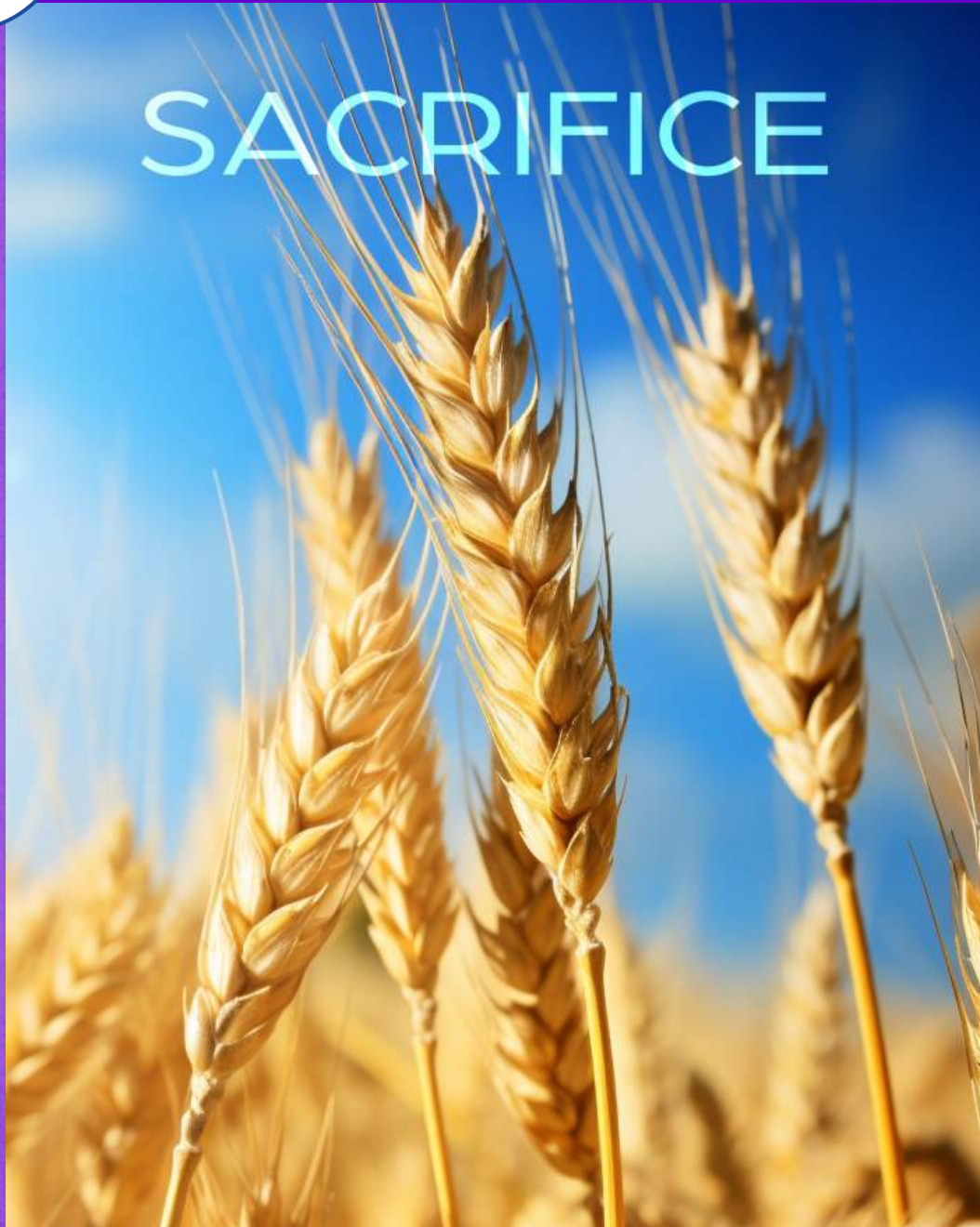




The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

5th Sunday of Lent - March 17, 2024



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



1571 South Martine Ave. Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 Phone: (908) 889-2100
Fax: (908) 889-9477 E-mail: office@ihmparish.net

Website: www.ihmparish.net

Facebook: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church - Instagram: [ihmparish_sp](https://www.instagram.com/ihmparish_sp)

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

The Eucharist in the New Testament and the Early Church



In this year of Revival in Eucharistic Spirituality we shall be reflecting on the very roots of our Eucharist, the source and summit of our spiritual life. How did Christians refer to the Eucharist before it had that name? How was the Eucharist celebrated at the very beginning? There is no better way to prepare for Easter than to contemplate the biblical foundation of the Eucharist. **Every Tuesday night at 7:15PM on Zoom.** Please sign-up for an invite at FrRob@IHMParish.net

Minister Assignments: March 23 - March 24

Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
3/23 5:00pm	Jim Brennan Chris Zucosky	Chris Haight Connie Boruch David Boruch Janice Good Piga (C)	Fr. Rob
3/24 8:00am	Phyllis Manno Karen Schwaneberg	Lou DiBella Alice Coquia Rich Banasiak (C) Rich Wagner (C)	Fr. Rob
3/24 10:00am	Jane McClellan Mary Kate Schiller	Steve Prato David Diken Betty Perfilio Anthony Carlino (C)	Fr. Mike
3/24 12:00pm	Carol Kiley Tracey Foley	Eileen Wagner Diane McGuinness Chris Dill (C)	Fr. Mike

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH IS SERVED BY

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

IHM PARISH INFORMATION

Winter Office Hours:
 Mon - Thurs 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Fri 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Mass Intention Reservations:

Call or leave a message at the office (908) 889-2100
 or send an email to 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. Call (908) 889-2100.

Reconciliation:

Saturdays: 4:15 - 4:45 pm
 Arrangements can be made at any time for a 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](https://www.instagram.com/ihmparish_sp)

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours

Monday and Wednesday 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
 Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 Closed Saturday, Sunday, Holy Days & Holidays

For more information contact Kerby at:
kpershay123@gmail.com | 908-406-0493



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 March 17 - March 24, 2024

Saturday March 16	7:00 AM	Patricia Longus (living) from Bernie Beck
	8:30 AM	Leo & Mary Kasabucki+ from Christine Lazur & Family
	5:00 PM	Our parents Madeleine, William, Susan & Arnold+ from Arnie & Pat Manzo
Sunday March 17	8:00 AM	For the People of IHM Parish
	10:00 AM	Patricia Markey+ from Cousin Peggy
	12:00 PM	Tom Dwyer+ from the Dwyer Family
Monday March 18	7:00 AM	Glenn Stuart+ from Marilyn Gialanella
	8:30 AM	Deceased members of Rays Family+ from Christine Lazur & Family
Tuesday March 19	7:00 AM	Happy Birthday Ms. Giovanni Exume (living) from Mom
	8:30 AM	Norma Go+ from the Lioanag Family
Wednesday March 20	7:00 AM	Jeanne Colvin+ from IHM Parish
	8:30 AM	James R. Kennedy+ from the Family
Thursday March 21	7:00 AM	Thomas Maccari+ from IHM Parish
	8:30 AM	David Regal Sr+ from his wife Patty
Friday March 22	7:00 AM	Minnie Dobbs+ from Carol Fahrman
	8:30 AM	Raymond Gulbin+ from Dan & Rosemary Kelly
	12:00 PM	Stations of the Cross
	7:00 PM	Stations of the Cross
Saturday March 23	7:00 AM	IHM Parishioners (living) from the Yabut Family
	8:30 AM	For the People of IHM Parish
	5:00 PM	Kelwin Jones+ from Janice Good Piga & Bob Piga
Sunday March 24	8:00 AM	Michael Curran+ from the Chimento Family
	10:00 AM	Dave Wilson+ from Jerry & Mary Mahony
	12:00 PM	Charles Kiley+ from Pat Regal

Special Intentions for the week of March 17 - March 24, 2024

<p><u>Sanctuary Light</u> For the intention of: Our Grandchildren (living) Requested by: Pat & John Hennessy</p>	<p><u>Altar Bread & Wine</u> For the intention of: The Hospitality Team (living) Thank you from IHM Parish</p>	<p><u>Flowers for the Blessed Mother</u> In memory of: Edward & Jean Winsor+ Requested by: Mary Beth Winsor</p>	<p>Remember <u>Our Departed</u> Christine Jablonski+</p>
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Kindly keep our parishioner's family and friends, with health and other challenges, in your prayers

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

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.

St. Bartholomew Bereavement Ministry will be offering a grief support group for those who have lost a loved one. The group will be held at the Cup of Grief Cafe (lower level break room at the Rossi Funeral Home). **Group sessions start Thursday April 11 and continue every Thursday night until May 23 from 7PM to 8:30PM.** Please RSVP or call with any questions to: Jo-Anne Mealia 908-889-7790 or Bernadette Rossi 908-510-0995



Wine & Cheese will be served!
Tickets are \$25
 Please make checks out to "Immaculate Heart of Mary Church" and send payment to Alice Mansfield-Smith 3 Kennedy Drive, Clark, NJ 07066

CALL OR TEXT MAUREEN FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION

908-468-0909

The Rosary Altar Society Update

♥ IHM will be hosting "An Evening With Eleanor Roosevelt" by A Comedic Impersonator on Friday Evening, April 12th at 7:00 PM in The Nazareth Center. The Rosary Altar Society will be preparing the Wine & Cheese & Desserts for the entertainment event. Please see the IHM flyers and bulletin inserts for details and reservation information in the weeks to come.

♥ 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 filled with special surprises. Please remember to take a moment to breathe in the fresh, crisp air, and to thank God for all of the beautiful gifts that he showers upon us daily.

May your Lenten Journey be a most memorable & fulfilling one!!
 You remain in our daily thoughts and prayers. May your Blessings be countless!!

♥ Janice



The next meeting of the Women's Prayer Group will be **Thursday night March 21, 2024 at 7:30PM LIVE at the Nazareth Center.** Please contact Tracey at tefoleyihm@gmail.com for more details. Prayer connects us all!



Join us for Lectio Divina: Reflection, Discussion & Quiet. Prayer Group will meet on **Thursday mornings from 9:30AM until 10:45AM at the Nazareth Center.** Contact Phyllis at tman18912@comcast.net or call the office at 908-889-2100. Thank you!



The next Men's Scripture & Discussion group meeting will be a LIVE session on **Saturday morning April 6 at 7:30 AM in the church basement.** Donuts & coffee will be served. Please contact David at dndiken@aol.com for details.



"It was a great conclusion to Men's Cornerstone XV. Thanks to all the candidates for making this a great event. Thanks to the dream team from St.Bart's and IHM truly an honor to serve with you men."



IHM FOOD PANTRY GARDEN
 We are seeking folks interested in gardening or anyone interested in learning to grow food. No experience necessary. Plant, weed and water as needed with Farmer Emil. If you can spare an hour or two a week, please contact the parish office at 908-889-2100 or email office@ihmparish.net More details available at www.ihmparish.net/garden



What do you seek? Dive deeper into your Catholic faith!
SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY MAY 1, 2024
 Beta is a 7 episode program on Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM from 5/1 until 6/12. Please sign-up at www.ihmparish.net/beta or call the parish office if you need help 908-889-2100



Archdiocese of Newark 2024 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. The 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 18 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 26, 2024.

*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.



A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate: John McGuire

Keeping it Orderly: The Salesians: As a guy with an Irish name, you might expect me to write about St. Patrick today. All I will say is that St. Patrick was a man from Roman Britain taken as a slave to Ireland. So the patron Saint of Ireland, in a sense is a missionary saint, who brought the Gospel to a new land, as a response to terrible life circumstances. Our topic of the day is an order founded by a man who sought to help young men in tough situations to thrive in life and faith.

General understanding: The Salesians of Don Bosco, originally called the Society of Saint Francis de Sales, was founded in what is now Turin Italy in 1859 By Father (Don) John Bosco. The order began as a movement to help poor and migrant boys during the industrial revolution. I've come to understand that the help for the poor actually came before the order or rule, and many early priests and members of the community came from those the Father Bosco sought to help. There are three pillars of life for the Salesians, A Universal Call to Holiness, because all are called to Holiness, that state must be accessible to all, and the order is called to Live the Gospel. While in seminary, I studied alongside several Salesians, who were already in ministry, teaching, leading sports activities, and doing their best to lead the youngsters they served towards holiness!

Significant Saints to Look up on your own!

St. John Bosco, St. Dominic Savio, St. Aloysius Versiglia, Callixtus Caravario

Carthusians on Prayer: Friend of the young, Teacher in the ways of God, Your dedication to empowering the needy inspires us still. Help me to work for a better world, where the young are given the chance to flourish, where the poor's dream for justice can come true, and where God's compassion is shown to be real. Intercede for me as I bring my needs to you and to our heavenly Mother, the Help of Christians. Saint John Bosco. Pray for us!

Food and Drinks that Support the Community! Help support Salesian's mission of providing food and other aid to those in need! **WORLD FOOD DAY:** Salesian Missions highlights feeding programs - Salesian Missions

Don Bosco on Formed.org: Saint John Bosco: Mission to Love - FORMED St. John Bosco: Mission of Love. Read more at www.ihmparish.net/book-of-john

Families of Faith Upcoming Events

• Sunday March 17 Following 10:00AM Mass Rite of Sponsors [Year 1] Presentation @ Naz.

• Sunday March 24 @ 9:00AM Palm Sunday / Living Stations Rehearsal

• Wednesday March 27 @ 7:00PM Lenten Reflection with Fr. Vic Kennedy

• Good Friday March 29 @ 7:00PM Living Stations of the Cross [Youth Group]

• Saturday April 6 @ 9:00AM Jesus Day Retreat [1st Communion Prep]

• Monday April 8 @ 7:00PM Confirmation [Year 1] Prep Session 6

• Sunday April 14 @ 11:00AM Family Trivia/Easter Dessert Potluck

• Monday April 15 @ 7:00PM Easter Gathering [Year 2] Prep Session 4



www.facebook.com/groups/ihmyoungchurch



An Evening of Lenten Reflection (For Families at Every Stage of Life) Hosted by Father Victor Kennedy
Is knowing God enough? From the start, we were called to relationship with God as our Father and Creator, God as our Brother and Savior, and the Holy Spirit as our Strength. We'll explore this, and how we are called through the Paschal Mystery to Discipleship. No registration needed! Just bring the family.
Wednesday, March 27, 2024. 7:00 PM in Church (Light Refreshments to Follow in the Basement)

IHM Youth Ministry
TEEN DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE
Online Video & Discussion Series

The Search Begins

High School teens, ready to dive deeper in your relationship with Jesus? Take the challenge to sharpen your spiritual life with a weekly discussion group taking you from Lent through Easter! We'll grow in Discipleship through an in-depth exploration of our faith, as well as checking in and praying for each other!

MEET ON ZOOM
TUESDAYS (7:00 - 8:00PM)
MARCH 5, 12, 19
APRIL 2, 9, 16, 22

Contact Rachael to Join! Text (908) 280-2893
Or Email: ihmsp@boldym.com

IHM Youth Ministry invites the Parish community to

Living Stations of the Cross

7:00PM
on Good Friday
March 29th
IHM Church

High School and Middle School Volunteers Needed
Teens are invited to act in the Living Stations! Contact Rachael if you want to get involved!

Rehearsals: Palm Sunday, March 24th, 1:00-3:00pm
Good Friday, March 29th, 5:30-7:00pm
We will have pizza during our rehearsal and Stations of the Cross takes place at 7pm for the Parish!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT RACHAEL FLANAGAN
AT IHMSp@BOLDYM.COM
OR TEXT/CALL 908-280-2893

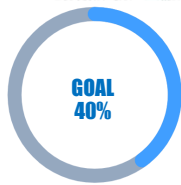
Collection Report	March 10, 2024
Weekly Target:	\$11,765.00
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)	\$14,689.81
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$2,924.81
Fiscal Year to Date:	
Budget	\$431,790.00
Actual:	\$412,415.61
Surplus/(Deficit)	(19,374.39)
Rolling 4 Week Averages:	
Average Collection	\$12,039.20
Average Surplus/(Deficit)	\$274.20

IHM SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK
Sunday March 17: St. Patrick's Day 10:00AM - Confirmation [Year 1] Rite of Sponsors 11:00AM - Prayer Shawl Knitting Group Meeting 12:00PM - IHM/Union Catholic Lenten Collection Deadline
Monday March 18 7:30PM - Alpha Episode 6 on ZOOM
Tuesday March 19: St. Joseph's Day 7:00PM - [Youth Group] The Search Begins #3 on ZOOM 7:15PM - Spirituality Seminar: The Eucharist on ZOOM
Wednesday March 20 10:00AM - Food Pantry (Open until 11:30AM) 10:00AM - Emma: Pop Musical @ Union Catholic High School 7:00PM - Adult Choir Practice 7:00PM - Discipleship Meeting 7:00PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting
Thursday March 21 9:30AM - Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina LIVE @ Naz. Center 7:00PM - Confessions @ Church 7:30PM - Women's Prayer Group LIVE @ Naz. Center
Friday March 22 12:00PM - Stations of the Cross (Soup & Salad @ Naz. Center) 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross 7:45PM - The Chosen Watch Party @ Naz. Center
Saturday March 23 ALL DAY - Saturday Basketball 8:00AM - St. Bart's Academy 5K @ Oak Ridge Park (Clark) 9:30AM - Eucharist Seminar w/ Dan Balogh @ Naz. Center
Sunday March 24: Palm Sunday

Charitable Contribution Forms for 2023
There are several ways to receive tax forms from IHM:

- **Collection Envelopes:** If you are using envelopes for your Sunday collection contribution, you should receive a form in the mail from our envelope company later this month if you contributed \$100 or more in 2023.
- **Parish Giving:** You will be able to print a contribution history activity form for all electronic fund transfer contributions through Parish Giving by visiting your account at www.parishgiving.org. If you have any further questions, contact Tracey at 908-889-2100 or tefoleyihm@gmail.com

ANNUAL APPEAL 2024



2024 Annual Appeal for Archdiocese
Goal: \$66,058.58 (stretch goal \$69,693)
Pledged: \$26,831.00
(40.62% total - 38.5% stretch goal)
You can make a gift online through our Parish Giving Link on our website or by going directly to www.rcan.org/sharing



Come & Join Us!
We will be screening episodes of the hit TV show "The Chosen" every Friday night around 7:45PM in the Nazareth Center AFTER Stations of the Cross. There is no cost for these events and no sign-up or registration necessary! Just stop in the Nazareth Center after Stations of the Cross and enjoy the show! Call the office if you have any questions: 908-889-2100.

Isn't the Eucharist just a symbol? Join this discussion with Dan Balogh on **Saturday March 23 starting at 9:30AM** in the Nazareth Center. Light refreshments will be served! Please register online at www.ihmparish.net or call the office at 908-889-2100 if you need help.



ADOPT A GARDEN 2024
This year we want to beautify all the garden areas throughout the campus. There is no set schedule, you help when you can and the only expectation is that you'll commit to clean up and planting in the spring, weeding & watering through the summer and a clean up in the fall.

To select a garden or for more info please contact: Mary Kate at mkschiller46@gmail.com



Here's a scene from Prayer & Pizza from last Friday. Thanks to the Hospitality Ministry for your service & Marie Ramondo-Krupnik for the photos!

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