

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 Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 21, 2021

**"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless
a grain of wheat falls to the
ground and dies,**

**it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much
fruit." John 12**

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

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

If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies it produces much fruit. Jesus dies on the cross and through the power of God’s love is resurrected to bring us the fullness of life in him. We are called to be like Jesus and the grain of wheat. We are to die to ourselves so that we may live more fully for Christ and for others, thus bearing much fruit and building up the Kingdom of God. At Easter we will renew our baptismal promises, our faith in God and the desire to live out that faith as disciples of Christ. We will also be reminded of God’s promise to us, the promise of eternal life. In Baptism we die with Christ so that we can rise with Him to new life. As such, we are called to be missionary disciples, bringing the love of Christ to all whom we meet. While it is certainly important that we have a healthy and balanced love for ourselves, that love will not be fruitful if we focus it only on ourselves. We must allow ourselves to also love God and our neighbor, thus we do not diminish our love of self, but build up others and the Kingdom of God.
Peace, Fr. Mike

**March 21, 2021
5th Sunday of Lent**



*“I will be their God and they shall be my people.”-
Jeremiah 31:33*

What does it mean to be God’s people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don’t know, just as God cares for each of us.



**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.*

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.

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 Heiling | Christy Ward |
| Kathy Herron | |

Sunday, March 21st

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

Monday, March 22nd

- 7:00 am **Jack Foulks+** By Edgar Sullivan
 8:30 am **John O'Shea+** By Peggy Barry

Tuesday, March 23rd

- 7:00 am **John Burr Buckman+** By John & Tracey Foley
 8:30 am **Alice Gigl+** Joan & Marina Grimaldi

Wednesday, March 24th

- 7:00 am **Diane Gaito+** By Edgar Sullivan
 8:30 am **Robert Cleary+** By Rosemarie and Vincent McCallion

Thursday, March 25th

- 7:00 am **Maria Jose Steinberg+** By Colm and Geraldine Keogh
 8:30 am **Jeremiah O'Neil+** By Vivian O'Neil

Friday, March 26th

- 7:00 am **Romulo Lioanag+** By the Lioanag Family
 8:30 am **Lazur Family+** By Christine Lazur and Family

Saturday, March 27th

- 7:00 am **For the People of IHM Parish**
 8:30 am **Joseph P. Zubrickas+** By Ro McMurray
 5:00 pm **William Barry Sr.+** By John & Pat Hennessy

Sunday, March 28th

- 8:00 am **Bessie Sullivan+** By Betty Swisher
 10:00 am **Margaret A. Licata+** By The Lewis Family
 12:00 pm **Madeline C. Pravato+** By Maureen Pecoraro

The Altar Bread & Wine for the Week of March 21st



For the Intentions of **Jack Foulks**
 Requested by
Lee Gillingham

Sanctuary Light: Week of March 21st



Betty Swisher
 Requested by
The Lundgren Family



Remember those who have died:

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 March 21st
 For the intention of:
Mildred Mrozek

Requested by
Barbara and Joe Mrozek



Art at the Academy

Classes such as Art give students a chance to escape from the textbooks and learn something while stretching their imaginations. This year, art classes have focused more on drawing than other mediums due to safety precautions. This allowed students an opportunity to really immerse themselves and explore in their hidden drawing talents! The Academy Art teacher, Emily Recupero, has introduced the students to various art concepts via drawing.

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 (English)
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 23rd - Living as a Catholic in Challenging Times

Dr. Ralph Martin is Professor of Theology at Sacred Heart Seminary. He was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to serve as a consultant to the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization and for the World Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization. Dr. Martin will highlight the challenge of living a Catholic life in a secular world. Questions: Email maryclinton@ihmparish.net or 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 21: 5-6pm
- Sunday, March 28: 5-6pm
- Sunday, April 11: 5-6pm

Contact Rachel Flanagan at ihmsp@boldym.com if your are interested!

**IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group
Virtual Meeting Saturday
March 27th at 9:15AM**

The next meeting of IHM's men's scripture study and discussion group will take place “virtually” on Saturday, March 27th, 2021, at 9:15AM on ZOOM. All men of the parish (as well as neighboring parishes) are welcome. We will discuss Sunday’s (the 28th scripture and then open the meeting up for discussion. time, so please email David Diken at dndiken@aol.com for an invitation.

SUMMER ACADEMY 2021

Registration for Summer Academy 2021 began on Mon., March 15th. Parish Giving sent a registration email to all those families who have attended Summer Academy in the past.

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 we will follow-up with these families as the plans take shape.

**Minister Assignments
Weekend of March 27-28**

Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00 pm	Mulrooney Mulrooney	Good-Piga Clark Zucosky	Fr. Mike
8:00 am	Banasiak Colm Keogh	Gibbons Wagner	Fr. Rob
10:00 am	McClellan Wills	McCann Deacon Jack Carlino	Fr. Mike
12:00 pm	Foley Kiley	O'Connor McGuinness	Fr. Valentine

Rosary Altar Society:



As we are approaching the final weeks of Lent, what is your image of Jesus Christ? Suggestion, you might want to read more deeply about His life in the four gospels. Your image might change! — just a thought.

I want to thank all who participated in the Executive Board Meeting last Tuesday. As we finalized the General Membership Meeting for Tuesday April 6th — “Night of Inspiration” with Father Rob for 7pm, so mark your calendar and look for the invite via email. I also want to thank the board for their support and suggestions in planning the upcoming events.

In case you missed the presentation by Clare McGuinness earlier in March on “Scam Safety”, she has shared the link on YouTube with us. That link is — https://YouTube.be/NWbx_GY65RY —Please take the time for your safety and watch this presentation!

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 deepen your image of Jesus!

We are praying for you, our parish, and the World. Thank you and stay safe!

IHM WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP

The IHM Women’s Prayer Group will hold a virtual Passover Seder via Zoom on Thursday, March 25th at 7:30 pm. Please email Tracey Foley at tefoley@gmail.com if you would like to participate (and have not yet joined our distribution list.)

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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Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**



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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 sign up link.

Presented by Immaculate Heart of Mary

Instructor: Allan Wright


March 14, 2021

Weekly Budget Need:	\$10,784.32
Collection	5,187.00
Parish Giving:	4,956.40
(includes TEXT to GIVE)	
Surplus/(Deficit)	(640.92)

Fiscal Year to Date:

Budget	\$399,019.84
Actual:	359,413.18
Surplus/Deficit	(39,606.66)

Archbishops Annual Appeal

The 2021 Annual Appeal is now underway  We have \$29,210 already pledged. Our goal is \$69,693.00. (41.91% 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/

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.. Builing 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

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



Calendar of Events at IHM

Sunday, March 21st

First Communion Zoom Meeting

Monday, March 22nd

Tuesday, March 23rd

7 pm - Dive into Lent Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, March 24th

9:30 am - Centering Prayer Meeting
10 am - 12 pm—Food Pantry Distribution

Thursday, March 25th

Confession in the Nazareth Center at 7:00 pm

Friday, March 26th

Stations of the Cross 12 Noon and 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 27th

9:15am - Men’s Scripture & Discussion Zoom Mtg

Sunday, March 28th

5pm — BOLD Youth Group Zoom Meeting

For more information please visit

www.ihmparish.net

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

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**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.