

The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

Christ the King - November 26, 2023

The Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe

MATTHEW 25:31-46



MISSION STATEMENT

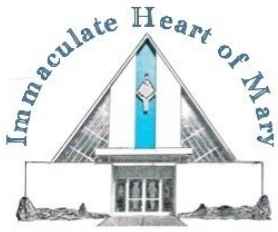
"We reach out to all through prayer and service, as we live our Catholic faith in Christ with Mary."



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

Website: www.ihmparish.net

Facebook: [Immaculate Heart of Mary Church](#) | Instagram: [ihmparish_sp](#)



SERVED BY

Rev. Michael G. Ward, K.H.S., Pastor
Rev. Robert Kunze: Weekend Assistant
Deacon Jack Lynch
Katie Wills: Director of Music Ministry
John McGuire: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation



Mass will continue to Live Stream on Facebook and our website: www.ihmparish.net

A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

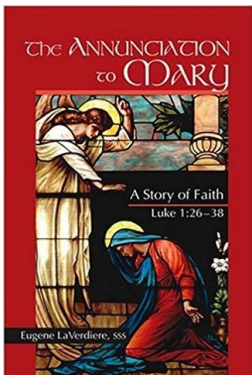
Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to love God, and the second greatest is to love our neighbor. Today’s Gospel shows us why and how to do this. In loving our neighbor by feeding and clothing them, helping them and comforting them we not only show our love for them, but for Jesus. Whatever you do for these, you do for me.

Our love for our neighbor is part of our love for God. Our service to our neighbor is part of our service to God. In the economy of discipleship it is the gift of self to God and to one another that truly allows us to recognize the presence of Christ and to serve Christ our King in Faith, Hope and Charity.
Peace, Fr. Mike



**Christmas Tree Memorial Lighting
Saturday December 9, 2023 after 5:00 PM Mass**

We will celebrate the Christmas season by illuminating the perimeter of our Nativity scene with beautiful six foot fresh cut Christmas trees covered with lights! We are offering the opportunity to dedicate a tree on behalf of a loved one (living or deceased), an organization, or for a personal family Christmas greeting. The trees will be affixed with a plaque containing the names to be memorialized and honored. The cost to reserve a tree is \$200. The number of trees are limited so please complete the form (available at church or download the form at www.ihmparish.net) and submit your form and donation to the Nazareth Center office. Thank you!



**The Annunciation to Mary:
A Story of Faith**

The prologue of Luke’s Gospel is both simple and profound. As we prepare for Christmas let us take a close look at Mary of the scriptures.

We shall meet on Zoom on Tuesdays from 7:15pm until 8:15pm.

Please register at FrRob@ihmparish.net and contact him if you have any questions or would like to obtain a copy of the book.



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, tools, knickknacks, stuffed animals, novels, and children’s books to our Donation Bin(s). The donation bin is located in the church parking lot.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Schedule for Mass & Worship (schedules are subject to change)

Saturday (Anticipated) 5:00 pm
Sundays - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon
Weekdays & Saturdays - 7:00 am and 8:30 am
National Holidays - 9:00 am
Holy Days - 7:00 am, 12:00 noon, 7:00 pm

Morning Prayer - Monday - Saturday at 8:15 am
Rosary: Monday - Saturday after 8:30 am Mass
Novena to the Miraculous Medal & St. Jude:
Saturdays after 8:30 am Mass
Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:15 - 4:45 pm

Mass Intentions			For the week of November 26 - December 3, 2023		
Saturday November 25	7:00am	Alice Lissemore+ (1st Anniversary) from Maureen Grossman			
	8:30 am	Michael D'Agostino+ from IHM Staff			
	5:00 pm	Mary & Thomas Browne+ from the Hennessy Family			
Sunday November 26	8:00 am	For the People of IHM Parish			
	10:00 am	Marge Malone+ from the Malone Family			
	12:00 pm	Grace Scutellaro+ from John & Tracey Foley			
Monday November 27	7:00 am	Michael Raymond Chin+ from Lucy Wang			
	8:30 am	Cecilia Valera (living) from the Mulrooney & Kelly Families			
Tuesday November 28	7:00 am	Fr. Alex Pinto+ from Bob & Adele			
	8:30 am	Michael D'Agostino+ from the Nieva Family			
Wednesday November 29	7:00 am	Ferdi Nieva (living) Thank you from IHM Parish			
	8:30 am	Ann Marie Harvey (living) from the Mulrooney & Kelly Families			
Thursday November 30	7:00 am	In thanksgiving to Alexander Exume (living) from Suze			
	8:30 am	Kevin Brown+ from IHM Staff			
Friday December 1	7:00 am	Amelia Sollito 102nd Birthday (living) from Fr. Michael Ward & IHM Staff			
	8:30 am	Helen Sullivan+ from Jerry & Mary Mahony			
Saturday December 2	7:00am	Gail Harris+ from Patricia & James Feeley			
	8:30 am	Sam Fortunato+ from Rich & Heba Fortunato			
	5:00 pm	Mark Ryan+ from Geri & Charlie Barcellona			
Sunday December 3	8:00 am	For the People of IHM Parish			
	10:00 am	Mary Jane Bergen+ from Maureen Pecoraro			
	12:00 pm	Patrick McGinley+ from Fr. Mike			



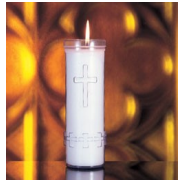
Kindly keep our parishioner's family and friends, with health and other challenges, in your prayers

John Allen	David Connell	Mary Foster	Jillian Lapidus	Jacob Rivera	Ryder Francis Spillane
George Becker	Colm Cosgrove	Michele Gamako	Mary Frances Leon	Jaxson Rivera	Daniel Ventura
Fran Boglioli	Samantha Bridge	Nicole Griffin	Eileen Lynch	Marisol Rodriguez	Sr. Elizabeth Vermaelen
Erin Brennan	James Brown	Ann Marie Harvey	William Maines	Susan Rozborski	Stephanie Vernace
Anna Cassella	John Burkert	David Hens	Jim Malfetti	Dolores Rust	Stephen Voorhees
Paul Cassidy	Ray Clark	Kathleen Herron	Bill Malone	Diana Scariati	Ben Wheelock
Matthew Cassio	Matt Donovan	Juliann Junio	Marlene Mosko	Arty Shapiro	Evelyn Whitehorne
Peter Cavanagh	Albert Fischer, Jr.	Marie Keller	Hilda Pizza	Elisa Silversey	
Frank Chimento	Phyllis Fischer	Dorothy Klein	Diane Pricken	Bernard Slaza	
Edward Clark	Emily Fleming	Anna Koch	Carmela Resnick	Beverly Sopp	


Coping with Grief & Loss: A Bereavement Group at St. Paul's
Meeting on Thursdays at 5:45 PM
 November 30, December 7, 14, 21 and 28
 January 4, 11 and 18
 To register call: 201-433-8500 | griefsupport@stpaulrcc.com
 St Paul the Apostle. 14 Greenville Ave. Jersey City, NJ

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.

Special Intentions for the week of November 26 - December 3, 2023



Sanctuary Light
Marion Barrett+
100th Birthday in Heaven
 requested by: Mary Jane,
 Art & Chris Lundgren




Altar Bread & Wine
 For the intention of:
Kathy Mitchell (living)
 Thank you from
 IHM Parish



Flowers for the Blessed Mother
 In memory of all the living and
 deceased members of the Schmitt
 & Bergen Families
 requested by: Mary Jane Bergen

**Remember
 Our Departed**



Nancy Dell Bene+
 Janina Dyke+
 Eileen Fabricatore+
 Richard Licata+

2nd Annual

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION & SHOPPING EVENT

FROM SPFPAL & IHM

10
DECEMBER
11AM - 3PM

IHM CHURCH
1571 S. MARTINE
AVE. SCOTCH
PLAINS, NJ 07076

Holiday Shopping
Plus...Childrens Crafts
Live Nativity 11am-2pm
Cookies & Cocoa w/Santa

Questions? Contact us at
(646) 554-0001 (Tracey)
or send an email to
tsanguiliano@gmail.com

LIVING NATIVITY

COME OUT WITH YOUR FAMILY TO SEE THE LIVE ANIMALS!

Sunday, December 10th
11:00am - 2:00pm



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
We are looking for teen volunteers to dress up and handle the animals! We will have sheep, donkeys, an alpaca and more! Contact Rachael Flanagan, Coordinator of Youth Ministry at ihmsp@boldym.com or text 908-280-2893 to help out!

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
THERE WILL ALSO BE HOLIDAY SHOPPING BETWEEN 11AM-3PM, CHILDREN'S CRAFTS AND COOKIES AND COCO WITH SANTA!

~ DATE NIGHT ~

ATTENTION PARENTS

FREE BABYSITTING



Friday, December 8
5-8pm
IHM Nazareth Center

USE THIS TIME FOR **DATE NIGHT** OR **CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!!**

Put this date on your calendar!

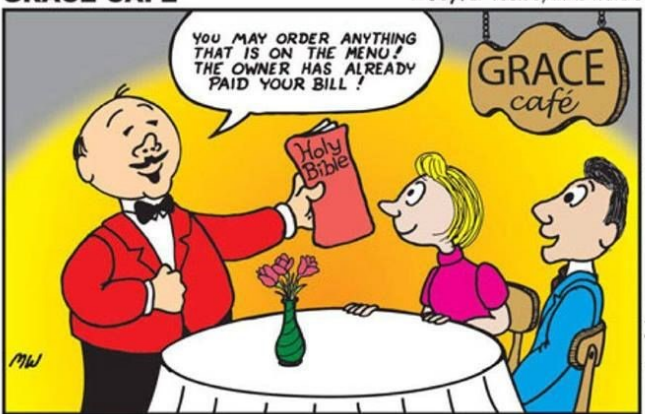
For more information and to register your kids, go to our website at www.ihmparish.net

ATTENTION TEENS

SERVICE OPP!!! VOLUNTEER TO BABYSIT FOR THIS EVENT

Sign up to help at boldym.com/ihmsp/events by Wed 12/6.
Volunteer time: 4pm-8pm in Nazareth Center
Open to those in 7th grade and above!

GRACE CAFE A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. - II CORINTHIANS 1:20



Benedictine Sisters
Elizabeth, NJ

Greetings! Please register for our religious retreats at: <https://bensisnj.org/retreat-calendar-1>
Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out at 908-353-3028 Ext. 233 or by email at advancementoffice@bensisnj.org For more detailed information about any or all of these retreats, please contact Sr. Marlene Milasus, OSB, at center@bensisnj.org or by phone at 908-352-4278 Ext. 205. Wishing you a blessed Thanksgiving and a joyful and peaceful Advent.

Minister Assignments: December 2 - December 3

Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
12/2 5:00pm	Mulrooney	Janice Good Piga Chris Haight	Fr. Rob
12/3 8:00am	Rich Banasiak	Jean Bagdonas Colm Keogh Rich Wagner (C)	Fr. Mike
12/3 10:00am	MaryKate Schiller	Anthony Carlino David Diken Betty Perfilio	Fr. Mike
12/3 12:00pm	Michelle Gardella	Carol Kiley Diane McGuinness	Fr. Rob



Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours

Monday - Wednesday 9:00am - 9:00pm

Thursday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Closed Saturday, Sunday, Holy Days & Holidays

For more information contact Kerby at:

kpershay123@gmail.com | 908-406-0493

IHM PARISH INFORMATION

Fall Office Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 9:00am - 4:00pm | Fri. 9:00am - 2:00pm

Mass Intention Reservations: Call or leave a message at the office (908)889-2100 or email office@ihmparish.net

Religious Education: faithformation@ihmparish.net

Baptisms: Please call the office at (908) 889-2100

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 Nazareth Center 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

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 at (908) 889-2100

Parish Schools: St. Bartholomew Academy (908) 322-4265
Union Catholic Regional High School (908) 889-1600

Website: www.ihmparish.net

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

Follow us on Instagram: **ihmparish_sp**



Rosary Altar Society News



♥ We will once again be collecting **COSTUME JEWELRY** For the children of St. Joseph's Social Services in Elizabeth to select, wrap, and give to their Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, or Significant Others at Christmas time. Many families are greatly in need and cannot afford a special gift for a loved one at Christmas. The children find great joy in choosing that "special jewelry piece", selecting special wrapping, and surprising their loved one(s). For some, it may be the only gift that they receive this Christmas. Please contact Janice (908-759-6729) with questions or jewelry donations. Men's jewelry/watches are also welcome. Many thanks for your generosity!

♥ The Rosary Annual Christmas Mass & Party will be on Sunday, December 3rd with Mass at NOON followed by the party at 1:00PM. The cost is \$15 for a hot buffet. Please call Mary Anne Sopko 908-322-0279 to reserve your place & mail your checks (payable To IHM Rosary Society) to Alice Mansfield-Smith, 3 Kennedy Drive, Clark, NJ 07066 by November 27th. We will also have our traditional annual donation to the Missionaries of Charity.

♥ We welcome you to consider joining our wonderful Rosary Altar Society. For more information please contact Janice Good-Piga at 908-759-6729. Whether you can attend all or only some of our meetings and events, we know that you will find in very fulfilling.

May your week ahead be a Blessed one with joy-filled sunny fall days, renewed old friendships and special new ones! Please remember to take a moment to breathe in the fresh fall air, marvel at the colors of the falling leaves, and to thank God for all of the beautiful gifts that he showers upon us daily. May your Thanksgiving be one of reflection, sharing, and wonderful food! You remain in our daily thoughts and prayers.

♥ Janice



The next meeting of the Women's Prayer Group will be **IN PERSON** at the Nazareth Center on **Thursday November 30 at 7:30PM**. Carol Ann Lisanti will lead us in song and discussion on "Singing Hymns - Praying Twice." Please email tefoleyihm@gmail.com



CENTERING PRAYER- Join us for Lectio Divina, Reflection, Discussion & Quiet. Three times monthly at the Nazareth Center. **Thursday mornings from 9:30-10:45 AM**. Contact Phyllis at tman18912@comcast.net or call the office at 908-889-2100 for details or to sign up.



The next virtual meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be **Thursday night November 30 at 7:30 PM on ZOOM**. Contact David Diken at dndiken@aol.com for more info.



Please visit our parish website to sign up for online giving with Parish Giving. Your consistent stewardship is appreciated.



www.ihmparish.net under "Online Giving Options" or www.parishgiving.org and select "Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scotch Plains, NJ"

IHM YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS powered by BOLD

Sun. December 3 @ 7PM: Youth Leadership Meeting
 Fri. December 8 @ 7PM: Date Night for Parents
 Sun. December 10 @ 11AM: Living Nativity/Holiday Market
 Contact Rachael for more info: ihmsp@boldym.com



CHRISTMAS CONCERT & SING-ALONG
 Friday December 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM
 St. Helen's Church @ Westfield, NJ
WWW.SAINTHELEN.ORG

IHM SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday 11/26

All Day- Catholic Cemeteries Meet & Greet Weekend
 2:30pm- Holy Hour in Church

Monday 11/27

7:30pm- Alpha Episode 11 on ZOOM

Tuesday 11/28

6:30pm- Rosary Altar Society Board Meeting
 7:15pm- Spirituality Seminar Annunciation Mary on ZOOM

Wednesday 11/29

10:00am - Food Pantry (Open until 11:30am)
 7:00pm- Adult Choir Practice
 7:30pm- Beta Episode 6 on ZOOM

Thursday 11/30

7:30pm- Women's Prayer Group LIVE @ Nazareth Center
 7:30pm- Men's Scripture Group on ZOOM

Friday 12/1

5:00pm- Pee Wee Basketball

Saturday 12/2

All Day- Saturday Basketball
 9:00am- Union Catholic High School Scholarship Exam
 10:00am- First Reconciliation

Sunday 12/3: First Day of Advent

9:00am- Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast
 9:30am- Family Choir Practice
 10:00am- Families of Faith- Christmas Cards for Seniors
 12:00pm- Union Catholic High School Scholarship Exam
 12:00pm- Rosary Altar Society Christmas Mass
 7:00pm- Youth Group Leadership Meeting

A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate: John McGuire

Today as we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, we have to recognize that we as Catholics are called to live in seeming paradoxes. We acknowledge our savior Jesus Christ as the King of the Universe. Yet, how many kings do you know who would die for their subjects? In the time of feudal lords and kings, these leaders would press their people into service as serfs and slaves, and all that they did would benefit their 'lord'. The ruler wants more property, more commodities, or more people to rule? They rouse the people below them to suit up for war, and send them. In this scenario lesser 'nobles' and servants would be an afterthought for the nobles, even as they suffered incapacitation and death on the battlefield. As long as the king of that realm got what they desired, no level of sacrifice would be out of the question. Jesus Christ our King, flipped this around. To serve, and not to be served. To identify Himself with the starving, thirsty, exposed, lonely, and imprisoned. Instead of sending others to die on His behalf, He claimed His throne through suffering brutality, and laying down His own life. Jesus' sacrifice transformed the world. Because He flipped the script on what it means to be a King, His reign continues, even as over the thousands of years, all of the great empires have fallen. Jesus calls us to live a new sense of royalty. Through Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, and the sacraments we are to be transformed into the family of Christ. We take what we receive and we model the love He has for us to the whole world. As we prepare for Advent let us pray that this can be a time of growth, renewal and a closer following of Jesus Christ. God Bless and have a wonderful week!



Save the Dates! Summer Academy will run from June 23 until July 2!

We end before the 4th of July because of a new feature for our program!
 The two Sundays of Summer Academy will be a time for Students and families to gather! Instruction time for the children and young people, and special programming for the parents! Can't wait to see you there!



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!

