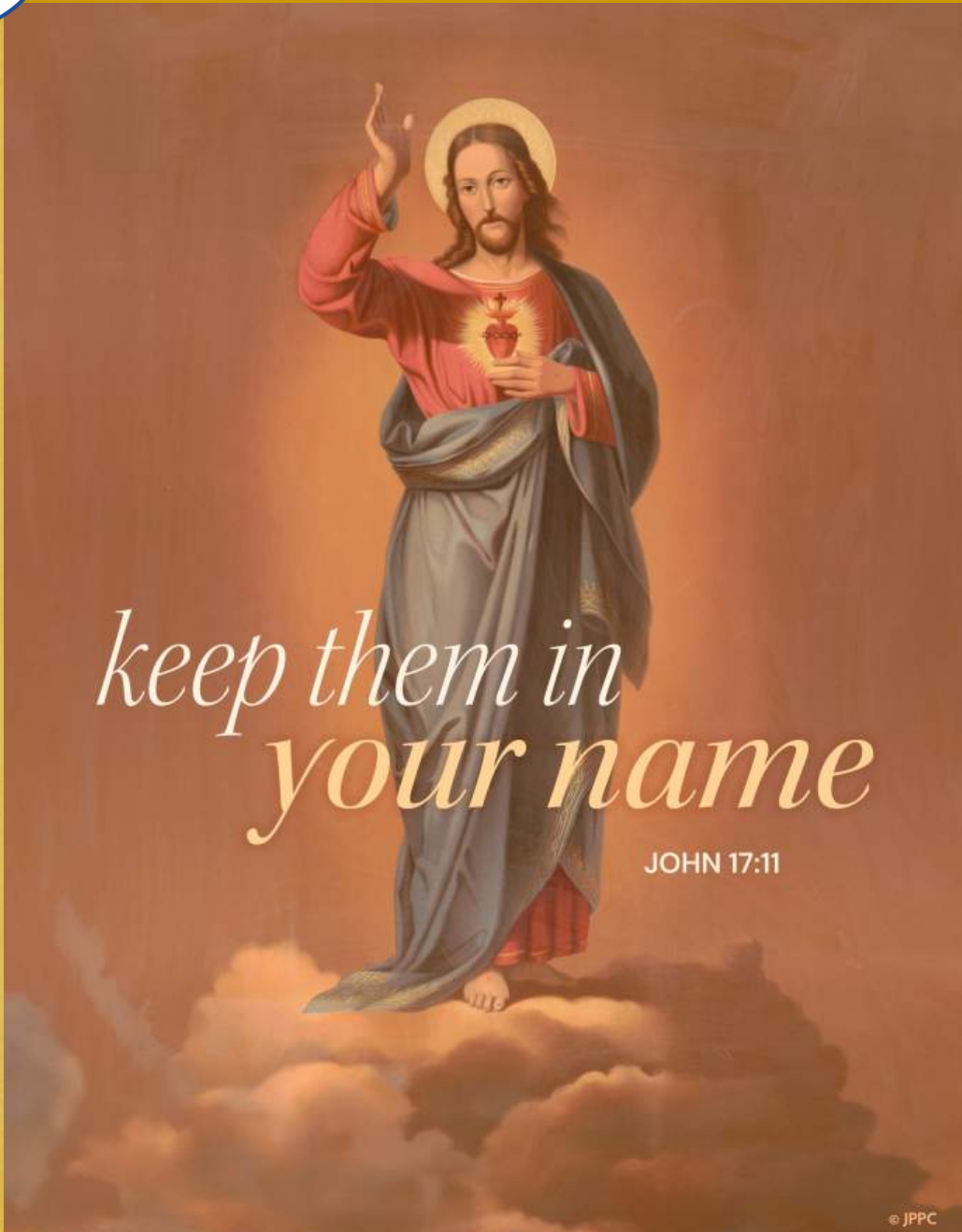




The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

# Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

7th Sunday of Easter - May 12, 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](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 Fr. Mike...

There are 3 different accounts of the Ascension in the scriptures. Two we hear today in the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel of Mark. The third is at the end of Luke's Gospel. There are differences in the three versions but the goal of the three is similar. Each account is a way of affirming that Jesus' final physical departure was a transition leading from the glory of the Resurrection to the mission of the Church empowered by the Holy Spirit.

That continuing mission is our mission as well. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ, we too are called to proclaim the Good News just as the early disciples. The accounts urge us not upward but forward, bringing the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Peace, Fr. Mike

## IHM 60th Anniversary Fundraiser Raffle



Raffle tickets for our 60th Anniversary are now available for purchase! You can pick up a ticket for \$100 at the Nazareth Center office during business hours, one of the church vestibules after Mass, or contact Tracey or Gabe if you can't make it to campus. **Call 908-889-2100 for more details.** Winning tickets will be announced at 3:00 PM on **Sunday June 9, 2024** for our IHM 60th Anniversary Celebration Feast. We hope to see you there!

### Minister Assignments: May 18 - May 19

Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
5/18 5:00pm	Janice Good-Piga	John Torzewski Connie Boruch David Boruch Alice Schaffernoth (C)	Fr. Rob
5/19 8:00am	Rich Banasiak	Jean Bagdonas Ed Sullivan Rich Wagner (C)	Fr. Mike
5/19 10:00am	Andy Davis	Heba Fortunato Steve Prato Mary Frances Malone Mary Kate Schiller (C)	Fr. Mike
5/19 12:00pm	Anne Butler	Regina O'Connor Eileen Wagner Mike Dill	Fr. Rob

## 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

## 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

Spring 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](mailto:office@ihmparish.net)

### Religious Education:

[faithformation@ihmparish.net](mailto: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](http://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](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)



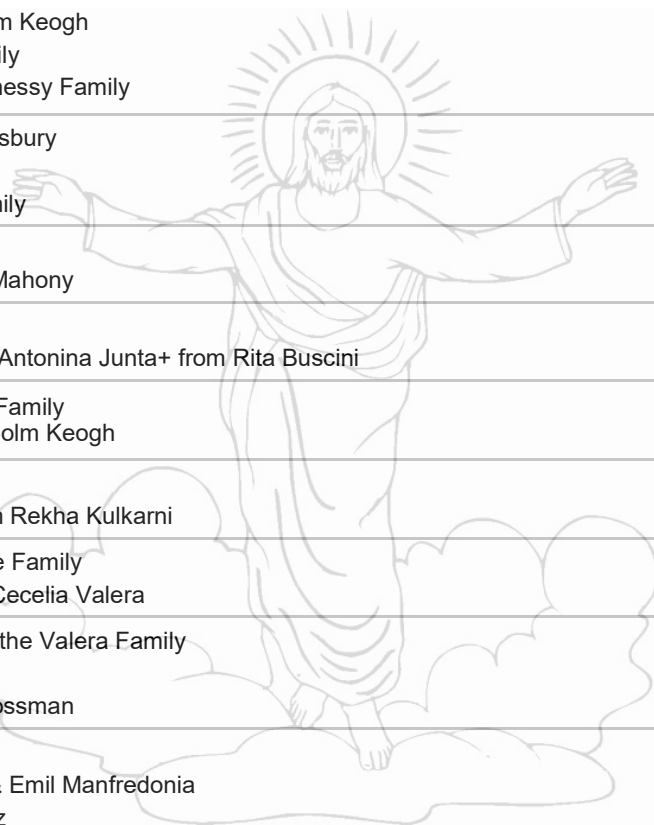
### Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours

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](mailto:kpershay123@gmail.com) | 908-406-0493

**Mass Intentions For the week of May 12 - May 19, 2024**

<b>Saturday May 11</b>	7:00 AM	Rosario LaCorte+ from Geraldine & Colm Keogh
	8:30 AM	Robert Cleary+ from the McCallion Family
	5:00 PM	Mary & Thomas Browne+ from the Hennessy Family
<b>Sunday May 12</b>	8:00 AM	Charles Kiley+ from Brian & Connie Salisbury
	10:00 AM	For the People of IHM Parish
	12:00 PM	Charles Kiley+ from Your Redwood Family
<b>Monday May 13</b>	7:00 AM	Oralia Martinez+ from IHM Parish
	8:30 AM	Brendan Loughrey+ from Mary & Jerry Mahony
<b>Tuesday May 14</b>	7:00 AM	John Franciscus+ from IHM Parish
	8:30 AM	Salvatore Barone+, Maria Barone+ and Antonina Junta+ from Rita Buscini
<b>Wednesday May 15</b>	7:00 AM	Marie Taravella+ from the Manfredonia Family
	8:30 AM	Christine Jablonski+ from Geraldine & Colm Keogh
<b>Thursday May 16</b>	7:00 AM	Mary Jane Isola+ from IHM Parish
	8:30 AM	Rosa Marcus+ (Death Anniversary) from Rekha Kulkarni
<b>Friday May 17</b>	7:00 AM	Eileen Fabricatore+ from the Fabricatore Family
	8:30 AM	Ramon Valera+ (Happy Birthday) from Cecelia Valera
<b>Saturday May 18</b>	7:00 AM	Glenn P. Stuart+ (Happy Birthday) from the Valera Family
	8:30 AM	Russ Day+ from Sharon & Bal Dail
	5:00 PM	James J. Grossman+ from Maureen Grossman
<b>Sunday May 19</b>	8:00 AM	For the People of IHM Parish
	10:00 AM	Elsie & Frank Marcigliano+ from Janet & Emil Manfredonia
	12:00 PM	Eileen Lynch+ from Karen & Joe Schurtz



**Special Intentions for the week of May 12 - May 19, 2024**

<p><b><u>Sanctuary Light</u></b> For the intention of: <b>Sr. Margaret Waldron+</b> Requested by: The Zelonis Family</p>	<p><b><u>Altar Bread &amp; Wine</u></b> For the intention of: <b>John Torzewski (living)</b> Requested by: IHM Parish</p>	<p><b><u>Flowers for the Blessed Mother</u></b> In memory of: <b>Mary &amp; Thomas Browne+</b> Requested by: The Hennessy Family</p>	<p><b><u>Remember Our Departed</u></b> Elizabeth Gore+ Amelia Sollitto+ Mary Ellen Quinn+</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	Mary Frances Leon	Jaxson Rivera	Ryder Francis Spillane
George Becker	Colm Cosgrove	Nicole Griffin	William Maines	Paula Roll	John Torzewski
Fran Boglioli	Samantha Bridge	Ann Marie Harvey	Jim Malfetti	Marisol Rodriguez	Daniel Ventura
Erin Brennan	James Brown	David Hens	Bill Malone	Susan Rozborski	Sr. Elizabeth Vermaelen
Anna Cassella	John Burkert	Kathleen Herron	Jennifer Moore	Dolores Rust	Stephanie Vernace
Paul Cassidy	Ray Clark	Julian Junio	Peter Mosko	Diana Scariati	Ben Wheelock
Matthew Cassio	Matt Donovan	Marie Keller	Hilda Pizza	Arty Shapiro	Evelyn Whitehorne
Peter Cavanagh	Albert Fischer Jr.	Dorothy Klein	Diane Pricken	Elisa Silversey	
Frank Chimento	Phyllis Fischer	Anna Koch	Carmela Resnick	Bernard Slaza	
Edward Clark	Emily Fleming	Jillian Lapidus	Jacob Rivera	Beverly Sopp	



**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 will continue every Thursday night until May 23 from 7:00PM to 8:30PM.**  
 Please RSVP or call with any questions to: Jo-Anne Mealia 908-889-7790 or Bernadette Rossi 908-510-0995

SEASONS welcomes anyone who has lost a significant other to participate in our activities and to meet people who are in a similar situation. Upcoming events at the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford. **Call Bob at 908-276-8440**  
**Thursday May 23 @ 7PM: What to know about Cybersecurity & AI, conducted by Joel Bernhardt**



## The Rosary Altar Society Update

- ♥ Thank you To Barbara Mrozek & Barbara Apgar for planning our wonderful Communion Brunch on May 5th at Shackamaxon Country Club. What a beautiful way to Celebrate Spring and our Rosarian Sisterhood.
- ♥ Congratulations to our 2024-2025 Board Members : President Janice Good-Piga; 1st VP Maureen Pecoraro; 2nd VP Mary Anne Sopko; Secretary Barbara Mrozek; Treasurer Alice Mansfield-Smith; Director Barbara Apgar; Director Chris Haight; and our Pastor Fr. Mike for his guidance & oversight. We are truly blessed to be gifted with another year of leadership and look forward to continuing to increase our Rosary Altar Society devotional and service activities.
- ♥ Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 4th at 7PM for a wonderful EVENING OF REFLECTION lead by our dear Father Mike. The event will be held in the Nazareth Center.
- ♥ The Rosary Altar Society will be sponsoring a DESSERT TABLE at the June 9th IHM 60th Anniversary Celebration. Please contact Janice 908-759-6729 to sign up and bring your favorite dessert!
- ♥ Please prayerfully consider joining our wonderful IHM Rosary Altar Society. Our devotion to the Virgin Mary, Our IHM Parish, charitable organizations and, most importantly, to God, brings us great joy and peace. Please contact Janice Good-Piga 908-759-6729 with questions. May your Springtime Days be filled with serenity, optimism, and God's love and may your dreams come to fruition as the flowers and trees blossom. You remain in our daily thoughts and prayers.
- ♥ Janice



The next meeting of the Women's Prayer Group will be **Thursday night June 6, 2024 at 7:30PM on ZOOM**. The theme is "Abraham & Sons Issac & Ishmael". Please contact Tracey at [tefoleyihm@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:tman18912@comcast.net) or call the office at 908-889-2100. Thank you!



The next Men's Scripture & Discussion group meeting will be a VIRTUAL session on **Thursday night May 23 at 7:30 PM on ZOOM**. Please contact David at [dndiken@aol.com](mailto:dndiken@aol.com) for details.



## PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

As the newly established Pastoral Council settled into its role, all members enthusiastically joined working committees, focusing on the three priority areas we identified. Among the initial initiatives was enhancing community engagement here at IHM.

Hospitality has emerged as a cornerstone of our parish activities. Over the past three years, we've witnessed a remarkable increase in participation due to these endeavors. Diane McGuinness and Mary Frances Malone have spearheaded these efforts on behalf of the parish council, assembling an exceptional team to organize events such as pancake breakfasts, post-Mass coffee gatherings, Lenten pizza nights, and more.

Furthermore, we've broadened our outreach with events like the senior brunch, Friends Giving, MLK Day of Service, and the recent Kids Bingo. These endeavors have underscored the need to establish hospitality as an independent ministry. Moving forward, Diane, Mary Frances, and Geraldine will lead this new ministry. We invite you to join the team in planning and executing these social events, which greatly enrich our parish community. Participation in this ministry doesn't demand a significant commitment or regular meeting attendance. Whether you're available for one short event or many, your contributions are invaluable. All are welcome to lend a hand. To volunteer please contact Diane at [mcg-family@hotmail.com](mailto:mcg-family@hotmail.com) or [pastoralcouncil@ihmparish.net](mailto:pastoralcouncil@ihmparish.net).



## Baby Bottle Drive May 18/19



### ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy)

Help support mothers and their babies by supporting pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes.

Return baby bottles with donations to IHM on Father's Day, June 16, 2024.

You can scan the QR code & donate via Square



or go to the link <https://square.link/u/53zmlvDC>



**A Message from Faith Formation  
Pastoral Associate: John McGuire**

**Easter: A Sacramental Season:**  
Very recently our parish celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation with the young people of our parish. Bishop Elias Lorenzo presided over the celebration. While he preached, to the families gathered, I was led to reflect on the Church as our mother. A mother

who loves her children sacrifices a lot to bring up strong, confident, and self assured adults. This often takes a significant sacrifice from a mother, setting aside her own self-interests to provide for her children. This takes place from the moment of conception, to when they are launched into the world, and never truly ceases.

The Church is not a building, it is not just the Pope, Cardinals, Bishops, Monsignors, Priests, Deacons, and lay employees who make up the Church, it is the entire community. While the laity may feel like the low women (and men) on the totem pole, in decision making terms, their attitude and practice make the most difference.

How the body of the Church lives and moves in the world determines how effectively the Gospel can be spread. What we bring into our homes, communities, workplaces, and extracurriculars, will determine how widely received the Gospel will be.

This weekend many will mourn their mothers because they passed this year, or decades ago. Some will mourn their estrangement from a mother they have fallen out with, or have never known. This week let us pray for all of the dispossessed, the lonely, and those who mourn a great loss so that they may know the embrace of their mother the Church. Additionally, as Bishop Elias says, "mothers and fathers, when you go home today, tell your children that you love them unconditionally, because that teaches them the most important lesson of faith, the unconditional love of God."

God Bless and have a great week!  
Read more at [www.ihmparish.net/book-of-john](http://www.ihmparish.net/book-of-john)



**1ST COMMUNION CLASS OF 2024**

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Joseph Arnold            | Abigail Krupnik      |
| Nicholas Cameron         | Gregory Krupnik      |
| Sebatian Crespo          | Ava Irizarry         |
| Liviana De Marco         | Adison Maio          |
| Posey Draghi             | Vivian Montemaggiore |
| Dominique Pierre Dubuche | Nathan Siers         |
| Zoe Pierre Dubuche       | Hailey Sobel         |
| Natalie Fessock          | Palmoma Szep         |
| Mason Genao              | Delton Wylie         |
| Ellie Grow               |                      |



**CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2024**

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Jack Alchus        | Eric Kautz          |
| Lucas Amaro        | Avery Klotz         |
| Grace Azad         | Sara Kuchar         |
| Alexandra Bejarano | Catie L'Hommedieu   |
| Sawyer Briamonte   | Luke Lang           |
| Luca Burgio        | Marissa Lauredant   |
| Alexander Campbell | Isabel Lowder       |
| Madelin Cominski   | Aidan Maguire       |
| Cassidy Costello   | Alyssa Marrese      |
| Tessa DeGennaro    | Matthew Martucci    |
| Annalynne DiMaggio | Anthony Mustacciolo |
| Matthew Donnini    | Landon Paco         |
| Cooper Dupuis      | Taylor Piazza       |
| Emily Fava         | Abigail Rattay      |
| Madison Ferreira   | Kyle Ricci          |
| Elliana Fessock    | Alexa Rivera        |
| Mackenna Fischer   | Vanessa Rosario     |
| Jayden Giaimo      | Daniel Schreck      |
| Connor Hayeck      | Julia Squashic      |
| Matthew Henriques  | Aleksander Stevens  |
| Sophia Henriques   | Andrew Szabo        |
| Emily Hyland       | Devin Tighe         |
| Sean Hyland        | Jase Villaverde     |
| Emerson Jeans      | Nicolas Violante    |



**BOLD 8**  
NJ Administrators for the Youth

**Trip to Six Flags Great Adventure**  
Sunday, May 19th  
NJ Catholic Youth Rally

The NJ Catholic Youth Rally is a day-long event that gathers teens from across the state of NJ for a day of rides, fellowship, Mass, and more held at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ. At the end of the day, we will attend Mass in the Batman Stunt Arena with all the Catholic Youth Groups from Across NJ!

**All in 8th Grade and High School**  
**Sunday, May 19th | 9:00am - 9:00pm**  
**Cost: \$100**

Drop off / pick up from Our Lady of Peace Parish  
(111 South Street, New Providence, NJ)

The cost of the day includes entry into the park, bus transportation, entry to opening ceremony and a "Mega-Meal Voucher" which can be redeemed at most food places throughout the park and includes a meal, snack, and a drink.

**Register at [boldm.com/IHMSPEvents](http://boldm.com/IHMSPEvents)**

Questions about the trip? Contact Rachael Flanagan at [ihmsp@boldm.com](mailto:ihmsp@boldm.com) or text/call 908-280-2893

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK



<b>Collection Report</b>	<b>May 5, 2024</b>
Weekly Target:	\$11,765.00
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)	\$13,178.89
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$1,413.89
<b>Fiscal Year to Date:</b>	
Budget	\$513,480.00
Actual:	\$490,409.31
Surplus/(Deficit)	(23,070.69)
<b>Rolling 4 Week Averages:</b>	
Average Collection	\$10,835.22
Average Surplus/(Deficit)	(929.78)

IHM SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK	
<b>Sunday May 12: Ascension Day + Mother's Day</b>	10:00 AM - Food Pantry Sunday (Open until 11:30AM)
<b>Monday May 13</b>	
<b>Tuesday May 14</b>	
<b>Wednesday May 15</b>	10:00 AM - Food Pantry (Open until 11:30AM) 7:00 PM - Adult Choir Practice 7:00 PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:30 PM - Beta Episode 3 on ZOOM
<b>Thursday May 16</b>	9:30 AM - Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Prayer Group 7:30 PM - The Good News About Science & Faith on ZOOM
<b>Friday May 17</b>	
<b>Saturday May 18</b>	ALL DAY - KofC Baby Bottle Drive 9:30 AM - Food Pantry Garden Grand Opening 2:30 PM - Afternoon Tea Party @ Nazareth Center
<b>Sunday May 19: Pentecost Sunday</b>	ALL DAY - KofC Baby Bottle Drive 9:00 AM - [Youth Group] Six Flags Great Adventure Trip Begins 11:00 AM - Prayer Shawl Knitting Group Meeting 11:00 AM - Alpha Reunion @ Rectory 9:00 PM - [Youth Group] Six Flags Trip Returns



# ANNUAL APPEAL 2024



**2024 Annual Appeal for Archdiocese**  
 Goal: \$66,058.58 (stretch goal \$69,693)  
**Pledged: \$58,837.00**  
 (89.07% of the goal - 84.42% 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](http://www.rcan.org/sharing)

**IHM FOOD PANTRY GARDEN OPENS SATURDAY MAY 18!**  
 We would like to thank all who have been a great help in getting the garden ready. New beds have been built and are in place. We are in the process of filling them with soil and vegetable food. A special thanks goes to Rich Casserly, Dan Kelly and an anonymous worker whose assistance was great! Would not have been able to complete everything without their great help. Thank you Rich, Dan and Anonymous and to all that have assisted. ♥ From Farmer Emil  
 PS: Planting time is fast approaching! We will need plants for planting: tomatoes (no cherry), cucumbers, summer squash, eggplant, lettuce, spinach, etc. Could also use Marigolds & Nasturtiums for the small beds to help keep bugs away!  
 Please contact the office at 908-889-2100 or email [office@ihmparish.net](mailto:office@ihmparish.net)



**The Good News About Science & Faith**  
**With Stephen Barr Ph.D**  
**Thursday May 16, 2024**  
**@ 7:30 PM presentation & discussion on ZOOM**  
**Please register at our "Events" page**  
**[www.ihmparish.net](http://www.ihmparish.net)**



**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](mailto:mkschiller46@gmail.com)

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**[www.ihmparish.net/parish-giving](http://www.ihmparish.net/parish-giving)**



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July - Labor Day  
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Tuesday - 9:00 - 6:00  
Wednesday - 9:00 - 6:00  
Thursday - 9:00 - 6:00  
Friday - 9:00 - 6:00 -  
Selected Days



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Rt. DMD  
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