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(908) 889-9477

FAX:

889-2100

(806)

Phone:

Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

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571

The Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 20, 2020 The Nativity of the Lord, December 25, 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.

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

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

"We reach out to all through prayer and service, as we live our Catholic faith in Christ with Mary"

The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

## Note from Fr. Mike Fourth Sunday in Advent



In our first reading today King David feels ashamed that he is living in a grand house, yet the Ark of God still remains in a tent, and he decides that he must build a temple for his God. Yet in his arrogance David has forgotten who is in charge, he has forgotten who has put him in the position he is in, rich and powerful, able to rest from his labors and unthreatened by his enemies. God reminds him of all that He has done for David, and that He is not finished.

For, as Gabriel says to Mary, "Nothing will be impossible for God." The stories of David and Mary remind us, as we make our final preparations to celebrate the birth of our Savior, to place our trust completely in God, even when it seems impossible. They remind us to approach God with humility, reverence and awe for all that he has done and continues to do for us.

Peace, Fr. Mike



#### Immaculate Heart of Mary Advent Confessions

This year Advent Confessions will be held in the **Nazareth Center** at the following time:

• Monday, December 21st from 7 - 8 pm in the Nazareth Center.

### Note from Fr. Mike 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 the 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 have journeyed from Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus, to Emmanuel, God is with us, with holy longing and hope for the coming of our Savior. Now we are invited to go out and proclaim the good news of God's love. We must allow our experience of God's glory to help us 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 Fourth Sunday of Advent



"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" – Luke 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our generosity.

#### 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.

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, December 20th

8:00 am For the People of IHM Parish

10:00 am **James T. Grossman**+ By his Wife and Family

12:00 pm **Agnes Reilly**+ By he family

Monday, December 21st

7:00 am **Thomas Uzdavinis**+ By Al Smith

8:30 am **Louis Scmitt**+ By Mary Jane Bergen

Tuesday, December 22nd

7:00 am **Barbara Jaspan**+ By John Foley

8:30 am **Attilio V. Badala**+ By Wife, Rose Badala

Wednesday, December 23rd

7:00 am **Mary & Robert O'Rourke**+ By Pat & Jim Feeley By the Piasecki Family

Christmas Eve, December 24th

8:30 am **Barbara Deem**+ By Jerry & Mary Mahony

4:00 pm **Mary Zucosky**+ By Christopher Zucosky

4:15 pm For the People of IHM Parish

6:00 pm **Robert Zeck**+ By Marietta Zeck 10:30 pm **Tom Barth**+ By Betty Swisher

Christmas, December 25th

8:00 am **Irene McElrov**+ By the O'Connor Family

10:00 am Dec'd Members of the Havard & Maxwell Families+

By the Maxwell Family

12:00 pm **John & Agnes Reilly** By Reilly & Farrell Family

Saturday, December 26th

7:00 am **Jake Cregg**+ By Colm & Geraldine Keogh

8:30 am **John DeCristofaro**+ By his Wife and Family

5:00 pm **Frank Tassielli**+ By Charlie & Geri Barcellona

Sunday, December 27th

8:00 am For the People of IHM Parish

10:00 am Joan D'Andrea & Gemma D'Andrea+

By the Carlino Family

12:00 pm **James Henry Lissemore**+ By the Lundgren Family

#### The Altar Bread & Wine for the Week of December 20th:



For the intention of Joseph Castelli+ Requested by Janet & Emil Manfredonia



#### Sanctuary Light: Week of December 20th:

The Sanctuary Light will burn for Frank Pecoraro+ Requested by His Wife Maureen & Family

### Remember Our Sick

John Allen Juliann Junio Rose Badala Eileen Lynch Larry Biunno Maureen Lynch Fran Boglioli Owen Mike McCabe Erin Brennan June McManus Samatha Bridge Christine Morris James Brown Jim Morris Kevin Brown **Bob McMillion** John Burkert Marlene Mosko Anna Cassella Danielle Nabinger Paul Cassidy Hilda Pizza Matthew Cassio Charlie Plungis Frank Chimento Diane Pricken Colm Cosgrove Susan Rozborski **Edward Clark** Bernard Slaza Joe Clarke Beverly Sopp Ray Clark Ryder Francis Spillane Dorothy D'Angelo Paul Szeker Marie Farrell Carole Ventre Albert Fischer, Jr. Daniel Ventura **Emily Fleming** Sr.Elizabeth Vermaelen Nicole Griffin Stephen Voorhees



Christy Ward

John Heiling

Remember those who have died:
Marion Barrett+

#### 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



For the week of December 20th:

In Memory of Mary Rose Cowhey

Requested by Kathleen Ryan



Merry Christmas from the Clergy and Staff of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. May God bless you and your families.

#### 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.

#### IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group Virtual Meeting Saturday December 26th at 9:15AM

The next meeting of IHM's men's scripture study and discussion group will take place "virtually" on Saturday, December 26th, 2020, at 9:15 am on ZOOM. All men of the parish (as well as neighboring parishes) are welcome. We will discuss Sunday's (the 27th) scripture and then open the meeting up for discussion. The meeting will last about an hour. ZOOM is a user friendly video conference call that can be accessed through smartphones, PCs or tablets. You can also call into the meeting with a regular phone and participate without video.

You will need to get the details (phone number to call, computer link, etc.) ahead of time, so if you wish to participate please email David Diken at dndiken@aol.com for an invitation to the session.

#### The IHM Giving Tree

Thank you to all parishioners who Generously donated gifts to our Giving Tree! May God bless you.



#### **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!

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Congratulations to the following students who earned Honor Roll this marking period. Keep up the good work!!

#### **Principals List-**5<sup>th</sup> grade:

Christopher Cabrera

First Honors-8<sup>th</sup> grade: Bianca Barreto Morgan Bovd Shelby Carmant Megan Cunha Victoria Cunha Jocelyn Griffith Justin Klein Chiamaka Nwokike

Manuela Roncancio Roldan Chelsea Taylor

Nia Vaughn

#### **Second Honors-**8<sup>th</sup> grade:

Maxwell Anderson Robert Constant Domenic Erbafina Michelle Godoy Jadyn Horlacher Keyla Matamoros Ella Peoples Kassidy Renosa Naomi Tucker

#### Minister Assignments Weekend of December 26-27

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra- ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00 pm	Mulrooney	Good-Piga Clark Zucosky	Fr. Rob
8:00 am	Banasiak	Gibbons Wagner	Fr. Mike
10:00 am	Wills	McCann Deacon Jack Power	Fr. Valentine
12:00 pm	Briante	Kiley Wagner	Fr. Rob

### 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 an new account.

#### Rosary Altar Society:



As we enter the last week of Advent, I wish you and your family the personal awareness of this week. May you experience the quiet sacred moment of the birth of Jesus!

Unfortunately, with the numbers rising of Covid-19 cases, we will be postponing our January luncheon to later in the Spring when we can eat safely in doors or break bread together outside!

"It is impossible to pray the Rosary regularly and not become a-better-version-of-yourself." Matthew Kelly

Give yourself a gift and stop by the Adoration Chapel for that quiet sacred moment with Jesus this week. "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 and have a Blessed Christmas!

#### Parish Information

#### **Religious Education Classes**

Questions? 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 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



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Follow us on Instagram at: 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 signup link. Presented by Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Instructor: Allan Wright** 

#### Christmas Schedule:



<u>Lessons & Carols:</u> Livestreamed on Sunday, December 20th at 4:00 pm

<u>Advent Confessions:</u> Monday, December 21st from 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the Nazareth Center

<u>Christmas Eve</u>: Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Children's Pageant is virtual this year.

Masses: 4:00 pm (Mass will be livestream too.)

4:15 pm (Nazareth Center)

6:00 pm

10:30 pm (Mass will be livestream too.)

Christmas Day: Friday, December 25th \*8:00 am 10:00 am (Mass will be livestream too) 12:00 Noon

#### New Year's Schedule:

<u>New Year's Eve</u>: Thursday, December 31st Anticipated Mass: 5:00 pm

<u>New Year's Day</u>: Friday, January 1, 2021 8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 noon

\*Note there was an error in our Christmas Mailer that was sent with December's envelopes. There is NO 9:00 am Mass on Christmas Day.



Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 20 at 4:00pm Livestream this year

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" as we livestream the beautiful music of Christmas.

#### CALENDAR V D V P V V H III V III V

#### Calendar of Events at IHM



#### Sunday December 20th

4:00 pm - Lessons & Carols Livestream

#### Monday, December 21st

7:00—8:00 pm - Advent Confessions in Nazareth Center

#### Tuesday, December 22nd

#### Wednesday, December 23rd

10 am - 12 pm - Food Pantry Distribution

#### Christmas Eve, December 24th

See Mass schedule to the left

#### Christmas, December 25th

See Mass schedule to the left

#### Saturday, December 26th

9:15 am - Men's Scripture Discussion Zoom Mtg

#### Sunday December 27th

For more information please visit www.ihmparish.net



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### Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass Sign-up Now Open!



Our Christmas Mass schedule will be Christmas Eve: 4 pm in the church, 4:15 pm in the Nazareth Center, 6 pm and 10:30 pm in the church. On Christmas Day Mass will be celebrated at 8 am, 10 am and Noon in the church. You can sign up for reservations on-line or by calling the office. Sign up links can be found on our website: www.ihmparish.net.

Thank you for your assistance, patience and continued support during these difficult times. Please note that 4 pm and 10:30 pm masses on Christmas eve and the 10 am mass on Christmas day will be livestreamed. **Reservations must be made in advance for in-person attendance**. Masks must be worn at all times.

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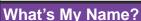
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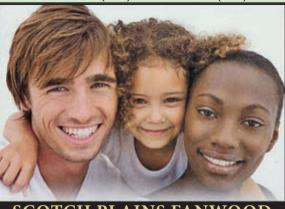
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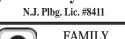
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