HOPE

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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Facebook: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church | Instagram: ihmparish_sp





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Rev. Michael G. Ward, K.H.S., Pastor Rev. Valentine Ugwuanya: Parochial Vicar Rev. Robert Kunze: Weekend Assistant

Deacon Jack Lynch

Katie Wills: Director of Music Ministry

John McGuire: Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

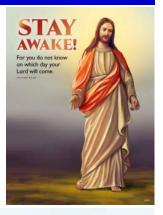


A NOTE FROM FATHER MIKE

The image of swords and spears being transformed into plowshares and pruning hooks is an image of peace. But it is a peace that can only come about by our letting Jesus transform us as well. It forces us to ask ourselves the questions: What are the weapons I use to hurt others? How can I transform them into instruments of peace and love to build and lift up others?

It is in developing our relationship with Christ and becoming better disciples that we can allow ourselves to continue to be transformed by the Good News of the profound love that God has for each of us.

Peace, Fr. Mike





Friday December 16, 2022
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
featuring St. Helen's & IHM
Music Ministries.
7:00pm at St. Helen's Church
1600 Rahway Ave. Westfield



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Archdiocese of Newark - COVID-19 Directives - Updated May 15, 2022

STILL IN EFFECT: Masks will no longer be required for fully vaccinated persons. If not fully vaccinated, persons are strongly encouraged to follow CDC guidance and wear a face mask in public settings. People will no longer be required to socially distance indoors or outdoors, although unvaccinated persons should continue to maintain a safe distance from others. These directives apply to Masses and activities in Church. Archdiocesan protocols for Religious Education and Basketball programs remain in effect.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: All ministries may return to full service – altar servers, lectors, ushers, greeters and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Ministers of Holy Communion must still sanitize their hands and wear a mask when distributing Communion.

COMMUNION: While Communion on the tongue is now permitted, for the safety of the priests, ministers and other communicants, we encourage continued reception of communion in the hand. At this time, Communion from the cup should not be distributed to the assembly.

SANITIZING: The cleaning and sanitizing of churches and common spaces is done regularly. It is not required after every liturgy.

PARISH MEETINGS: Parish meetings in person may resume. Those vaccinated are not required to wear masks for indoor meetings nor are they required to maintain social distancing. The same recommendations for Mass apply to those not vaccinated.

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 27th - December 4th, 2022			
Saturday November 26	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Erich Karl Wirth+ by The Varela Family Giovanni Romeo+ by Fran & George Buzzanca Mary & Thomas Browne+ by The Hennessy Family			
Sunday November 27	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	For the People by The Parish Mary Sylvia DiBella+ by Fran & George Buzzanca and Family Ron Jotz+ by The Lundgren Family			
Monday November 28	7:00 am 8:30 am	Tom Cress+ by The Butler Family Bernard John Whalen+ by Linda & Bernie Whalen			
Tuesday November 29	7:00 am 8:30 am	Philip E. Doyle+ by The Doyle & Cassidy Families Richard Wittek Sr.+ by Karen & Joe Schurtz			
Wednesday November 30	7:00 am 8:30 am	Peggy Smith (living) by The Butler Family Ed Clancy+ by John & Tracey Foley			
Thursday December 1	7:00 am 8:30 am	Sr. Ann Sullivan S.S.J.+ by Marion Berger & Family Helen Sullivan+ by Mary & Jerry Mahony			
Friday December 2	7:00 am 8:30 am	Joan Mulrooney+ by The Mulrooney Family Sam Fortunato+ by Rich & Heba Fortunato			
Saturday December 3	7:00 am 8:30 am 5:00 pm	Walter Miklas+ by Bernie Beck Alicia G. Villacorta+ by IHM Alpha Team Donald Camfield+ by Lisa & Craig Barcellona			
Sunday December 4	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	For the People by The Parish In memory of Charles Takacs+ by Barbara Apgar Mary Graham+ by John & Tracey Foley			

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

•					= -
John Allen	Edward Clark	Mary Foster	Maureen Lynch	Susan Rozborski	Daniel Ventura
Bernie Beck	William Consovoy	Michele Gamako	William Maines	Dolores Rust	Sr. Elizabeth
George Becker	Colm Cosgrove	Nicole Griffin	Jim Malfetti	Diana Scariati	Vermaelen
Mary Jane Bergen	Samantha Bridge	David Hens	Bill Malone	Arty Shapiro	Stephanie Vernace
Fran Boglioli	James Brown	Kathleen Herron	Owen Mike McCabe	Elisa Silversey	Stephen Voorhees
Erin Brennan	Kevin Brown	Juliann Junio	June McManus	Bernard Slaza	Ben Wheelock
Mary Calabrese	John Burkert	Gregory Kamouh	Marlene Mosko	Beverly Sopp	Evelyn Whitehorne
Anna Cassella	Ray Clark	Marie Keller	Hilda Pizza	Ryder Francis Spillane	-
Paul Cassidy	Albert Fischer, Jr.	Anna Koch	Diane Pricken	Paul Szeker	
Matthew Cassio	Phyllis Fischer	Jillian Lapidus	Carmela Resnick	Phyllis Szeker	
Frank Chimento	Emily Fleming	Eileen Lynch	Marisol Rodriguez	Carole Ventre	



<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 27th - December 4th, 2022



Sanctuary Light For the intention of: Veronidia J. Yabut+ Requested by The Yabut Family

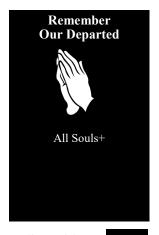


Altar Bread & Wine For the intention of: **Keith Inacio+** Requested by Rose Geissler



Flowers for the Blessed Mother

In memory of: Mary & Thomas Browne+ Requested by The Hennessy Family



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FAMILY CONCERT

Newark → Saturday, December 3 at 2 pm New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark

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Spotlighting celebrated artists from Newark and beyond, the New Jersey Symphony lauds the power of the first instrument—the human voice—with a gospel music-inspired holiday extravaganza. Come ready to sing, dance and clap along!

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This year the Knights of Columbus collected \$10,464.00 for our Coats for Kids fundraiser. This amount includes both parishes of St. Barts and IHM. We were able to purchase 484 new winter coats and distribute them to 6 charities in our area. The Knights of Columbus and the Coats for Kids families thank you for your kindness and generosity!



Join the IHM Prayer Shawl Ministry!

We make prayer shawls for parishioners who are ill and we make scarves & hats for the needy. Our next meeting is **Sunday**, **December 18** @ **11am**. Please contact Marion Berger at 908-433-2829.

Please join the Rosary Altar Society for 2022 Annual Rosary Christmas Party!

Open to All women of the Parish. Festive Christmas Celebration on **Sunday**, **December 4th**, **2022** 12:00pm Sunday Mass followed by:

Luncheon in the Nazareth Center, with a "Raffle" (please bring a 'used/unused' gifts to Raffle off), and your Annual Christmas donation to "Missionaries of Charity." *All proceeds of the Raffle go directly to Missionaries of Charity. Come spend an afternoon with the Rosarians during this Blessed Christmas season! \$15/person. Kindly send your checks payable to IHM Rosary Altar Society by 11/29 to: Alice Mansfield-Smith, Treasurer, 3 Kennedy Drive, Clark, NJ 07066 Questions? Text/Call Erin miller: 908-531-0128



College Age Retreat—January 6-8, 2023 Marianist Family Retreat Center, Cape May NJ

This retreat is designed to bring young people together of college age (17-22). So whether you are in college or working, come join us to renew your spiritual life, deepen your relationship with God and to meet new friends. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! Cost is \$145 per person. Financial Aid is available. Register at www.capemaymarianists.org or call 609-884-3829



PEE WEE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

<u>December 2</u> @ 5pm: Boys Playoffs @6pm: Girls Playoffs <u>December 8</u> @ 5pm: Boys Pee Wee Basketball Finals @6pm: Girls Pee Wee Basketball Finals

Questions? Contact Tom at decat61@yahoo.com

IHM Youth Ministry powered by BOLD! Sign-up for events @ www.boldym.com/ihmsp/events

- ➤ Friday, December 2 (7-8:30pm): Family Advent Night!
 We will be assembling Care Packages during this night for
 College kids! Sign up to contribute items to the Care
 Packages at boldym.com/ihmsp/events
- ► Sunday, December 11 (7-8:30pm): High School Youth Ministry CHRISTMAS PARTY!
- ► Sunday, December 18 (1-3pm): Living Nativity (and other surprises!) Looking for TEENS to dress up as Mary, Joseph, Magi, Shepherds, etc and interact with LIVE animals for this INCREDIBLE event.

(Parishioners / Families - You will not want to miss this!)

SAVE THE DATES!

~IHM Youth Ministry Events for 7th & 8th Graders~

► SERVICE NIGHT: Sunday, January 29 (7:00-8:30pm) ►LOCK-IN: Friday, April 28 - Saturday, April 29 (8:30pm-8:30am)





Teens from All Saints Episcopal Church, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, First United Methodist Church and St Bartholomew Church came together to make lunches for the guests at St Vincent De Paul's food pantry.

Questions? Contact Rachael Flanagan, Coordinator of Youth Ministry at ihmsp@boldym.com or call / text (908) 280-2893

Minister Assignments: December 3 - December 4

Saturday - Sunday	Lectors	Extra-Ordinary Ministers	Presider
12/3 5:00pm	Chris Zucosky	Connie Boruch David Boruch	Fr. Val
12/4 8:00am	Ed Sullivan	Lou DiBella Rich Wagner	Fr. Mike
12/4 10:00am	Lou Zappo	Jason McCann Anthony Carlino	Fr. Val
12/4 12:00pm	Regina O'Connor	Carol Kiley Diane McGuinness	Fr. Rob

Attention Lectors! Pick up your workbooks in the Sacristy after Mass!



Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours Monday - Friday 9:00am - 9:00pm Saturday - 9:00am - 2:00pm Closed on Sundays. Holy Days & Holidays For more information contact Erin Miller at: erins310@gmail.com | 908-531-0128

IHM PARISH INFORMATION

Fall/Winter 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

THE THANK YOU POEM: By Mark Menarik

Thank You for another day, Thank You for this time to pray. Thank You for another week. Another chance to hear You speak. Thank You for another month, Tough to rhyme, I think I'm stumped. Thank You for another season, Another charm, another reason. Thank You for another year, With hopes and dreams to dry my tears. Thank You for THIS - my life, With all its joys throughout the strife. Thank You for the birds that sing, Thank You God, FOR EVERYTHING!!

♥ We are approaching our final days for the costume jewelry collection. These beautiful jewelry pieces will be donated to St. Joseph's Social Services for their children to select some special items, wrap them, and give them to a special love one at Christmas. In some cases, this may be the only gift that a child may be able to give to their Mother, Father, Grandparent, Aunt or Uncle at Christmas, AND may be the only gift that their loved ones receive. Your generosity has been beyond our wildest expectations and may God Bless you abundantly for your thoughtfulness. The deadline for collections is December 4th. Kindly contact Janice Good-Piga 908-759-6729 with your questions or donations.

♥ Our Annual Winter Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, January 10th at Max's Bistro in downtown Scotch Plains. This will be a multiple course, gourmet luncheon. Rosarians and guests are invited. Menu selections and pricing will follow in the upcoming weeks. Please mark your calendars for this wonderful event. Please contact Janice 908-759-6729 with any questions.

Gratitude: by Maya Angelou

"Let Gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer, and let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good."

May your week ahead be a Blessed & Joyous one and please know that we continue to hold you and your families close in our thoughts and prayers.

▼ Janice



The Women's Prayer Group will gather on Thursday December 1 at 7:30pm via Zoom. The topic will be "Elizabeth & Zechariah: The Parents of John the Baptist". Email tefoleyihm@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

CENTERING PRAYER/LECTIO DIVINA Every Thursdays from 9:30 - 10:45 am on Zoom. Reflection, Discussion, Meditation in the Mystic Heart and Contemplative way of prayer. Call Phyllis at

908-264-7456 for information & the Zoom link.



The next meeting for the IHM Men's Scripture & Discussion Group will be Saturday December 10th 7:30am LIVE in the Church basement. For more info contact David at dndiken@aol.com

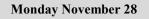
HE WILL RULE OVER THE

GENTILES. THEY WILL PLACE

THEIR HOPE ON HIM.

ROM. 15:12

Sunday November 27: 1st Sunday of Advent



7:30pm Alpha Experience 10

Tuesday November 29

7:15pm Julian of Norwich Seminar on Zoom

Wednesday November 30: St. Andrew's Day

10:00am Food Pantry

7:30pm Men's Scripture Group Zoom

8:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday December 1

9:30am Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Zoom 7:30pm Women's Prayer Group on Zoom

Friday December 2

5:30pm Pee Wee Basketball

6:45pm Family Advent Prayer Service & Activity

Saturday December 3

10:00am First Reconciliation

Sunday December 4: 2nd Sunday of Advent

9:00am Holy Name Society Meeting & Breakfast

1:00pm Rosary Altar Christmas Party

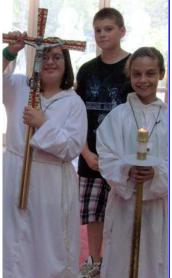
3:00pm Youth Ministry Recognition: Sacred Heart Newark

6:45pm Family Advent Night



Highlights from the Potter Retreat on Friday November 11. Thank you to Ray Boswell for the great presentation!



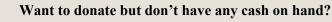


A Message from Faith Formation Pastoral Associate John McGuire:

Imagine a grand victorious parade was gathering, and would soon pass by your house. Who is in that parade you might ask? The army assembled with an array of vehicles, horses, and soldiers? No, keep guessing! The parade that will pass through your community is that of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. He does not stand victoriously at the head of an army, or a championship squad, Jesus has Conquered the powers of Sin and Death, not for a nation or a city, but for the entire universe.

Did you know that the word Advent comes from the Latin word Adventus, which means coming. This word was most readily applied to reference the arrival of the Emperor or a victorious army into a city in the Roman Empire. While we often rightfully think of Advent as a time of preparation for the coming of and celebration of Jesus' birth, what we often miss is that it is also a time of preparation for the Second Coming. If you knew that Jesus was coming back this Christmas, how would you spend this season preparing for this coming?

While it is great to purchase gifts for family and friends, and to prepare our homes for celebrations, let us make sure that this can be a time of preparing our hearts and families for the greater reality of what is to come. No one knows the day or the hour of the return of Jesus, or our own time. This week, let us pray for God's guidance in our preparations and festivities. God bless and have a wonderful week. www.ihmparish.net/childrensfaithformation



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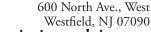
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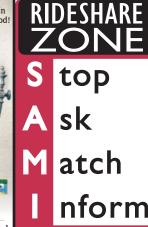
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