

The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

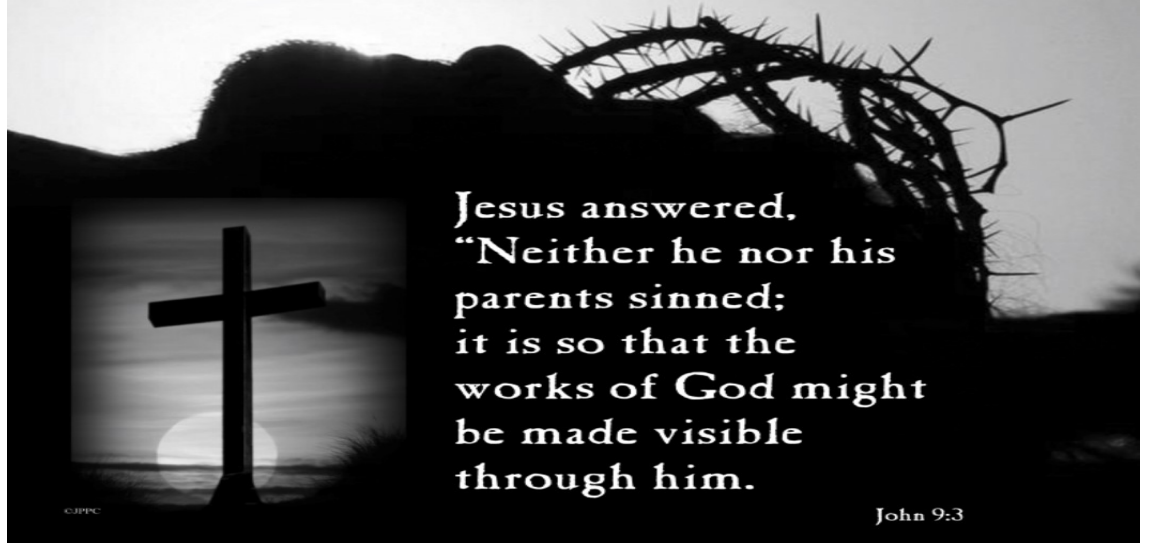
# Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

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 Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 14, 2021*

LENT

Fourth Sunday



*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”*

**A Note from Fr. Mike**

At times in our lives it seems that God has forgotten us, or turned away from us, yet our readings show us today that this is simply a feeling for us because the reality is that God loves us so much that he became one with us in Jesus Christ. He never forgot the people of Israel even when they forgot God and turned away from him. He never forgot them even when they were in exile. And He never forgets us. Sometimes our preoccupations blind us from Him, sometimes our sinfulness is an obstacle to recognizing His presence and sometimes our attitudes and selfishness prevent us from feeling His love. Yet Jesus tells us that He came not to condemn but to save and give life, and always through His grace and mercy we are continually invited to participate in His life. In fasting or sacrifice we make more room for Christ in our lives. In prayer we strive to open ourselves to the light of Christ. In giving of ourselves we allow that light to shine forth on our lives. In this way we remember that Christ is always with us to nurture and guide us into His Kingdom.

Peace, Fr. Mike



**Archdiocese of Newark  
2021 Lenten Regulations**

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted **and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.**

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of Abstinence.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence “substantially,” or as a whole, is a serious obligation.



3. Fridays of the year outside of Lent are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty\*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 30, 2021.**

\*Canon 920 §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

**Spiritual Reflection 4th Sunday in Lent**

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son...” - John 3:16*

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest.  can we ever thank God for a gift like that?  does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God-given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, and in gratitude, generously give back with increase our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church.

**Mass 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

## 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         | Bob McMillion          |
| Kevin Brown         | Marlene Mosko          |
| John Burkert        | Danielle Nabinger      |
| Anna Cassella       | Hilda Pizza            |
| Paul Cassidy        | Charlie Plungis        |
| Matthew Cassio      | Diane Pricken          |
| Frank Chimento      | Jack Pricken           |
| Colm Cosgrove       | Susan Rozborski        |
| Edward Clark        | Bernard Slaza          |
| Ray Clark           | Beverly Sopp           |
| Dorothy D'Angelo    | Ryder Francis Spillane |
| Marie Farrell       | Paul Szecker           |
| Albert Fischer, Jr. | Carole Ventre          |
| Emily Fleming       | Daniel Ventura         |
| Mary Foster         | Sr.Elizabeth Vermaelen |
| Nicole Griffin      | Stephen Voorhees       |
| John Healing        | Christy Ward           |

### Sunday, March 14th

- 8:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**  
 10:00 am **Deceased Members of the Licata and Mannell Families+** By the Lewis Family  
 12:00 pm **Michael D'Ambrosio+** By the Kiley and D'Ambrosio Families

### Monday, March 15th

- 7:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**  
 8:00 am **Lawrence Murphy+** By Joe and Karen Schurtz

### Tuesday, March 16th

- 7:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**  
 8:30 am **Ernie Albers +** By Bernie Beck

### Wednesday, March 17th

- 7:00 am **Marge Malone+** By Barbara Apgar  
 8:30 am **James R. Kennedy+** By Alice Van Anda

### Thursday, March 18th

- 7:00 am **Bessie Sullivan+** By the Carlino Family  
 8:30 am **Joan Villane+** By Dan & Rosemary Kelly

### Friday, March 19th

- 7:00 am **Norma Go+** By the Lioanag Family  
 8:30 am **Sisters of St. Joseph+** By the Sisters of St. Joseph

### Saturday, March 20th

- 7:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**  
 8:30 am **For the People of IHM Parish**  
 5:00 pm **John DiAgostini+** By Anna DiAgostini

### Sunday, March 21st

- 8:00 am **Claire Gibbons+** By Anne Gibbons  
 10:00 am **Margaret & Patrick Cuddihy+** By Eileen Guidi  
 12:00pm **Tom Dwyer+** By the Dwyer Family



**Remember those who have died:**  
**Jack Foulks**  
**Mary Coughlan**

### 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 March 14th:



**For the Intentions of**  
**Marge Malone**  
**Requested by Lee Gillingham**



### Sanctuary Light: Week of March 14h:

**Marian Barrett**  
  
**Requested by**  
**Rosemarie Mc Callion**

### **Flowers for the Blessed Mother**



**For the week of March 14th**  
**For the intention of:**

**Rosemary Mazzucca**  
**Requested by**  
**Hank and Pat Mazzucca**



### Middle School Writing

The ability to communicate effectively through writing is critical even in this digital age. Mrs. Schoendorf, the Academy's middle school English teacher, works closely with our students in grades 5-8 to ensure they are proficient in writing prior to moving on to high school. Her writing projects spark the students' imagination as they refine their writing skills.

### RACHELS' VINEYARD RETREAT

*"Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved, and forgiven." (Pope Francis)*

So many are suffering from the effects of abortion. Where can they heal? Where can they feel safe and loved?

The Archdiocese of Newark Respect Life Office will be hosting two upcoming Rachel's Vineyard retreats to heal the wounds from abortion. Retreat dates are May 14-16, 2021 (English) and April 23-25, 2021 (Spanish).

Contact the Respect Life Office for more details by calling 973-497-4350 (Spanish option 2) or e-mail

[Cheryl.riley@rcan.org](mailto:Cheryl.riley@rcan.org) (English)  
[elvinedoderaquelin@rcan.org](mailto:elvinedoderaquelin@rcan.org) (Spanish)

### DIVE INTO YOUR FAITH THIS LENT!

Join our five part Zoom speaker series from 7 - 8:30 pm each Tuesday of Lent. We will continue:

#### March 16th - The Family as a School of the Presence of God

Dr. Joseph Rice is Assoc. Prof of Philosophical Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Seton Hall University. Dr. Rice is a specialist in the philosophical thought of St. Pope John Paul II. He will examine the role of the family in revealing God's presence.

Questions: Email [maryclinton@ihmparish.net](mailto:maryclinton@ihmparish.net) or [engagingdisciples@ihmparish.net](mailto:engagingdisciples@ihmparish.net) or contact IHM Nazareth Center Office @ 908-889-2100.



### Iron Lent: Lenten Series for BOLD

High School Teens, dive DEEP into Lent this year in a special 6 week series called "Iron Lent" These will take place on Zoom:

Sunday, March 14: 5-6pm

Sunday, March 21: 5-6pm

Sunday, March 28: 5-6pm

Sunday, April 11: 5-6pm

Contact Rachel Flanagan at [ihmsp@boldym.com](mailto:ihmsp@boldym.com) if you are interested!

### IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group Virtual Meeting Saturday March 20th at 9:15AM

The next meeting of IHM's men's scripture study and discussion group will take place "virtually" on Saturday, March 20th, 2021, at 9:15AM on ZOOM. All men of the parish (as well as neighboring parishes) are welcome. We will discuss Sunday's (the 21st) scripture and then open the meeting up for discussion. time, so please email David Diken at [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) for an invitation.

### SUMMER ACADEMY 2021

**Registration for Summer Academy 2021** will begin on Mon., March 15th. Please watch for an email from Parish Giving with instructions.

In the interest of safety, we will begin the summer with **Virtual "Session #1"** which will run from Mon., June 28th to Friday, July 9th, (not on July 5th) Our theme will be "Pray Always."

**All families**, should register for this session. In the event you cannot participate "live" on the daily Zoom meetings during those two weeks, you will be able to view the daily recordings and your family can begin working on the grade level material at your leisure. Please note, **there will not be a "Session 2" this year.** In person events and activities will be offered (not required) throughout the summer.

**8th grade Discipleship Academy is still in the planning stages.** For now, all "rising 8th graders" (those currently in 7th grade) should register for Summer Academy and I will follow-up with these families as the plans take shape.

**Questions:** Call the office at 908-889-2100

**Minister Assignments  
Weekend of March 20-21**

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00 pm	Good-Piga	Speth Torzewski Clark	Fr. Rob
8:00 am	Brennan	Banasiak Bagdonas	Fr. Valentine
10:00 am	Davis	Schiller Deacon Jack Lou Zappo	Fr. Rob
12:00 pm	Briante	O'Connor Wagner	Fr. Mike

**Rosary Altar Society:**



On your journey through Lent, I hope that you have taken time to discover the Bible. The other day I heard the statement that “the Bible is a Love Letter from God.” I hope that you will take the time this week to read a little of that Love Letter so that the Bible can be a part of your spiritual journey. Then ask yourself —what have I learned this week about praying with the Scriptures?— just a thought.

All those who participated in the presentation of “Scam Safety “ on March 2nd should have received the card in the mail on — Red Flags—Reminders —Who to Contact—Again special thanks to Clare McGuinness for this enlightening presentation. She has shared that this presentation will be on YouTube.

The Executive Board Meeting is a Zoom Meeting this Tuesday March 16th at noon. Please let me know by Monday if you can join us. Remember all officers, chairwomen of standing committees, and chairwomen of monthly meetings are members of the Executive Board. Thank you.

Our next general membership meeting will be in the evening with Father Rob on April 6th at 7pm as a zoom meeting. It is our “Night of Inspiration “ so mark your calendar and look for the invite via email.

The Adoration Chapel is open and Jesus is waiting for you to visit Him in the quiet during this season of Lent. It could be the place to read His Love Letter. 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)



**Like us on Facebook at:  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**



**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**

**March 7, 2021**

Weekly Budget Need:	\$ 10,784.32
Collection	9,636.00
Parish Giving:	5,199.82
(includes TEXT to GIVE)	
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 4,051.50
<b>Fiscal Year To Date:</b>	
Budget	\$ 388,235.52
Actual:	349,269.78
Surplus/Deficit)	(38,965.74)

**Archbishops Annual Appeal**



The 2021 Annual Appeal is now underway. We have \$26,910.00 already pledged. Our goal is \$69,693.00. (38.61% of goal.) The outpouring of support from many parishioners like you helps sustain the important ministries across the Archdiocese of Newark. If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge form at the back of the church or visit [www.rcan.org/](http://www.rcan.org/)

**Charitable Contribution Forms for 2020**

There are several different ways to receive charitable contribution forms for tax purposes at IHM:

\*Collection Envelopes: If you are using envelopes for your Sunday collection contribution, you should have received a form in the mail from our envelopes company, as long as you contributed \$100 or more in 2020.\*

Capital Campaign: Any cash or check contribution to our "Praise the Past.. Building for the Future" campaign were acknowledged by a letter from IHM mailed last month.

\*Parish Giving: You can print a contribution history activity form for all electronic fund transfer contributions through Parish Giving by visiting your account at [www.parishgiving.org](http://www.parishgiving.org)

Please contact Tracey Foley at 889-2100 if you need further assistance.

**Calendar of Events at IHM**



**Sunday, March 14th**

Food Pantry Sunday  
5 pm—BOLD Youth Group Lent Zoom Meeting'=  
Daylight Saving Time Begins

**Monday, March 15th**

7:00 Zoom Confirmation Meeting

**Tuesday, March 16th**

7 pm - Dive into Lent Zoom Meeting  
7 pm Rosary Altar Board Meeting

**Wednesday, March 17th**

St, Patrick's Day  
9:30 am - Centering Prayer Meeting  
10 am - 12 pm—Food Pantry Distribution

**Thursday, March 18th**

St. Joseph's Novena Begins after 8:30 am  
Masses

**Friday, March 19th**

**Saturday, March 20th**

9:15am - Men's Scripture & Discussion Zoom Mtg  
9:45-12:00 noon—Confirmation Retreat

**Sunday, March 14th**

Food Pantry Sunday  
5pm — BOLD Youth Group Zoom Meeting  
For more information please visit  
[www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
DURING LENT**

Fridays at 12:00 Noon  
(outdoors - weather permitting)  
7:00pm- inside the church

**A 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.