

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

Watervliet/Green Island NY

March 31, 2019

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil—4:00PM, Sunday—8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Weekday Schedules

Communion Service: Monday & Friday, 9:00 AM

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

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE



4th Sunday
OF LENT

"He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always;
everything I have is yours.'" - Lk 15:31

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr Donald Rutherford, Pastor
Deacon Mark Leonard
Shawn Allen, Business Administrator

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

Repentance. Envy. Joy. Hope. Have you felt these human emotions? Today's Gospel offers a rich story, one we can all find our place in. As we reflect on our own spiritual lives this Lenten season, it can be helpful to imagine ourselves in the story of the Prodigal Son.

"I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers." The younger son has sinned greatly, betraying his father's trust and squandering his money in sin. Yet the parable turns on his deep repentance and humble return to his father. Is there any area of your life you have been wandering from God or you've squandered good gifts? This Lent, return to the sacrament of Confession! God, a merciful Father, waits for you there.

"While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him." The father in the parable sees his son's selfishness, perhaps even suspects what he might do, but gives him the inheritance anyway. After his son's departure, the father waits with hope for his son's eventual return. Has someone you love left the Church, made poor decisions, or abused your trust? This Lent is a time to let go of bitterness and to live in hope. Prepare your heart to be merciful!

Not all in the parable invite the mercy of God into their hearts. The self-righteous older brother dishonors his father with his pettiness. "My son, you are here with me always, everything I have is yours." Do you covet what others have? Do you feel as if you've been taken advantage of or that your work goes unseen? This Lent is a time to grow in gratitude. Take a close look at the blessings in our life that you might be missing.

We are all called to repentance. Open your heart to God's personal invitation to growth!

Vocations Ministry—Please pray for increased vocations to the priesthood and religious life through our Vocations Prayer Chalice Program. Instructions are at the Sacred Heart statue at the rear of the church, or simply write a note that you are interested in the program, add your name, telephone number and/or email address, drop it into the collection basket and you will be contacted.



Social Justice: A letter has been written to Governor Andrew Cuomo expressing our opposition to the Reproductive Health Act. It is immoral and a travesty of justice against the most vulnerable members of the human race.

You are invited this weekend to add your signature to the sheet that is at the table in the Main Lobby of the church.



CRS Rice Bowl

The three practices encouraged by the Church for Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Giving up something for Lent: chocolate, fast foods, smoking?? Why not take the money saved from doing those things and consider giving some or all of it to the Rice Bowl project??

Scripture Sharing: "Conversion", Bishop Robert Barron

Join us Thursday from **2 to 3pm** for a Lenten DVD series by *Bishop Robert Barron: Conversion, Following the Call of Christ*. For the next few weeks, we will be meeting to experience Biblical stories of people who changed their lives: Bartimaeus, the man born blind; the rich young man; the call of Matthew; Jonah; the woman at the well; and the journey of the Magi. All are welcome to join us, even if you haven't previously been part of the Scripture study. For more information, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

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

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Faith Formation Schedule: "No Longer Strangers, I Call you Friends"

AM sessions for grades Prek to 7* are on Sunday, from **9:45 to 10:55**, with Mass at **11AM**. PM sessions for grades 7* to 10+ are on Sunday, *following* the 11am Mass, from **12:15 to 1:15pm**.

Questions? Please contact Sharon in the Faith Formation office **at 518-328-0427 or at skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org** for more information.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Following the opening prayer at the 11am Mass, Father will invite all children from **PreK to grade 3** to go to with our catechists to hear and discuss the readings for that Sunday's Mass. They will return to you in the church after the Prayer of the Faithful.

Older siblings may participate in a different role as helpers to Mrs. Pontari. She also welcomes parent's help. If you would like to accompany your little ones and see what it's all about, please feel free to join them.

Here's What's Coming Up in April

April 2, 9, 16: 9am Mass, followed by Exposition and Benediction at 11:30am
 April 2, 9, 16: Lenten Tuesdays, beginning at 5:30pm
 April 5, 12: Stations of the Cross, 7pm
 April 7: Combined session (Mrs. Carabis/Mrs. Kowalski's classes) 9:45 in PLC
 April 10: Movie, Paul the Apostle of Christ
 April 14: Palm/ Passion Sunday, Family Mass, 11am
 April 18, 19, 20: Holy Week Triduum
 April 21: Easter Sunday

Lenten Prayer Banner

As Christians, we know the Cross to be a symbol of healing, sacrifice and great love. In the back of the church, there is a Lenten Prayer Banner. Crosses will be placed nearby in a basket.

Please take a cross, write on it the name of a person or intention that you will be praying for this Lent and pin it to the banner.

Lenten Reminder:

"They Have Pierced My Hands and My Feet"

This year, we will have on the back table of the church a prayer card with a nail attached. Carry it with you, attach it to a mirror or the refrigerator; place it on a nightstand next to your bed. Let it serve as a daily reminder of Our Lord's great love and sacrifice for us.

Tuesday in Lent: April 2 Soup & Salad; St Augustine DVD

We'll begin with a simple supper of soup and salad in the Parish Life Center this week at 5:30pm and then we'll enjoy a dvd about the life of St. Augustine, narrated by Bishop Robert Barron.

There are sign up sheets in the back of the church if you would like to make a soup, salad or bring some type of bread or rolls. You don't have to, but it would be most appreciated!! There's *no charge*. Please join us this week for a special Lenten experience. All are welcome.

Fish Fry Fridays: April 5, This Week: Fish Fries and Sides

From 5:30 to 6:30pm on Fridays in Lent this year, we will have available fish fries and sides in the Parish Life Center. Meals must be paid for the weekend before. Cost will be \$7.00 each. (cash only please). Don't forget, Stations start at 7pm. Why not enjoy your meal and then join us in the church for Stations of the Cross??

Stations of the Cross: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

Share a special gift with your families this Lent; take some time out of your busy lives to attend the Stations as a family at **7PM on Fridays**. Sometimes to really understand the journey, you have to walk in the footsteps of Jesus on His way to the cross. There are many ways to experience the Stations; many ways to express the same prayer: The remaining schedule this year is: Through the Eyes of Mary, April 5, and the Living Stations, which will be presented by the young people in our Faith Formation program on April 12.





In Memoriam ~ 2019

In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan <small>1/5/20</small>	In loving memory of J. Vince Cocca requested by his wife and Children <small>11/10/19</small>	In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family <small>10/20/19</small>
In memory of Justin Berthiaume requested by the Vertone Family <small>9/8/19</small>	In loving memory of Veronica Gardner req by the Vertone Family <small>8/25/19</small>	In loving memory of Joseph Bagarose req by the Vertone Family <small>8/25/19</small>
In loving memory of William T, Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family <small>8/4/19</small>	In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope <small>7/7/19</small>	In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family <small>7/7/19</small>
In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family <small>7/7/19</small>	In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family <small>5/12/19</small>	In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family <small>4/28/19</small>

Mary's Kitchen: Mondays, 3 to 5pm — Many thanks to Lorraine

Fitzgerald who always delights our guests with a wonderful dessert—a true happy ending to their weekly meal. 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.

Choir Practice Notice: Practice for Choir this week **ONLY** will be from Thursday to Wednesday. Time remains the same — 6:00pm in the church.



RCIA and Sacramental Preparation for Adults and Older

Children — *Need to receive sacraments –Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation; for yourself, an older teen or young adult?* Whatever your needs may be – whether completing the Sacraments of Initiation or questions about becoming members of Catholic faith, we are here to help you make it happen. We will work around your schedule and your individual area of need.

Something to consider - *Do you know that in order to be a godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation, you must have received all three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation)???* Need more information?? Contact Sharon at 518 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Social Justice: Caring for the Environment

Ephesians 5:9:—"Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and rightness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord."

Pope Francis, Laudato Si:—"This responsibility for God's earth means that human beings, endowed with intelligence, must respect the laws of nature and the delicate equilibrium existing between the creatures of this world."

Catholic Social Teaching:—"The limitations imposed from the beginning by the Creator himself and expressed symbolically by the prohibition not to "eat of the fruit of the tree" ...we are subject not only to biological laws but also to moral ones."

Adoration and Benediction Every Tuesday morning during Lent 9:30 to 11:30am



In loving memory of
Adam & Katherine Novak
John Novak, Rosalie & Florence Szpot
requested by the Family
4/7/19

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., Mar 30

4:00pm—Domenica Krakat, req by Virginia

Esposito & family

Ruth/Leo Raymond, req by dgtrs, Denise/Gayle

Living & deceased members of IHM

Sun., Mar 31

8:30am—Mary/Dennis Nolan & son John

Julia/Michael Dankulich/Michael, Jr } req by Gonsowski family

Margaret Rose/Fred Gonsowski, Sr,

11:00am—Margaret Stebbins, req by Brenda Persons

Mon., Apr 1

9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Tues., Apr 2

9:00am—Thomas & Helen Sullivan, Estate

Wed., Apr 3

9:00am—DiNuzzo, LoParco & Burnham family, Estate

Thurs., Apr 4

9:00am—Patricia Colbert (1st Anniv), req by family

Fri., Apr 5

9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Sat., Apr 6

4:00pm—Marie Connelly, req by

Rosary Society

Anthony/Teofila Chmielewski, req by Karl/Joan

Sun., Apr 7

8:30am—John Brian Daley, req by Tom/Jane Hanley

Katherine Slupski, req by Brenda Persons

11:00am—Living & deceased members of IHM Margaret Stebbins, req by Linda Dunbar

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Weekly collection (incl Mail-in/E.G.)

Mar 23-24, 2019.....\$6845.00

Palm Sunday 3-24/25-2018.....\$6853.00