

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 Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 22, 2019
The Nativity of the Lord, Christmas, December 25, 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"

Notes from Fr. Mike



Fourth Sunday in Advent:

We see in today's first reading and Gospel God reaching out to His people. Ahaz rejects God's offer for a sign. Joseph trusts in the message of the angel. God follows through with both signs showing His love and care for His people. Joseph is instructed to name the child Jesus because he will save his people. The connection between the name and destiny is not clear in English, in ancient Hebrew and Aramaic it would have been clear. Jesus derives from the name Joshua which means to save or deliver. Thus the death and resurrection of Jesus saves us, or delivers us, from our sins. This is the Good News, or the Gospel, preached by Jesus. This is the good news that we live out as disciples of Christ, experiencing the Joy of His love as He frees us to live as His cherished daughters and sons.

Christmas:

The Gospel for the Mass at dawn on Christmas day tells the story of the shepherds who go in haste to Bethlehem to see the Infant in the manger. Filled with joy and giving glory to God, they become the first evangelists, bringing the message of the Savior's birth to all whom they met, who were amazed at the news. Like the shepherds we allow our hearts to be filled with wonder and awe at our savior's birth. We must go out and proclaim the Good News of God's love, inviting others to share in this joy and peace. We must allow our experience of God's glory to help us and others grow in faith, hope and love.

On behalf of Fr. Valentine, Fr. Rob, Deacon Jack and all of us who have the honor of serving you, I wish you a holy, joy filled and blessed Christmas day and Christmas season.

Peace,

Fr. Mike

**Scripture Reflection
The Fourth Sunday of Advent**



*"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."
Matthew 1:24*

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

The Christmas Giving Tree



Thank you to everyone who donated to our Christmas Giving Tree Program. Many times the gift you provide will be the only one that the person will receive. Thank you for your generosity!

Altar Bread and Wine Intentions



*The Altar Bread and Wine was donated the week of
December 22nd:
For the intentions of Josephine DiFronzo
Requested by: Denise D'Annunzio*

**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.

Remember Our Sick



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 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 |

Mass Intentions

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

Monday, December 23rd

- 7:00 am **Alan Szigety+** By the Chimento Family
 8:30 am **Benjamin C. Ingersoll+** By the Mustacciolo Family

Christmas Eve, December 24th

- 8:30 am **Donald Reeves+** By Eileen & Rich Wagner
 3:30 pm **Children's Christmas Pageant**
 4:00:pm **Robert Zeck+** By Mariette Zeck
 6:00 pm **Shane Sheppard+** By Mom, Dad & Summer
 10:30pm **Thomas Farrell+** By the Farrell Family

Christmas Day, December 25th

- 9:00 am **Giulia DiIorio+** By Victor & Angela Carnevale
 10:30 am **Marc Fusillo+** By Terry Clark
 12:00 pm **John & Agnes Reilly** By the Reilly Family

Thursday, December 26th

- 7:00 am **Jennie Bergonzo+** By the Chimento Family
 8:30 am **Rose Donovan+** By the Carman Family

Friday, December 27th

- 7:00 am **Joan & Gemma D'Andrea+** By the Carlino Family
 8:30 am **Mary Zucosky+** By the Zucosky Family

Saturday, December 28th

- 7:00 am **Frank Santarpia Jr.+** By the Dagostino Family
 8:30 am **Romulo Lioanag+** By the Lioanag Family
 5:30 pm **Bobby Green+** By Dan & Roe Kelly

Sunday, December 29th

- 7:45 am **Susan Krutis+** By Teresa Krutis
 9:00 am For the People of IHM Parish
 10:30 am **Josephine Verdic+** By the Verdic Family
 12:00 pm **Edward & Jean Winsor+** By Mary Beth Winsor

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: Krystyna Midura+

Sanctuary Light: Week of December 22nd:

*For the intention of Patricia Savo+
 Requested by Alice & David Travis*



Flowers for the Blessed Mother



For the week of December 22nd:

*In memory of the death of
 Louis Schmitt+
 Requested by:
 Mary Jane and Bob Bergen*

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year



These are the words of a Christmas song that is most familiar to us, however, for some individuals and families this is a time of sadness, frustration, and deep anxiety. Catholic Charities has always been a beacon of hope in these situations. Please help us to continue the mission by contributing all forms of used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, and children's books. 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".

A Year End Charitable Giving Tip...

If you are 70 1/2 or older and need to make required minimum distributions (RMD) from you IRA, you can do so without the distribution being taxed. This can be accomplished by making the RMD directly to a charitable organization.

Please call the office at (908) 889-2100 for additional details.

**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.



On Friday, December 6th, students gathered for the First Friday Mass. After mass the 2019-2020 Student Council was Inducted was announced.

**STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICERS
2019 - 2020**

- PRESIDENT - A.J. Kwiatkowski
- VICE PRESIDENT - Cassidy Renosa
- PUBLICITY CHAIR - Chris LaLande
- SOCIAL CONCERNS CHAIR - Sofiya Piede
- SPIRITUALITY CHAIR - Lola Martinson
- ENVIRONMENTAL CHAIR - Mia Mortarulo
- SECRETARY - Robert Constant
- 5th GRADE REP. - Quinnton Battiste

On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff of St. Bartholomew Academy we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

NEW DATE FOR TEEN NYC TRIP:

**IHM Teen Bus Trip to NYC
Friday, January 3, 2020**

Departure at 4:15pm sharp from IHM
Returning between 11 - 11:30pm
Visiting St. Patrick's Cathedral
\$75 each for bus and dinner
Check must accompany registration
Tickets are 1st come, 1st Serve
RSVP by December 23
908 889-2100

**Minister Assignments
Weekend of December 28 - 29**

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:30 pm	Good-Piga	Zucosky Speth Cassidy Torzewski Schaffernoth	Fr. Mike
7:45 am		Wagner Manno Dill Gibbons	Fr. Mike
9:00 am	Foley	Prato Carlino Wagner Wagner* Manfredonia*	Fr. Mike
10:30 am	Banasiak	Fortunato (S) Staniec Zappo Leone Aiere Aiere (cup) Schiller	Fr. Rob
12:00pm	Kiley	Palomares Lundgren Sapienza Sapienza McGuinness	Fr. Rob

Rosary Altar Society:



If you haven't made plans to attend our January 7th Winter Luncheon, we hope you will do so now. We will meet at the Stagehouse Restaurant in Scotch Plains at noon. This will be a time to enjoy each other's company as well as some delicious food. We will have a choice of appetizer, entree and dessert. In case of inclement weather the snow date is January 14th.

Everyone in the parish is invited so bring a friend, a husband, or a relative. Reserve your seat by sending a \$40 check to Barbara Apgar at 427 LaGrande Ave., Fanwood, NJ 07023. Hope to see you there.

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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Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



Follow us on Instagram at:
[ihmparish_sp](https://www.instagram.com/ihmparish_sp)



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: Closed December 22, 24, 25, 26, 29, 31 and January 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 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

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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

Monday, December 23rd
 7pm - Advent Confessions

Tuesday, December 24th
 Office Closed

Christmas, December 25th
 11am - Food Pantry Closed
 Office Closed

Thursday, December 26th
 Office Closed

Friday, December 27th
 Office Closes at 4pm


Saturday, December 28th

Sunday, December 29th
 Office Closed

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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 908 889-100 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!