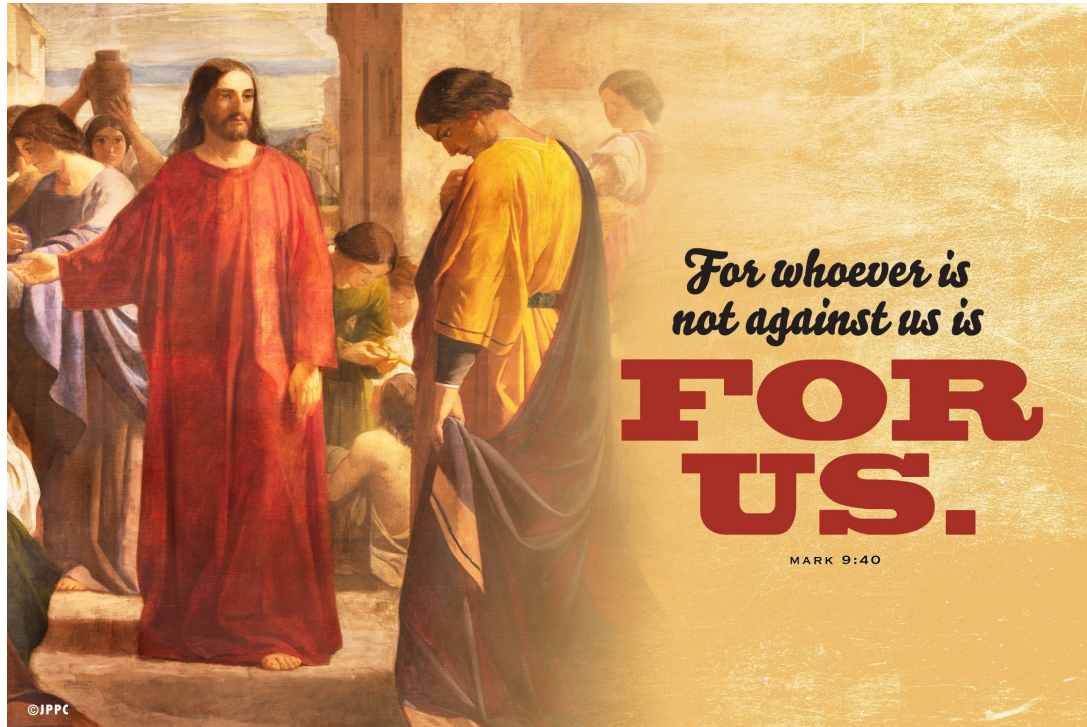


*The People of God called to form the Christian Community of*  
**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

*26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 26th, 2021*



**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

Mass will continue to live stream 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

1571 S. Martine Ave. Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 PHONE: (908) 889-2100  
FAX: (908) 889-9477 EMAIL: [office@ihmparish.net](mailto:office@ihmparish.net)



Website: [www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)  
Facebook: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church | Instagram: [ihmparish\\_sp](https://www.instagram.com/ihmparish_sp)

## A Note from Father Mike

What are the obstacles in our lives that prevent us from fully experiencing the presence of Christ? Is it our own sinfulness? Is it money, wealth or material possessions? Is it our own attitudes, jealousies and biases?

Our readings today advise seek the Spirit to live as faithful disciples, to cast off any thing that prevents us from recognizing the presence of God, that causes us or others to sin or that is an obstacle to us. This can be difficult to do, but the consequences may be even worse if we don't. Together we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help us discern what needs to be cast off, to nurture what needs care and guidance, and the courage and strength to do so, that we may more fully live in the presence of Christ and bring his love authentically to those who are in need.

Peace, Fr. Mike



## MASS BOOK FOR 2022 IS NOW OPEN



Immaculate Heart of Mary has opened the 2022 Mass Book! Staff will not be available to take mass requests over the phone or in person.

Please fill out the order form that is available on the IHM website (printed copies are in the plastic box outside of the Nazareth Center) and drop it off with a \$10 (per mass) donation in the black mailbox in front of the Nazareth Center. We will process the masses in order of receipt and we will do our best to fulfill your requests.

We will call you with any questions and to confirm your order. There will be a limit of 4 masses per person. Please indicate if you need to send a card. We will arrange for you to pick up the cards at the entrance to the Nazareth Center. You may also order a Sanctuary Candle or Altar Bread and Wine for the week at a cost of \$20. Options are included on the order form.

### Our Mass schedule is as follows:

Saturday (Anticipated): 5 pm  
 Sundays - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12 noon  
 Weekdays and Saturdays: 7:00 am and 8:30 am  
 National Holidays - 9:00 am  
 Holy Days - 7:00 pm, 7:00 am, 12 noon, 7:00 pm  
 \* Schedules are Subject to Change

## Updated Directives for Covid-19 Pandemic

**Introduction:** Given the reinstatement by the Bishops of New Jersey of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and the lessening of restrictions from the state, the following is provided as an immediate update to the May 25 directives.

**STILL IN EFFECT:** Masks will no longer be required for fully vaccinated persons. **If not fully vaccinated, persons are strongly encouraged to follow CDC guidance and wear a face mask in public settings.** Masks are still required on public transit and in health care settings, prisons, child-care facilities and schools, among other places. People will no longer be required to socially distance indoors or outdoors, although unvaccinated persons should continue to maintain a safe distance from others. These directives apply to all indoor and outdoor events.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS:** All ministries may return to full service – altar servers, lectors, ushers, greeters and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Masks are no longer required for all vaccinated ministers, including those distributing Communion (Priests, Deacons, and EMs). However, masks may be worn for those who prefer to wear one during the liturgy.

**COMMUNION:** While Communion on the tongue is now permitted, for the safety of the priests, ministers and other communicants, we encourage continued reception of communion in the hand. At this time, Communion from the cup should not be distributed to the assembly.

**SIGN OF PEACE:** The invitation to share the Sign of Peace should continue. Parishioners could be reminded that it is not required to touch during the sign of peace.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Ushers may take up the collection at the proper time or baskets may be placed at the entrance of the church for the collection.

(Beginning July 17, 2021)

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:** The procession to present the gifts of bread and wine and the collection can be resumed. (Beginning July 17, 2021)

**BAPTISMAL FONTS:** Baptismal fonts and holy water receptacles may be filled.

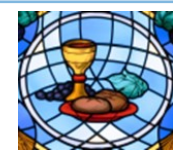
**MUSIC:** Vaccinated music ministers (cantors, choirs, etc.) do not require masks or shields. Music ministers who are not vaccinated should wear a mask. All musical instruments are permitted. Hymnals are now permitted.

**SANITIZING:** The cleaning and sanitizing of churches and common spaces should be done regularly. It is not required after every liturgy.

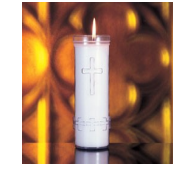
**PARISH MEETINGS:** Parish meetings in person may resume. Those vaccinated are not required to wear masks for indoor meetings nor are they required to maintain social distancing. The same recommendations for Mass apply to those not vaccinated.

Mass Intentions	September 25 - October 3, 2021
<b>Saturday September 25</b> 7:00am Eleanor Watson+ 8:30am William McManus+ 5:00pm Anthony Cirillo & Frances Lumetta+	By The Chimento Family By The Family By Mary Cirillo
<b>Sunday September 26</b> 8:00am For the People 10:00am Thomas Gonch+ 12:00pm Robert J. Seery+	By The People By Rosemary & Vincent McCallion By Arlene Knox
<b>Monday September 27</b> 7:00am Dorothy Foulks (living) 8:30am George Reilly+	By Robert W. Bilarczyk By Anna DiAgostini
<b>Tuesday September 28</b> 7:00am Lottie Novak+ 8:30am Susan Wagner & Helen Brennan+	By The Lundgren Family By Eileen & Rich Wagner
<b>Wednesday September 29</b> 7:00am Barbara Marszalek+ 8:30am Mary Beth Winsor (living)	By The Wang Family By Rosary Altar Society
<b>Thursday September 30</b> 7:00am Teresa Golembeski+ 8:30am Diana LaFarga Scariati (living)	By Christy Ward & Pieter Vorhees By Adela LaFarga
<b>Friday October 1</b> 7:00am Mary Campion+ 8:30am Maria Jose Steinberg+	By Geraldine Barcellona By Colm & Geraldine Keogh
<b>Saturday October 2</b> 7:00am The Murphy Family (living) 8:30am Jack Foulks+ 5:00pm Marge Malone+	By The Lundgren Family By Barbara Apgar By Jean & Ron Marciano
<b>Sunday October 3</b> 8:00am Jack Pricken+ 10:00am Deceased members of Mannell & Symczak Families+ 12:00pm Living & Deceased members of Connor & McCallion Families	By Your loving friend Terry By The Lewis Family By Rosemary & Vincent McCallion

For the week of September 26th



**The Altar Bread & Wine**  
For the intention of:  
**Sr. Mary Geis (living)**  
Requested by  
Ceil D'Agostino



**Sanctuary Light**  
For the intention of:  
**Jack Foulks+**  
Requested by  
Barbara Apgar



**Flowers for the Blessed Mother**  
For the intention of:  
**John McKenna**  
Requested by  
Elizabeth Sandiford



*Remember Our Departed:*  
**Joseph Fernandez**  
**Manuel J. Fidalgo Jr.**  
**Iris Lamberty Ocasio**

**Remember Our Sick**

John Allen	Anna Cassella	Albert Fischer, Jr.	Eileen Lynch	Diane Pricken	Phyllis Szeke
Rose Badala	Paul Cassidy	Emily Fleming	Maureen Lynch	Susan Rozborski	Carole Ventre
George Becker	Matthew Cassio	Mary Foster	Bill Malone	Dolores Rust	Daniel Ventura
Larry Biunno	Frank Chimento	Nicole Griffin	Owen Mike McCabe	Diana Scariati	Sr. Elizabeth
Fran Boglioli	William Consovoy	Maureen Grossman	June McManus	Elisa Silversey	Vermaelen
Erin Brennan	Colm Cosgrove	Kathleen Herron	Christine Morris	Bernard Slaza	Stephen Voorhees
Samantha Bridge	Edward Clark	Juliann Junio	Thomas Moore	Beverly Sopp	Rose Wirt
James Brown	Ray Clark	Anna Koch	Marlene Mosko	Ryder Francis Spillane	Christy Ward
John Burkert	Sarah Dubay	Jillian Lapidus	Hilda Pizza	Paul Szeke	



**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.





**Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Meetings will resume on Zoom**

Centering prayer is a contemplative method of prayer which helps you deepen your personal relationship with the Lord, using Lectio Divina, Reflection and Meditation. This prayer is also known as “The Prayer of Quiet” or “The Prayer of the Heart”. It’s talking less and listening more, as you allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart. The words you pray do not matter as much as in the spirit you pray them. It’s a way of reading and listening and discerning with the “eyes of your heart.”

**“BE STILL, KNOW, I AM GOD”** If you would like to experience this prayer method which helps to deepen your spiritual journey with the Lord **we meet on Thursday mornings at 9:30am on Zoom.** Please call Phyllis at **908-264-7456** for further information and to receive the Zoom link.

*“Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.”* MARK 9:41



We are made in God’s image and likeness. We tend to forget this. When you look at others, do you see the face of Jesus in them? When others look at you, do they see the face of Jesus in you? When we realize that all lives matter to God, then gratitude and generously become easier. Why? Because that’s the way we are made! We are one Body of Christ; when one of us is hurting, all of us feel the pain.

**8th Grade Confirmation Preparation 2021-2022**

- Sun. October 3:** Rite of Promise | 10 am Mass (Brunch & special program for families after Mass)
- Mon. November 15:** Prep. Session 1 | 7 - 8:30 pm
- Mon. December 6:** Session 2 | 7 - 8:30 pm
- Sun. December 12:** Rite of Names | 10 am Mass
- Mon. January 10:** Session 3 | 7 - 8:30 pm
- Mon. February 7:** Session 4 | 7 - 8:30 pm
- Mon. March 14:** Session 5 | 7 - 8:30 pm
- Sun. March 20:** Rite of Sponsors | 10 am Mass
- Mon. April 4:** Session 6 | 7 - 8:30 pm
- Sun. April 24:** Rite of Service | 10am Mass (Brunch & special concluding program to follow for families.)



**9th Grade Confirmation Preparation 2021-2022**

- Sat. September 25:** Ordinary Time - Covenant Ceremony & Parent/Candidate Supper & program (4:30 - 7:30pm)
- Sat. December 11:** Advent Gathering - (Gift of the Incarnation) (4:30 - 7:30pm)
- Sat. January 8:** Christmas Gathering - God's Call (Gift of Vocation) (4:30 - 7:30pm)
- Sat. February 12:** Pre-Lent Gathering - (Gift of Self ~ Guys/ Girls Night) (4:30 - 7:30pm)
- Sat. March 12:** CONFIRMATION RETREAT on site at IHM (10am - 4pm)
- Sat. April 30:** Easter Gathering - (Gift of the Holy Spirit) (4:30 - 7:30pm)

**IHM Men’s Scripture & Discussion Group**

We have a LIVE in-person meeting at the IHM church basement on **Saturday October 9th 2021 at 7:30AM.** Please email David Diken at [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) for more information.

**BUY A BRICK - FALL 2021**

Please donate a brick and place an everlasting memento of a loved one on site at our parish. The bricks will be placed in the walkway and patio area of our 'Our Lady of Fatima' Garden. 2 sizes: 4" x 8" and 8" x 8".



PLEASE RETURN ORDER FORM (available at [ihmparish.net](http://ihmparish.net)) AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: IHM 1571 South Martine Ave Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

**Deadline is Wednesday October 27, 2021!**



**Blessing of the Animals**

Saturday October 2, 2021

12 noon @ Fatima Prayer Garden  
*“Blessing of animals can apply to pets & other companion animals. Or to agricultural animals and working animals which humans depend on.”*



**Spotlight on the Sacraments**

Online course via Zoom!

**Wed. September 29  
 Thurs. September 30  
 from 6-9pm**

\$35 Registration fee due by September 27. Email [office@ihmparish.net](mailto:office@ihmparish.net) for more details.



**Surviving Divorce Retreat**

**October 3, October 23  
 and November 20 from  
 9am - 12pm.**

At Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Roseland. There is a \$25 fee for the program. Contact the Office of Family Life at 973-497-4324 or email [familylife@rcan.org](mailto:familylife@rcan.org)

**The IHM Women’s Prayer Group**

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, October 7 at 7:30PM via Zoom**, and our theme will be Our Lady of the Rosary. All women are welcome. Please email **Tracey Foley** at [tefoleyihm@gmail.com](mailto:tefoleyihm@gmail.com) if you would like to participate.



**Steve Angrisano  
 Live in Concert  
 October 21 @ 7:30pm  
 Holy Trinity Church  
 Westfield NJ**

Minister Assignments - October 2 - 3			
Saturday/ Sunday	Lectors	Extra-ordinary Ministers	Presider
5:00 pm	Zucosky	- Haight - Haight	Fr. Mike
8:00 am	Sullivan	- Speth - Banasiak	Fr. Mike
10:00 am	Fortunato	- Deacon Jack - Prato	Fr. Val
12:00 pm	Foley	- McGuinness - O'Connor	Fr. Rob

**IHM Parish Information**

**Religious Education:** 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) 889-4123 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](http://www.ihmparish.net)  
Like us on Facebook: **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**  
Follow us on Instagram: **ihmparish\_sp**



**Rosary Altar Society News**

This Friday is October 1st. The month of Mary and the Rosary. So look for events and quotations dedicated to our Lady and the Rosary.

*“Rosary is the best therapy for these distraught, unhappy, fearful, and frustrated souls precisely because it involves the simultaneous use of three powers: the physical, the vocal, and the spiritual.”*  
- Venerable Fulton Sheen

1. I want to thank MaryAnne Sopko for co-chairing our Welcome Back Meeting. Many thanks to Katie Thompson, Alice Mansfield Smith and MaryAnne Sopko for serving the pizza slices. A huge thank you to all who helped with the clean up. Many hands make light work.
2. If you paid your dues and didn't attend the Welcome Back Meeting, please contact Janice Good-Piga for your 2021-2022 Directory at 908-759-6729. Thank you.
3. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 5th, A Day of Renewal at St Joseph 's Shrine. The day will begin at 9:30 with coffee, tea, and goodies. Then prayer, conference, opportunity for confession, boxed lunch, conference, rosary and liturgy in the Chapel closing the day around 3:00 pm, all for \$40. Call Eileen Wagner at 908-317-8554 to reserve your place and send the check to Barbara Apgar at 427 LaGrande Ave, Fanwood, NJ 07023. Deadline to register is September 28th.
4. Please stop by the Adoration Chapel and visit with Our Lord. He is waiting for you!

*“If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, gather each evening to pray the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares of the world.”* - Pope Pius XI

We are still praying for you, our parish, and the world.

Thank you and God Bless,  
**MaryJane**



**Fall Open Houses**


Wednesday October 6 @ 7pm  
Saturday October 16 @ 2pm  
**Freshman Info Session**  
Tuesday October 26 @ 7pm

For more information: [www.unioncatholic.org](http://www.unioncatholic.org)



**Oratory Prep School** is inviting you to their Open House Event on **Sunday October 3** from 1-3pm and **Thursday October 28** from 6:30-8:30pm. Located at 425 Morris Ave. Summit NJ. We ask that you register to attend on their website under the Admissions tab. For further information, call 908-273-1084 x1 or visit [oratoryprep.org](http://oratoryprep.org)

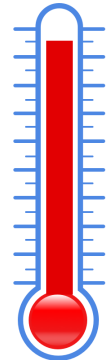
Collection Report		September 19, 2021	
Weekly Budget Need:		\$11,300.00	
Collection:		4,778.00	
Parish Giving:		4,080.49	
Surplus/(Deficit)		(2,441.51)	
<b>Fiscal Year to Date:</b>			
Budget		\$135,600.00	
Actual:		\$126,610.63	
Surplus/(Deficit)		(8,989.37)	
<b>Rolling 4 Week Averages:</b>			
Average Collection:		\$ 9,802.12	
Average Surplus/(Deficit)		(1,497.89)	



### Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The 2021 Annual Appeal is now underway. We have \$62,313.09 already pledged. **Our goal is \$69,693.00 = 89.41%**. 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/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing). Thank you for your prayers and support.

89.41%



### The IHM Food Pantry Needs Donations!



Demand for food & toiletries has been increasing as we work our way through the COVID pandemic recovery. Items needed include non-perishable food items, personal toiletry items and baby products.

Please bring your donations to the back of the church. Place the items in the red bins near the back doors. You may also drop donations off at the Nazareth Center. For a list of items visit [www.ihmparish.net/food-pantry](http://www.ihmparish.net/food-pantry). Thank you for your generosity!

EVENT CALENDER	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>September 26</b>	6pm - BOLD Kick Off BBQ
<b>Monday</b> <b>September 27</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>September 28</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>September 29</b>	10am - 12pm - Food Pantry 6pm - Spotlight on Sacraments Zoom
<b>Thursday</b> <b>September 30</b>	6pm - Spotlight on Sacraments Zoom
<b>Friday</b> <b>October 1</b>	
<b>Saturday</b> <b>October 2</b>	12noon - Blessing of Animals
<b>Sunday</b> <b>October 3</b>	9am - Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast 10am - Rite of Promise Mass 7pm - BOLD College Care Package Night

## BOLD


Becoming Our Lord's Disciples


### Upcoming Youth Events


9/26: BOLD Opening BBQ  
10/3: 8th Grade Rite of Promise (morning), then BOLD College Care Package Night (evening)  
10/10: BOLD Mass/Team Bonding Challenge @ the Zoo  
10/17: BOLD NIGHT  
10/24: Trunk-Or-Treat/BOLD 8th Grade Service Night  
10/31: Trunk-Or-Treat @ IHM Parish


**Reach out to Rachael Flanagan to hear more!**  
[ihmsp@boldym.com](mailto:ihmsp@boldym.com) or call / text 908-280-2893



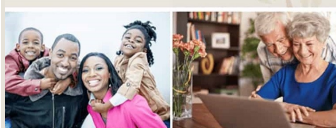

For more information please visit [www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)


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



simple. secure. convenient.



### Want to donate but don't have any cash on hand?

Parish Giving is fast, safe & secure. Scan the QR code with your smart phone or tablet. This code will link you directly to our Parish Giving website. No sign-up required. Just click the "Pay Now" button. Thank you for your continued support to our community!

