

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

Watervliet, NY

welcome

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Call for information
or appointment

FIRST SUNDAY OF

Lent

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FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil - 4:00pm & Sunday - 8:30 & 11:00am

Weekday Schedule

Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday at 9:00am

Adoration on Tuesday - 9:30 to 11:00am

Church and Parish Center - Handicapped Accessible

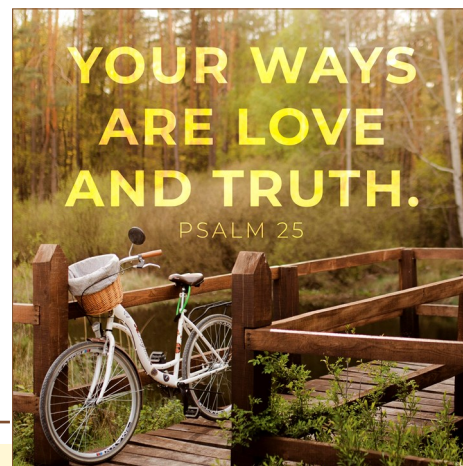


“After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee
proclaiming the gospel of God. “ — Mk 1:14

Live the Liturgy ~ Inspiration of the Week

Throughout history God has given His people signs. Our season of Lent offers us God's sign that it is time to stop the ordinary routines of our lives, create some desert space, and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. We are asked to unplug from our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness to clear the slate and take stock in who we have become. We are asked to remember the ancient sign of God's covenant with humanity in which He vowed to nurture, sustain, and protect the relationship He has with His people. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. Even though some good solid self-denial is the order of the day, greater happiness and wholeness will be the fruit of our labors. Pleasant journey through the desert!

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RCIA and Sacramental Preparation for Adults and Older Children ~

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) or are curious about the process, contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org. After the first of the year, we will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at 6pm. We would like to welcome Brock Palmatier to the RCIA process and ask that you keep him in your prayers.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Unlikely Suspects

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God's creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God's creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living "among the wild beasts?" Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God's sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikely suspects?

Let's go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don't forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we're not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you're craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It's a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Scripture Sharing: Metanoia ~ Our new series from Franciscan Media is called *Metanoia* (change, conversion, repent). Since this series will continue through Lent, it seems a good path to follow. The next episode is entitled, *Hunger and Thirst*. ("Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." John 6:35)

For all those interested, we meet on Thursdays from 2 to 3pm in the Parish Life Center. For more information, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Mary's Kitchen: Mondays, 3 to 5pm: **TAKE OUT!!**

Mary's Kitchen is serving meals again!! For the present time, we can do TAKE OUT meals only. All are welcome. Why cook when we've done it for you?? Stop by between 3 to 5pm on Monday and pick up a meal all ready for you to take home: Soup, salad, sandwich, entrée and dessert!!

Thanks to those who have provided desserts for Mary's Kitchen. Freihofer's is good, but home baked is better!!

Email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org or call 518-328-0427 for more information.

Faith Formation - For All Ages ~


Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Faith Formation: 2020-2021: FEBRUARY SESSIONS

FEBRUARY 21 is our next **in person** session and if you have not picked up **OR RETURNED** materials for your young people who are doing the sessions online, please do so. See you at the Faith Formation Center at 9:45am!!

Please contact Sharon at skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org or 518-328-0427 for more information or questions.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW): Currently on hiatus.

In Memoriam ~ 2021		
 <p>In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson <small>2/6/22</small></p>	<p>In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan <small>1/23/22</small></p>	<p>In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family <small>10/24/21</small></p>
<p>In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family <small>7/18/21</small></p>	<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope <small>7/18/21</small></p>	<p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family <small>7/11/21</small></p>
<p>In memory of our beloved son Michael D Kowalski requested by Michael and Sharon Kowalski <small>3/21/21</small></p>	<p>In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family <small>3/7/21</small></p>	<p>In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family <small>2/21/21</small></p>
<p>In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family <small>2/21/21</small></p>		

Reflections for the Week

First Reading:

God promises Noah to use a “bow in the clouds” (a rainbow) as a sign and symbol of His divine pledge to never again allow a world-wide flood to devastate the earth. This is the Bible’s first recorded covenant between God and humanity. **What do you think of when you see a rainbow?**

Second Reading:

Peter teaches that Jesus preached to both the living and the dead — those dead dating back to the days of Noah — and connecting us through baptism. **What do you find intriguing about this idea?**

Gospel:

We hear about Jesus’ temptation in the desert and his inaugural gospel message to those living in Galilee. Jesus saw repentance as necessary to believe his good news. **As we begin the Lenten journey, what aspects of your life require repentance?**

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Readings for the Week of February 21st

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf.

10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt

16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17,

18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-

19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/

Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10



IHM PRAYER TEAM MINISTRY If you would like prayers said for a family member, relative or friend, contact Brenda at (518)271-6184.



FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
Weekly Collection (incl Mail-in/E.G.)
Feb 6-7, 2021—\$7416.00

Thank you for your continued commitment to Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Your generosity is most appreciated. God bless you.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Feb 20

4:00pm—Helen Kuentzel, req by MaryJo Carroll

Frank Blair, Sr (Anniv), req by daughter & Grandson

Sun., Feb 21

8:30am—Lv'g & dec'd members of IHM
Frances Tonko, req by Bob & Carol Carlson

11:00am—Eugene Kaufman, req by Donna Hoinski

Kate O'Hearn, req by the family
Wm Maloney, Art & Helen Cody (B'days & Anniv), req by Maureen McMahon

Tues., Feb 23

9:00am—Michael Spiak, req by his son

Wed., Feb 24

9:00am—Jean Fox, req by a friend

Thurs., Feb 25

9:00am—Jack McNamara & Dave Castle, req by a friend

Sat., Feb 27

4:00pm—Bertha Stone, req by Barbara Volland

Victoria (Crucetti) Carmello, req by Susan Collette

Frank Blair, Jr (B'day), req by sister/nephew

Sun., Feb 28

8:30am—Nora Spiak (B'day), req by family
Jack Tallman, req by Bob & Carol Carlson

11:00am—Lv'g & dec'd members of IHM
Bridget Domey, req by Bill Mysliwiec family