

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 Third Sunday of Advent, December 15, 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



Jesus tells John’s disciples to tell John what they see: The blind see, lepers are cleansed, the lame walk, the dead are raised, and the poor have the Good News preached to them. All signs of who Jesus is, as well as a fulfillment of the vision of the prophet Isaiah.

As disciples of Christ, we too are called to live a life of active faith so that others can see the Kingdom of God being built up by our thoughts, words and actions. Just as John’s disciples could know Jesus as the Messiah by His actions, so too others should know us as disciples of Christ by the way in which we bring our relationship with Christ, our faith and our celebration of the Eucharist into everyday life.

Peace,

Fr. Mike

Scripture Reflection The Third Sunday of Advent



“You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.”

James 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we better align ourselves with God’s will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

The Christmas Giving Tree November 23rd – December 15th



Gifts **must** be brought in by this **Sunday, December 15th** in order to be delivered by Christmas. Purchase a new gift written on the angel you pick, and deliver to either the parish office or directly under the tree. Please attach the angel to the gift bag or wrapped present. Each angel goes to a specific charity:

- Green Angels - St. Joseph’s Parish in Hoboken
- Red Angels – Plainfield Action Services
- White Angels - Park Hotel Plainfield (Greatly needed!) ADULT
- Blue Angels - Group homes in SPF

Many times the gift you provide will be the only one that the person will receive. Thank you for your generosity!

Add this to your Christmas shopping list... Commemorative IHM Chapel Ornament



Available for sale at the church doors after Saturday & Sunday Masses through Advent. Purchase Price: One @ \$5 & Four @ \$15

Cash or Check to IHM Rosary Altar Society.

Make a memory with your purchase. Note: Supplies are limited.



Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 22 at 6:30pm

Take time away from the hectic holiday season to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas while singing or listening to some of your favorite carols. Please join the IHM Adult Choir for “Lessons and Carols”! All are welcome.

Thank you from Life Choices



We received this thank you from Life Choices:

“We thank God for You! We are so grateful for your incredible generosity and outpouring of support of our Baby Bottle Blessings campaign! You church family raised \$3,304! *We are truly humbled by you amazing support.*

Your gifts enable us to continue serving families and saving babies by providing the practical, emotional and spiritual support mothers and fathers need when faced with a crisis, unplanned or difficult pregnancy. Your help makes all the difference!

Please know that you are in our daily prayers of Thanksgiving.

Your friends a Life Choices Resource Center”

Remember Our Sick



Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 15th

7:45 am For the People of IHM Parish
 9:00 am Robert Scully+ By Beatrice Scully
 10:30 am Claire Rita Lewis+ By the Lewis Family
 12:00 pm Roy Savoca+ By Jean Savoca

Monday, December 16th

7:00 am Ralph E. Monte+ By Mary Buchbinder & Family
 8:30 am Diane Carvalho+ By Rosemary Halverson

Tuesday, December 17th

7:00 am Grace Remishofski+ By the Varela Family
 8:30 am Therese' Masse'+ By Mariette Zeck

Wednesday, December 18th

7:00 am Mark W. Weber+ By Clarissa Trichocho
 8:30 am Damien Jusino+ By the Chimento Family

Thursday, December 19th

7:00 am Aurora Lioanag+ By Lioanag Family
 8:30 am Anthony Maimone+ By Antoinette Guarna

Friday, December 20th

7:00 am John Keane+ By John & Traey Foley
 8:30 am Marion & Bill Kernan+ By Nancy Yewaisis

Saturday, December 21st

7:00 am Patricia Beck+ By Gayle Conne
 8:30 am Robert Hahn+ By Mary Claire Hahn
 5:30 pm Angelo F. Campo Sr.+ By Maria DeVizio

Sunday, December 22nd

7:45 am For the People of IHM Parish
 9:00 am Attilio V. Badala+ By his wife, Rose Badala
 10:30 am Agnes Reilly+ By Janice Reilly & Family
 12:00 pm Deceased members of Knox & Gorski Families+
 By Arlene Knox

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

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 Wilk+,
Emmanuel Bahena+, Alfred Stefnagle+

Sanctuary Light: Week of December 15th:

The Sanctuary Light will burn this week for:
 For the intention of Roy Savoca+
 Requested by Jean Savoca



Flowers for the Blessed Mother



For the week of December 15th:
 In loving memory of the deceased
 members of the Good, Piga,
 Kurapka and Dawid Families
 Requested by:
 Janice Good-Piga & Bob Piga



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! Leave the stress of school behind to decorate a GINGERBREAD HOUSE and do a White Elephant Gift Exchange! Will have treats, festive games and prayer in anticipation of Christmas! Feel free to wear your most festive Christmas Jammies!

Bring: A wrapped Elephant Gift (something amusing, cost around \$10) to exchange. A non-breakable ornament (used ornaments are fine) for the Nazareth Center Christmas Tree.

Where: Nazareth Center

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

RSVP: TEXT Rachael at (908) 290-2893, but walk-ins and friends are ALWAYS welcome!



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".



Literature in Middle School

Middle school literature is a great deal more than reading books. For students in grades 6 through 8, literature is a subject that refines comprehension skills, builds vocabulary, teaches how to make inferences and apply it to writing, and lets students discover a broader understanding of the world around them. Mrs. Patricia Delaney, who teaches literature for 6th and 8th grades, and Mrs. Angela Kobliska, who teaches 7th grade, challenge the students and teach them the tools needed to be successful.

Close reading is a fundamental tool used by the students to help them to understand a text better. It is a thoughtful, critical analysis of a document that focuses on details or patterns. Students learn to develop a precise understanding of the authors' form, meaning, and theme. They practice these skills by using a summary chart, annotating, and highlighting critical pieces of a text. The 7th grade students put their close reading into practice by answering a writing prompt, "Why do scientists study the ocean?" To answer this, each student had to read three different excerpts, two non-fiction excerpts, one fiction excerpt from 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, and one piece of artwork. They used their close reading skills to extract information, make inferences, and apply it to their writing. This critical tool will allow the students to read more complex texts.

Learning new vocabulary can sometimes be a tedious task. To make it more interesting, the students have the opportunity during their reading labs to work on their writing and incorporate their vocabulary words. They can use Choice Boards, where students are given the option to write a riddle, poem, or letter; or to create a crossword puzzle or artwork. They can also work on their Chromebooks, do activities on Newsula.com, play vocabulary games online, or create personal vocabulary games.

Knights of Columbus March for Life Bus Trip to Washington January 24, 2020



Help save an unborn life and change yours! Bus leaves from IHM Church. Mass begins at 6am. Bus departs 6:45am, returns about 9pm. \$35 for adults, \$25 for students, includes sandwiches, drinks, snacks. Please RSVP by 12-16. Send check to Knights of Columbus, PO Box 302, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. Please include names and phone numbers. Make credit card payments at mkt.om/kofc5730. For more details, call Mike Romanyshyn at 908-868-2625 or email mromanyshyn@gmail.com.

Mount St. Mary House of Prayer

1651 U.S. Highway 22; Watchung, NJ 07069-6587

The following programs are available. **Registration required;** call 908-753-2091 or email: msmhope@msmhope.org

Hope in Darkness: Celebrating the Winter Solstice

The shortest day of the year is celebrated in various ways by many cultures. Learn about & celebrate this special day of hope! Dinner and Advent Prayer included.

Fri., Dec. 20, 5:30-9 p.m. Presenter: Mary Jo Kearns, RSM (\$50-\$60 or what you can donate)

Year-end Day of Prayer

Spend this last day of the year reflecting on the many gifts God has bestowed on you. Day begins and ends with communal prayer. Bring a bagged lunch.

Tues, Dec. 31, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (\$20-\$30 or what you can donate)

**Minister Assignments
Weekend of December 21 - 22**

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:30 pm	Mulrooney	Clark Apgar Schaffernoth* Kelly Good-Piga	Fr. Mike
7:45 am	Manno	Bergen Gibbons* Foulks Fahrman	Fr. Mike
9:00 am	Brennan	(N) Dougherty (N) Naugle (N) Regal Power* Coquia	Fr. Valentine
10:30 am	McClellan	(S) Swisher DiBella Fischer Alexandre* Aman Leone (cup) Cregg (cup)	Fr. Valentine
12:00pm	Harris	McGuinness O'Connor Lundgren Fajardo* Fajardo*	Fr. Rob

Rosary Altar Society:



Erin Miller and Kathleen Lynch were the chairwomen of our Christmas Party which was very festive, with delicious food and fun games. Dec 3rd was quite wonderful and we thank Erin, Kathleen and their helpers for making this such a successful celebration.

At this party Mary Jane Bergen organized a raffle to benefit Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity and we also had our annual collection to benefit these same Missionaries which are located in Newark, NJ. We thank everyone for their support, generosity and thoughtfulness. We are happy to report we raised \$1,625 dollars - Outstanding!

Please remember to send your \$40 check to Barbara Apgar at 427 La Grande Ave. Fanwood, NJ 07023 to reserve your place for the Jan. 7th Winter Luncheon. We have a snow date of Jan 14th. Everyone is invited to the Stage House in Scotch Plains We will have a choice of appetizer, entree and dessert. Come join us for a bit of good conversation and fellowship.

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 Sunday, January 5th after the 8:00am Mass in the church basement. All interested men of the parish are invited to join us for 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: Open December 15 from 8:30-11:30am*
Closed December 22, 24, 25, 26, 29, 31 and Jan. 1
**The Nazareth Center Office is open Sundays when Faith Formation classes are taking place.*

Immaculate Heart of Mary Christmas Schedule 2019




Confessions:
 Monday, December 16 from 7:00-8:00pm
 Confessions at Immaculate Heart of Mary
 Saturday, December 21 at 2:00-4:00 pm
 Confessions at St. Bartholomew's Church with IHM
 Monday, December 23 from 7:00-8:00pm
 Confessions at Immaculate Heart of Mary

Lessons & Carols Musical Concert
 Sunday, December 22 at 6:30pm

Christmas Mass Schedule:
Christmas Eve: Tuesday, December 24th
 Children's Pageant: 3:30pm
 Masses: 4:00pm, 6:00pm, 10:30pm
Christmas Day: Wednesday, December 25th
 9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00 Noon

New Year's Schedule
New Year's Eve: Tuesday, December 31st
 Anticipated Mass: 5:30pm
New Year's Day: Wednesday, January 1, 2020
 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00pm

New Mass Schedule for 2020



The Mass schedule 2020 will be effective starting January 1, 2020.

The weekend Masses will be as follows:
Saturday: 7:00 am & 8:30 am (daily Mass),
 5:00 pm (Anticipated)
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00am & 12:00 noon

Calendar of Events at IHM

Sunday, December 15th
 Advent Social Sunday - Fellowship after Masses
 8:45am - Families of Faith Gathering
 10:30am - 8th Grade Rite of Sponsors
 11:30am - Prayer Shawl Meeting
 7pm - IHM Youth Group Christmas Party

Monday, December 16th
 7pm - Advent Confessions

Tuesday, December 17th

Wednesday, December 18th
 11am - Food Pantry Open

Thursday, December 19th

Friday, December 20th


Saturday, December 21st

Sunday, December 22nd
 6:30pm - Lessons and Carols Musical Concert

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Calling all Children of the Parish!



Is your child interested in participating in the "Christmas Eve Pageant" at 3:30 pm before the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass? Anyone interested should call the office at 908 889-2100 or email office@ihmparish.net.

All children in pre-kindergarten - 5th grade are welcome.

Offertory Collection

December 8, 2019

Weekly Budget Need:	\$11,960.78
Collection:	\$10,724.00
Parish Giving:	\$3,221.96
Surplus/(Deficit):	\$1,985.96

Fiscal Year to Date:

Budget	\$287,057.94
Actual	\$249,503.04
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$37,554.90)

Sharing God's Blessings:
 Pledged to date: \$43,995.00 (61.19% of goal)
 Goal: \$71,902.00

Thank you for your generosity!