$71,902.00

Thank you for your generosity!