26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 1, 2023

The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

discipleship

MISSION STATEMENT

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



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

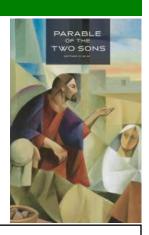


A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

Conversion requires change, and for most people change can be difficult and even be feared. It means reestablishing the order of things in our lives, of our priorities, attitudes and sometimes even our way of life. Jesus invites us into conversion in today's Gospel. He challenges the chief priests and elders to look at the prostitutes and tax collectors as brothers and sisters, not as sinners.

He is not saying that what they have done is good or right, he is saying that they are also in need of God's presence and love. He challenges each of us to do the same, to look at others as God's children, in need of His love and salvation just as each one of us is a child of God and in need of His love and salvation.

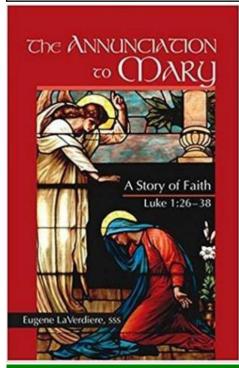
Peace, Fr. Mike





Attention families of 8th grade students planning to attend Catholic High School in Fall 2024!

The High School Placement Test (HSPT) administered as part of the Cooperative Admissions Exam Program for Catholic High Schools will be given on **Friday, November 10, 2023**. Registration for the HSPT exam is available online at www.njcoopexam.org beginning September 1st . For more information about the Cooperative Admissions Program, go to www.catholicschoolsnj.org.



The Annunciation to Mary: <u>A Story of Faith</u>

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. At the heart of the book, each chapter examines a particular phase of the Annunciation story through a biblical perspective.

The deep mystery of the Incarnation is revealed in this passage of Luke's Gospel.

We shall meet on Zoom on Tuesdays from 7:15pm until 8:15pm beginning November 7th, 2023.

Please register at FrRob@ihmparish.net and contact him if you have any questions.



Many Thanks to the Dibella family for the refurbishment and donation of the Statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus that enhances the driveway side entrance to the church. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus continue to lead us closer to God's love and grace.

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 October 1 - October 8, 2023		
Saturday September 30	7:00am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Linda Dries+ from the Vlkovic Family Dorothy Foulks+ from Tracey Foley Rose Badala+ from Maureen Grossman		
Sunday October 1	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	For the People of IHM Parish Deceased members of the Symczyk & Mannell Families+ from the Lewis Family Maria Jose Steinberg+ from Colm & Geraldine Keogh		
Monday October 2	7:00 am 8:30 am	Lily Fortunato (living) from Heba & Rich Fortunato James Heims+ from Patty Regal		
Tuesday October 3	7:00 am 8:30 am	Vincent Shanni+ from Ron Katims Teresa Ciarrocca+ from John & Tracey Foley		
Wednesday October 4	7:00 am 8:30 am	Michael Coticchio+ from Ed Sullivan Aletha Oelette (living) from Barbara Apgar		
Thursday October 5	7:00 am 8:30 am	Fr. Alex Pinto+ from IHM Parish Regina Moog & Regina Clark+ from Eileen & Rich Wagner		
Friday October 6	7:00 am 8:30 am	Lorraine Cimnecki (living) from the Barcellona Family Emma & Richard Seery+ from Betty Seery		
Saturday October 7	7:00am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Bruno Gialanella+ from Marilyn Gialanella William Dobbs+ from Donna Ayers Joseph Milashone+ from Joan Milashone		
Sunday October 8	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Mrs. Dorothy Foulks+ from Marion, Marc, Julianne, Kevin, Steven & Elise Berger For the People of IHM Parish Mildred & Joseph Mrozek+ from Barbara & Joe Mrozek		

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

★ Please advise if any names can be removed from the sick list. Thank you. office@ihmparish.net

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 starting **Wednesday October 4 and continuing October 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15.** Meeting times 7 pm to 8:30 pm. Meetings will be held in the cafeteria of St Bartholomew Academy. Please contact Jo-Anne 908-889-7790 or Bernadette 908-510-0995.

Special Intentions for the week of October 1 - October 8, 2023



Sanctuary Light
For the intention of:
Aletha Oellette (living)
requested by:
Barbara Apgar

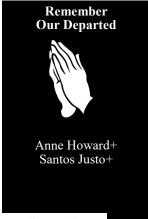


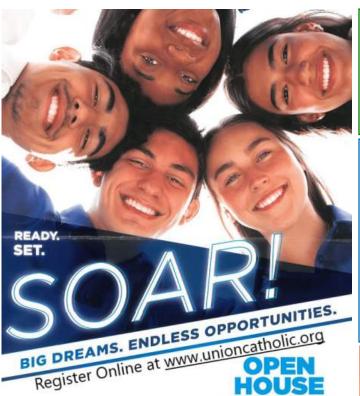
Altar Bread & Wine
For the intention of:
Aletha Oellette (living)
requested by:
Barbara Apgar



Flowers for the Blessed Mother In memory of the anniversary deaths of:

Robert & Susan Cuthbertson+ requested by: Mary Jane Bergen





Union Catholic

HIGH SCHOOL

Villa Walsh Academy, an independent college preparatory Catholic school for girls grade 7-12 will be holding two Open Houses this Fall -- Sunday, October 1 from 1 pm - 4 pm and Wednesday, October 18 from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Please register online at www.villawalsh.org. Come see what makes Villa Walsh Academy so special!

Open Your Hearts to Life Holy Hour

Saturday, October 7th **9:45am** (after 9:00am mass) Led by Msgr. Tom Nydegger The Parish Community of Saint Helen: 1600 Rahway Ave. Westfield, NJ 07090 A solemn Holy Hour for Life before the Blessed Sacrament praying for the sacredness of human life and the recognition that God alone is the Lord of Life from its beginning to its end. The Respect Life Ministry of Saint Helen and Holy Trinity Contact: Ashok Maliakal, ashok.maliakal@gmail.com

Open House @ Saint Peter's Preparatory School holds its Fall Open House on Sunday, **October 15**, from 1:00 - 4:00at the school's campus in historic downtown Jersey City. Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. Please call 201-547-6389 or visit www.spprep.org

November 4th | 12pm





Farmer Emil's Garden Report Total picked this week = 20 lbs. IHM: 549.98 lbs - Others: 11.25 lbs **Total 561.23 lbs**

This harvest has been very good for the food pantry! The season is winding down, clean up will be starting soon.

Coats For Kids





Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations for Coats for Kids October 14-15 and October 21-22. Please support the children! Thank you!



Own Your Belovedness

Retreat for Women Friday Evening and Saturday



Mother Seton Regional High School Presents: The Jersey Tenors! Friday October 13 from 7pm-10pm. We are celebrating our 60th Anniversary! Join us for a night of appetizers, drinks and an AMAZING SHOW! \$75 per person. Purchase your tickets at www.motherseton.org.

IHM Bus Trip to NYC SOME LIKE IT HOT Friday November 24

Bus Leaves @ 9:15am Lunch @ Tony DiNapoli \$185 per ticket For tickets call Janice at 908-759-6729



Minister Assignments: October 7 - October 8					
Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider		
10/7 5:00pm	Chris Zucosky	Janice Good Piga Dan Kelly Chris Haight Alice Schaffernoth (C)	Fr. Mike		
10/8 8:00am	Phyllis Manno	Jean Bagdonas Colm Keogh Rich Wagner (C)	Fr. Mike		
10/8 10:00am	MaryKate Schiller	Connie Boruch (A) David Boruch (A) Eileen Wagner (A)	Fr. Rob		
10/8 12:00pm	Anne Butler	Tracey Foley 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

AUTUMN BLESSINGS by Deborah Ann Belka

Autumn brings to the soul relief, As hot Summer days slip to an end, God sent the season for weary hearts, To restore, repair, and mend. Unlike the Autumn trees, That shed their changing leaves, God sent the season for failing hearts, To adhere, embrace, and cleave. Just as with the Autumn winds, There comes a new refreshing rain, God sent the season for fraying hearts, To increase, grow, and gain. The Autumn sun is slow to climb, And dips much earlier into the night, God sent the season for sleepy hearts, To rise, shine, and unwind in His light. God gave to us the Autumn season, So we could have a respite and rest, For it is the season for our beset souls, To see how much we are Blessed!!

- ♥ Please plan on joining us on October 10th for A Special Retreat at The St. Joseph's Shrine in Stirling. The cost for the day is \$45 which includes the day's presentations, confessions, a self-guided tour of the beautiful grounds and chapels and lunch. Please contact Eileen to register: 908-472-0463.
- ♥ Join us for IHM's "Broadway Show Extravaganza Trip to New York City" to see the Award-Winning "SOME LIKE IT HOT" on Friday, November 24th, 2023. Luxury Bus Transportation (Leaving 9:15AM From IHM); Delicious Family Style Luncheon at The Famous TONY'S DI NAPOLI Restaurant In Times Square; and The Broadway Show (Mezzanine Seating). Total Cost Is \$185. Tickets are Limited. PLEASE CALL JANICE 908-759-6729!
- ♥ 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 days, renewed old friendships and special new ones! Please remember to take a moment to breathe in the air and to thank God for all of the beautiful gifts that he showers upon us daily. You and your families remain in our daily thoughts and prayers.

♥ Janice



The Women's Prayer Group will gather on Thursday October 5 at 7:30pm on Zoom. The theme is "Luke: Author of Acts of the Apostles". Email tefoleyihm@gmail.com for more details. Prayer connects us all!



Join us for Lectio Divina: Reflection, Discussion & Quiet. Three times a month: twice at the Nazareth Center & once on Zoom. Thursday mornings from 9:30am until 10:45am. Contact Phyllis at tman18912@comcast.net or call the parish office at 908-889-2100 to sign-up.



The next meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be Saturday morning October 14 at 7:30am in the church **basement.** Contact dndiken@aol.com for info.

We have been reporting our weekly collection "target" to reflect what was submitted in our budget to the Archdiocese. However, this number does not give us a balanced budget. So moving forward, we have revised our "goal" to balance our budget.

Collection Report	September 24, 2023
Weekly Target:	\$11,670.00
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)	\$10,875.55
Surplus/(Deficit)	(794.45)

Fiscal Year to Date:

\$151,700.00
\$145,797.55
(5,912.45)

Rolling 4 Week Averages:

Average Collection: \$11,569.03 Average Surplus/(Deficit) (100.97)

<u>A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate:</u> John McGuire

How long do we spend in our lives being educated? To work gainfully in this world, for anyone short of a savant or an entrepreneur/inventor we might need to go as far as a Master's Degree or Doctorate for employment. Whatever degree we receive will get us in the door, and perhaps allow us to provide for our families (at least after we clear the educational debt). Then when we have that career, especially a profession, we sometimes grudgingly continue on with continuing education to keep on top of our field. If you'd believe it, I'm constantly doing programs with the Archdiocese and outside organizations to make sure that my thought processes are in line with current thought and the needs of our community. Fr. Mike, just as many other dedicated priests, will do this as well. When it comes to education, and employment, we devote an awful lot of time to maintaining a career. That employment might last us 40-60 years, but we should keep in mind that that will one day come to an end. All of our work and toil will end in retirement, or eternal rest. That is the reality that we face.

That is a long path to my next question. How do we prepare our souls for our eternity? How do we learn about our soul, our callings, and our Lord? We spend so much time focused on what we need to do to succeed in our finite life, which isn't a bad thing, but often neglect consideration of our eternal, infinite life. In October and November, we will commemorate All Saints, and All Souls. This is the perfect time to begin to think of our own mortality, and reflect on how we can seek God more intentionally! This week, let us pray for deeper clarity, and for a better orientation towards what is everlasting. God Bless and have a great week!

IHM SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday 10/1: Scotch Plains Day

8:45am- Youth Group Color Fun Run @ Berkeley Heights 9:00am- Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast

Monday 10/2

7:00pm- Alpha Episode 3 on ZOOM

Tuesday 10/3

6:30pm–Rosary Altar Society Board Meeting 7:15pm–Spirituality Seminar on ZOOM

Wednesday 10/4

10:00am - Food Pantry (Open until 11:30am)

7:00pm- Adult Choir Practice

7:00pm - Knights of Columbus Meeting @ Nazareth Center

7:30pm– Beta Episode 2 on ZOOM

Thursday 10/5

9:30am - Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Meeting

7:00pm– Mother Teresa & Me Movie @ Cinemark Watchung

7:30pm- Women's Prayer Group on ZOOM

Friday 10/6

5:00pm– Pee Wee Basketball

Saturday 10/7

8:30am – Saturday Morning Basketball

6:00pm- KOC/Rosary Altar Society Candlelight Rosary

Sunday 10/8

10:00am - Food Pantry Sunday (Open until 11:30am)





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!







Edison-Metuchen Orthopaedic Group

Todd C. Ryan, D.O. 10 Parsonage Rd., Suite 500 Edison • (732) 494-6226

Can you help **find**

J. T. PENYAK ROOFING CO. Commercial • Residential

908-753-4222 Joseph T. Penyak

Since 1960

S. Plainfield







Ronald M. Rembish

Wouldn't your business look GREAT here?

To advertise call 800-333-3166 ext. 161

or visit www.jppc.net

IANICE GOOD-PIGA

Broker Salesperson - Parishioner

908 233-0065 Office **908 759-6729** Cell 908 233-6675 Direct 973 387-3919 EFax janice.goodpiga@cbmoves.com





600 North Ave., West Westfield, NJ 07090

www.janicegoodpiga.com



United Together In The Fight Against Bullying.. Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!



Message and data rates may apply.











ABR



Make a Difference in Your Community

VOLUNTEER

with the American Red Cross

Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

PRAY FOR THE ALPHA TEAM FOR A SUCCESSFUL **NEW SEASON! GOOD LUCK! #TRYALPHA**





Let them know you saw their ad in the weekly church bulletin!







#WHATSMYNAME

local, trusted, proven, effective, supportive, referrals, relationships, affordable, repetitious, versatile, lasting. hurch Buller This describes the power of...

Placing an ad in the parish bulletin supports the parish while building your business - THAT'S A WIN WIN! Call 1.800.333.3166!



Owned and Managed by the Keiser Family Since 1928

Thomas M. Keiser, Jr., Owner N.J. License No. 3844

Laura E. Mann, Executive Director N.J. License No. 4947

Thomas C. Kenny, Director N.J. License No. 4500

Frank P. Lettera, Director N.I. License No. 5077

155 South Avenue • Fanwood, NJ 07023 908-322-4350

www.fanwoodmemorial.com

Wouldn't your business look GREAT in this spot?! www.ippc.net

"Your Prescription to Better Health"



Mary Flanagan, DMD

loard Certified in Pediatric Dentistry • NJ Specialty Perm

A Unique and Enjoyable Dental Experience for Kids

Brian Pinto, RPh Owner / Pharmacist in Charge

New Jersey Monthly Top Dentist 2011-2022 New Jersey Family's Favorite Kids' Docs™

1115 South Avenue West, Westfield, NJ 07090 908.233.2200 • info@tiffanynaturalpharmacy.com

BELLA BRONZE TANNING STUDIO

928 South Avenue Westfield, NJ 07090 Tel. 908-233-0655 Fax: 908-233-4740

www.bellabronze.com

(908)756-3388

Fanwood Dental Group

ANTHONY J. MASSENZIO, D.M.D. FREDERICK V. LEAHY, D.D.S.

908-889-2242 69 MARTINE AVE., SOUTH • FANWOOD, NJ 07023-1636

DANIEL O'BRIEN, D.M.D. GENERAL AND FAMILY Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioner

See wh

1163 Inman Avenue • Suite 103 • Edison, No.

can do for vou!

to advertise in color please call us at

John Patrick Publishing 800-333-3166

To advertise call 1.800.333.3166 ext.161

PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING

エPlumb-Rite

Since 1983

732-417-4444 FREE ESTIMATES

\$25 Off Any Service

N.J. Plbg. Lic. #8411



Rossi Funeral Home

Dedicated Service to our Families since 1954.

Bernadette M. Stoecker-Rossi - Senior Director N.J. License No. 3620

> William F. Mariani - Director N.J. License No. 4324

> James T. Simmons - Director N.J. License No. 3332

Jason A. Stoecker - Director N.J. License No. 5003

1937 Westfield Avenue Scotch Plains NJ 07076

908-322-8038

www.therossifuneralhome.com

catholicmatch[®] New Jersev



IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA OSEPHSON



IN A RIDE SHARE

INVESTORS COMPANY 265 South Ave., Fanwood

908-322-1800 www.familyinvestors.com

FAMILY

- Mutual Funds
- · Roth IRAs
- Life Insurance
- 529 Plans
- Annuities
- Long-Term Care Ins. Serving Investors Since 1960

Darraugh Valli

Members FINRA & SIPC

Ferraro's of Westfield Restaurant & Bar Ferraro's South Catering & Take-Out www.ferrarosrestaurant.com

908-232-1105

Dining

Private Parties Special Events



Order Online: www.ferrarossouth.com

908-232-1101 908-233-9777



Watchung Dental Care PC

Cosmetic • Implant • Family Dentistry Sang H. Moon D.D.S., F.I.C.O.I Caroline Hanna D.M.D

1801 East 2nd St., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 908-322-6090 | www.watchungdentalcare.com



Sponsors can offer promotions, discounts and/or up-to-date

ENTIRE community

contact information to the

SPONSOR



ANYONE in the community can access realtime offers from their favorite sponsors to save, share & support



Income Tax Preparation & Planning

Make the most of your deductions Use a tax professional Evening & Weekend Appts. Available Electronic Filing Available James McNichol, CPA Parishioner • (908) 233-8440

PAVING (908) 889-4422

Paving • Belgium Block Concrete • Pavers Fully Insured ~ Free Estimates State Lic. # 13VH01071600

www.ChecchioPaving.com