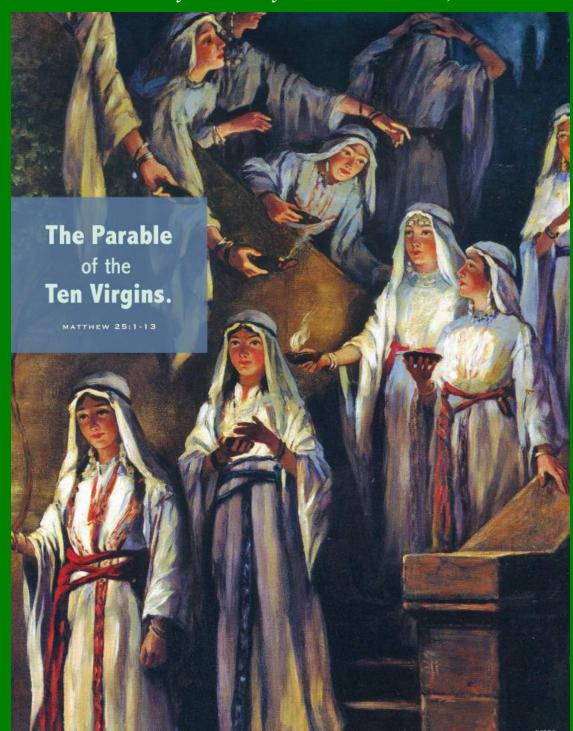
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - November 12, 2023



MISSION STATEMENT

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



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Deacon Jack Lynch

Katie Wills: Director of Music Ministry

John McGuire: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

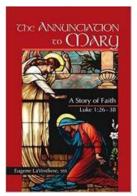


A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

The reading from the book of Wisdom reminds us peacefully and beautifully to watch for God at sunrise; to keep vigil because Wisdom (the Holy Spirit of God) actually is searching for those who are waiting. God's wisdom "meets them with all solicitude." The Psalm boldly names our craving for God. "My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God," And, stay awake, the Gospel adds, wisely make preparations. Actively seeking out Christ in our lives as he too seeks and invites us helps us to better recognize not only His loving presence but his gifts as well, that we may better engage ourselves as disciples and bring His love onto our world today. As we approach the end of our liturgical year, may we wisely seek the wisdom and will of God at all times so that we may ready for his coming.



Peace, Fr. Mike



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 <u>FrRob@ihmparish.net</u> and contact him if you have any questions or would like to obtain a copy of the book.



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!



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 12 - November 19, 2023
Saturday November 11	7:00am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Sr. Mary Raphael P.B.V.M.+ from Barbara Hagen Fr. John F. Kennedy+ from the Razal Family Mary Jane Bergen+ from Janice Good Piga & Bob Piga
Sunday November 12	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Ann McAuley+ from Mary Frances Malone For the People of IHM Parish Kevin Brown+ from Maureen Pecoraro
Monday November 13	7:00 am 8:30 am	James R. Kennedy+ from Francesca Kennedy Christopher O'Neil+ from Vivian O'Neil
Tuesday November 14	7:00 am 8:30 am	Catherine Leary (living) from Anne Butler Peg Katims+ 14th Anniversary from Ron Katims
Wednesday November 15	7:00 am 8:30 am	Catherine Leary (living) from Anne Butler Fr. Paul Lehman+ Razal Family
Thursday November 16	7:00 am 8:30 am	Janice Good Piga (living) thank you from IHM Parish Nancy Santanello+ from Dan & Roe Kelly
Friday November 17	7:00 am 8:30 am	Tina Renna (living) thank you from IHM Parish Lenore Achiron+ from the D'Agostino Family
Saturday November 18	7:00am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	For the People from IHM Parish Nancy Santanello+ from Betty & Tony Perfilio Mary DiPace+ from Edna & George Knudsen
Sunday November 19	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Mary Jane Bergen+ from the Lewis Family John Cardillo+ from Phyllis Fischer Abner Reed+ from the D'Agostino Family

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

Paul Cassidy Matthew Cassio Peter Cavanagh Frank Chimento	Albert Fischer, Jr. Phyllis Fischer	Dorothy Klein	Jillian Lapidus Mary Frances Leon Eileen Lynch William Maines Jim Malfetti Bill Malone Marlene Mosko Hilda Pizza Diane Pricken	Marisol Rodriguez Susan Rozborski Dolores Rust Diana Scariati Arty Shapiro Elisa Silversey Bernard Slaza	Ryder Francis Spillane Daniel Ventura Sr. Elizabeth Vermaelen Stephanie Vernace Stephen Voorhees Ben Wheelock Evelyn Whitehorne
Edward Clark		Anna Koch	Carmela Resnick	Beverly Sopp	
				• ••	

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

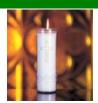
St Bartholomew Bereavement Ministry will be offering a Grief Support Group **concludes on November 15.**Meeting time is 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. Meetings will be held in the cafeteria of St Bartholomew Academy.

Please contact Jo-Anne 908-889-7790 or

contact Bernadette 908-510-0995.

<u>Hospital Privacy</u> | 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 12 - November 19, 2023



Sanctuary Light
For the intention of:
Deacon Bob Gurske (living)
Thank you from
IHM Parish

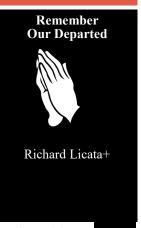


Altar Bread & Wine
For the intention of:

Janet Manfredonia (living)
Happy Birthday from
IHM Parish



Flowers for the Blessed Mother
In memory of:
Frances Takacs+
requested by:
Barbara Apgar





Coats For Kids



Fr. Nelligan Council 5730, Knights of Columbus, sincerely thanks all who donated to our 2023 Coats for Kids Fundraiser. **Thanks to your generosity, our council raised over \$11,300, all of which has purchased 527 brand new winter coats for local children in need!** Coats have been delivered to 5 organizations: Family Promise (Elizabeth), St. Vincent De Paul Society (N. Plainfield), Plainfield Action Services, Mercy House (Newark), and Refugee Assistance Partners NJ (Scotch Plains). Knights of Columbus are men who live to serve by Christ by serving their neighbor. Check out the Knight's official website at www.kofc.org or contact Ryan Radice (Deputy Grand Knight) at rradice.history@gmail.com. Missed our coat drive? You can still donate to it and any of our council's other charitable causes online. https://kofc5730.square.site

"The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps..." Matthew 25:1-4



Minister Assignments: November 18 - November 19					
Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider		
11/18 5:00pm	Janice Good Piga	Chris Zucosky Connie Boruch David Boruch Alice Schaffernoth (C)	Fr. Rob		
11/19 8:00am	Colm Keogh	Jean Bagdonas Karen Schwaneberg Rich Wagner	Fr. Mike		
11/19 10:00am	Andy Davis	Heba Fortunato Steve Prato Anthony Carlino	Fr. Mike		
11/19 12:00pm	Carol Kiley	Regina O'Connor Eileen Wagner	Fr. Rob		



Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours
Monday - Wednesday 9:00am - 9:00pm
Thursday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Closed Saturday. Sunday. Holy Days & Holidays

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

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Rosary Altar Society News

PRAYER FOR VETERANS by Anne Peterson

God, we Pray for our Veterans, For all the jobs they've done,
For all their sacrifices made. You've seen every one.
We Pray that You will Bless our veterans,
And Pray each one will know, You've been their guide,
Both Far and wide, Who's never let them go.

♥ 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.
Total Cost Is \$185. Please call Janice 908-759-6729.

- ♥ Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, November 14 at 7PM for the "LET'S MONET" painting event. Kindly reserve your seat at the easel by November 12th. The fee is \$30 for materials and the instruction. Kindly make your check payable to "IHM ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY" and mail to Alice Mansfield-Smith, 3 Kennedy Drive, Clark, NJ 07066. Kindly call Mary Anne Sopko 908-322-0279.
- 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. Please contact Janice (908-759-6729) with questions or jewelry donations. Men's jewelry/watches are also welcome. Thank you!
- ◆ We welcome you to consider joining our wonderful Rosary Altar Society. For more information please contact Janice at 908-759-6729. 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 we continue to be grateful for our homeland and for the freedom and peace that we feel on a daily basis, and may we remember those whose lives are in danger in our prayers. May we also remember in our prayers our cherished veterans, both living and in Heaven. We thank them for risking their lives to keep us safe. From "a grateful nation, we thank them". Please know that you and your families 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.

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	November 5, 2023			
Weekly Target:	\$11,765.00			
Collection (Mass + Parish Giving)	\$10,873.75			
Surplus/(Deficit)	(891.25)			
Fiscal Year to Date:				

Budget \$221,730.00 Actual: \$210,462.35 Surplus/(Deficit) (11,267.35)

Rolling 4 Week Averages:

Average Collection: \$10,490.52 Average Surplus/(Deficit) (1,274.48)

IHM YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS powered by BOLD

Sun. November 12 @ 7PM: Painting Night for Kairos Ministry November 17-19: Embolden Retreat at Pittstown, NJ Sun. November 19 @ 12PM: Community Friendsgiving Sun. December 3 @ 7PM: Youth Leadership Meeting Sun. December 10 @ 1PM: 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 11/12

10:00am - Food Pantry Sunday (Open until 11:30am) 7:00pm— Youth Group Painting Night for Kairos Ministry

Monday 11/13

7:30pm- Alpha Episode 8 on ZOOM

Tuesday 11/14

8:30am - Union Catholic Junior Day of Recollection

7:00pm-Rosary Altar Society Craft Event

7:15pm—Spirituality Seminar Annunciation Mary on ZOOM

Wednesday 11/15

10:00am - Food Pantry (Open until 11:30am) 1:00pm- DVD Bible Study @ Nazareth Center

7:00pm- Adult Choir Practice

7:00pm- Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:30pm– Beta Episode 5 on ZOOM

Thursday 11/16

9:30am - Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Meeting 6:30pm-Protecting God's Children @ Nazareth Center

Friday 11/17

5:00pm-Pee Wee Basketball

5:30pm- Youth Group EMBOLDEN Retreat Begins

6:30pm- (1st Reconciliation) Potter Retreat @ Naz. Center

Saturday 11/18

9:00am - Alpha Holy Spirit Experience

Sunday 11/19

9:30am - Family Choir Practice

10:00am- Families of Faith Potluck Luncheon

11:00am- Prayer Shawl Meeting @ Nazareth Center

12:00pm- Community Friendsgiving @ Nazareth Center

5:00pm- Youth Group EMBOLDEN Retreat Ends

A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate: John McGuire

How many of us think that our sin angers God? When we sin we have to go to confession because God the creator of the universe is angry with us, and if we don't make reparations, this all-mighty being will smite us? Whether we will admit it or not, I think many of us got this impression when we were children in CCD or faith formation. Our sin hurts and angers God, so we have to make things right! What is amazing to me, is how easy it is to believe in this way, and the audacity we have to believe it.

God's love is infinite, to degrees well beyond earthly mother and father. God is not angry or distancing from us, but we put up our own barriers as a response to sin as the result of shame, pride, or embarrassment. Recently I looked back at the story of the Garden of Eden. Specifically at when God banished Adam and Eve, and I had noticed something that had seemed inconsequential in the past. Before banishing Adam and Eve, God remarks: "Then the LORD God said: See! The man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil! Now, what if he also reaches out his hand to take fruit from the tree of life, and eats of it and lives forever?" Genesis 3:22

For context, Adam and Eve begin to know shame, are cursed to toil, and suffer in childbirth as a result of taking the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. If they were to remain in Eden, and eat of the fruit of the tree of life, they would be subject to debasement for eternity, not just until death, and salvation would be out of reach. This upcoming week the young people of our parish preparing for First Reconciliation will take part in the Potter's retreat where they will get to reflect on the power of Confession. This week let's pray for those children and their families, and begin to reflect on how Confession can better and further our life of prayer and communion. God Bless and have a great week!



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