

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

Watervliet/Green Island NY

January 5, 2020

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil—4:00PM

Sunday—8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

Communion Service: Monday, 9:00 AM

Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:00 AM

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr Don Rutherford, Pastor
Deacon Mark Leonard
Shawn Allen, Business Administrator
sallen@ihm.rcpw.org

PARISH LIFE CENTER

2416 7th Avenue
Watervliet, NY 12189
(518) 273-6020
Fax: (518) 273-3978
Email: info@ihm.rcpw.org
Website: www.rcpw.weebly.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon—Thurs: 8:30am—3:30pm
Friday—10:30AM—3:30PM

Administrative Assistant

Judith Pope
jpope@ihm.rcpw.org

Secretary

Mary Beth Knapik

Archivist

Thomas Hanley
thanley@ihm.rcpw.org

Facility Manager

Matthew Carabis

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY CENTER

2425 7th Avenue
(518) 328-0427

Coordinator, Sharon Kowalski

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org
Call for appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday prior to the 4:00pm Mass

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements. Baptisms are generally on the 2nd weekend of the month.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples should make arrangements as soon as the engagement is announced.

Anointing of the Sick

The Anointing of the Sick will be administered the first full weekend of each month, immediately after each Mass.

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Gospel Meditation ~

The Epiphany of the Lord

We may walk many roads when we search for God, and He leads us all the while. The men we honor today were not Jews. The Messiah wasn't coming for *them*, not in the minds of Jesus' contemporaries. These men were astrologers. They were adept at reading portents in the sky, a practice condemned in the Mosaic covenant. Still, to the best of their knowledge and awareness, they were seeking the truth. This truth led them to journey from their own homeland to honor a king they'd never met, one they couldn't be sure truly existed. "We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Who do you know seeks God so tenaciously?

"Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem," the Gospel tells us. Who are the seekers in your own life? Maybe it's your cautiously curious co-worker, the neighbor who unexpectedly found peace on a yoga retreat, or your desperately angry child who has chosen, for now, to go their own way. Perhaps they're not overtly headed for Jesus now, not yet. But they may well be seekers of truth in ways we didn't expect. Our invitation is to listen, inquire, and give directions when appropriate.

The magi and modern-day seekers can inspire us as well. When is the last time you sought God's truth so tenaciously? As believers, it can perhaps be easy to become desensitized to the Christmas season and to the miraculous reality we recently celebrated. Mass may have been lovely, but so was the succulent roast beef, the crisp smell of evergreen, and the warm glow of family. Consider asking yourself, "God, do I know you as well as I should? Would I journey as far as the magi to meet You, if I could? Do I journey to meet You daily in prayer? What do those answer say about me, and about our relationship?" Perhaps we, like the magi, can once again be "overjoyed" at seeing the Light of the World.

©LPi



We invite you to become a member of our parish family. To begin the registration process, please fill out this form and place in the collection basket on Sunday. We will send you a new membership form for registration. Thank you

Name _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

Address _____

Parish Christmas Party: January 12 ~ Still in the Christmas season, our Parish Christmas Party will take place in the Parish Life Center, immediately following the 11am Mass. Hope you will join us!!
Anyone who would like to help set up for the party, meet us in the Parish Life Center on Saturday, January 11 around noon. Questions?? Contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

MARY'S KITCHEN: Mondays, 3 to 5pm ~ Note: We are looking for volunteers to bring food items to Joseph's House in Troy occasionally on Tuesday mornings. Please contact Sharon if you might be able to help. Thanks!!

Come join us at Mary's Kitchen. All members of the community are invited – both parishioners and non-parishioners alike – to enjoy an eat in meal, chat and relax with friends or to pick up a meal to take out. Questions?? Contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 for more information.

SCRIPTURE SHARING: Please note: Scripture sessions will resume on January 9.

We meet on Thursdays from 2 to 3pm in the Parish Life Center. Our new series is on the Letter of James. On January 9, we will view a DVD based on James 1:19-27. Why not join us?? For more information, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

RCIA AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION for ADULTS AND OLDER CHILDREN ~

We are currently meeting Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 3pm. Ed and Don are preparing to receive their sacraments on the Easter Vigil in the spring. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) or are curious about the process, feel free to stop in and see what it is all about.

Need more information?? Contact Sharon at 518 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Reading-Isaiah 60:2 “See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the people’s, but upon you the Lord shines.”

Pope Francis- Laudato Si: “A fragile world entrusted by God to human care, challenges us to devise intelligent ways of directing, developing and limiting our power.”

Catholic Social Teaching-USCCB,1991: Care 4 Creation: “we can take up our responsibilities to the Creator and creation with renewed courage and commitment.”

Care 4 Creation: “To save us from all destructive desire, O Holy Trinity, Deliver us.”

Faith Formation: For All Ages - Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org



Christmas Play

Many thanks to all our young people, their families and the catechists who helped to prepare the Christmas play at the Family Mass on Christmas Eve. Special thanks to Fr. Rutherford who encouraged us to try something new. It was really a wonderful celebration of our Lord's birth!!

2019-2020 Faith Formation Sessions

**Please note: AM and PM sessions will resume on January 5, the Feast of the Epiphany.*

The AM session for Faith Formation (Prek-3yr old – gr.7) is 9:45 to 10:45am and the PM session (gr.8 – 12) is 12 noon to 1:15pm.

Questions, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Faith Formation: The Mass is the Class

We anticipate seeing you at Mass every Sunday. Mass is where we celebrate and live out all we learn about our faith in Faith Formation. It is where we meet Jesus every week in the Liturgy of the Word and in the Eucharist. Questions about our Faith Formation program? Please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Children will join Faith Formation catechists in the CLOW room for special readings directed towards children. Father will call them forward and they will leave with the catechists and return after the Prayer of the Faithful.

Here's What's Coming Up in December

January 5: Epiphany of Our Lord

January 5: Faith Formation AM/PM sessions resume


January 12: Baptism of Our Lord

January 12: Parish Christmas Party, PLC following 11am Mass

January 13: Gathering Disciples, 6pm PLC

INCLEMENT WEATHER ALERT!!! During the Winter months when there is a Watervliet School closing due to snow or severe weather conditions, there will be **NO** morning Mass nor Communion Service that day! The parish office will also be closed. **WATCH YOUR LOCAL TV STATION!!**



| In Memoriam ~ 2020 | | |
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|  <p>A block is available \$100 for 26 weeks call Parish office 518 273-6020</p> | In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family 10/25/20 | In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family 5/24/20 |
| | In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family 5/10/20 | In loving memory of William T, Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family 2/9/20 |
| | In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family 1/19/20 | In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Galagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan 1/5/20 |

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Penances and Prayers

*God's glory, now, is kindled gentler than candlelight under the rafters of a barn: Eternal Peace is sleeping in the hay, and Wisdom's born in secret in a straw-roofed stable.**

When I was younger, I wrote music to and recorded Thomas Merton's poem, "Epiphany Carol." If you have never read it, search it out on the internet. Merton's words are profound and paint a picture of the awesomeness of Jesus, the newborn King of Kings, lying in a simple straw bed. The shepherds and Wise Men are drawn to pay homage to the One who has been born above all others and brings with him hope for a broken world.

As Merton correctly points out, the gifts we are called to bring to this baby and lay at his feet are our prayers and penances, next to those gifts of worldly wealth. What is it that you have to bring to the stable on this feast of the Epiphany of the Lord? Unless those prayers and penances lead to a new way of living, our gifts will be void of meaning. What we lay before him speaks to the change in us that he has given to us by his birth. Our daily stewardship is resembled in those gifts. If we are to truly echo the kingdom of God in our lives and actions, what we ultimately offer to him is no less than our entire selves. This baby will give his entire self for us, and his work must continue through our hands and feet.

*While we unnumbered children of the wicked centuries come after with our penances and prayers, and lay them down in the sweet-smelling hay beside the wise men's golden jars.**

*Excerpts from "Epiphany Carol" by Thomas Merton

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



IHM PRAYER MINISTRY~ The prayer tree ministry is made up of a group of people who pray for others—for anyone who would like to have prayers said for themselves for wellbeing; or for a family member, relative or friend, contact **Brenda** at 518 271-6184. We believe as faith-filled people, prayer matters and offers hope. If you think you might be interested in being part of the prayer tree ministry, call the phone number above.

PRAYER CHALICE ~ A chalice is used at every Mass to consecrate the wine into the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. Each weekend, a different family or person will receive the chalice at Mass and commit themselves to pray daily for vocations. If you are interested in participating in this program, please make contact through the sign up stubs in the back of the church or call the parish office to be scheduled at 518 273-6020.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat., Jan 4
4:00pm—Phyllis Palitsch, req by Brenda Persons
Carl & Agnes Dembrosky, req by Mick & Anne Dembrosky

Living & deceased members of IHM

Sun., Jan 5
8:30am—James C Mantello, req by IHM Staff

11:00am—Edward C Kennedy, req by the family
Margaret Alund, req by Lorraine Alund

Mon., Jan 6
9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Tues., Jan 7
9:00am—Raymond J Werner, req by his daughters

Wed., Jan 8
9:00am—Stanley J Watrobski, req by Irene W Sefcik

Thurs., Jan 9
9:00am—In Thanksgiving for the gift of life, req by parishioner

Fri., Jan 10—NO COMMUNION SERVICE

Sat., Jan 11
4:00PM—Jerry Valenti, req by the family
James Mantello, req by IHM buildings & grounds committee
Diana Warrenchak, req by Allen & Dorothy Styono

Sun., Jan 12
8:30am—Jim Mantello, req by Isabel "Izzy" Henry Mangene & Rick Shevy, req by the family
11:00am—Olga Somich (Anniv), req by Helen Somich
William E Carlson (5th Anniv), req by wife Gail Carlson

When Doing Your Estate Remember Your Parish

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
Weekly Collection (incl mail-in/E.G.)
Dec 22-23, 2018.....\$7072.00
Dec 21-22, 2019.....\$7108.00
Christmas Mass Collections
Dec 24-25, 2018.....\$7576.00
Dec 24-25, 2019.....\$6085.00

Legnard-Curtin Auxiliary

If there are any veterans or active duty military not receiving birthday cards, please call Brenda Persons at 518 271-6184.