IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

Watervliet/Green Island NY

April 24, 2016

Celebration of the Eucharist
Saturday Vigil—4:00PM Sunday—8:30AM and 11:00AM
Weekday Schedule
Communion Service: Monday & Friday at 9:00 AM
Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 AM

Our mission at Immaculate Heart of Mary is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to praise His name, by being a Christ-centered, welcoming, unified community. Called to holiness, we celebrate the love of God through prayer and worship, the Eucharist and other sacraments, catechesis, evangelization and service to all. Always His people, we strive to be good stewards of our time, talent and treasure.

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

PASTORAL STAFF
Fr Don Rutherford, Sacramental Minister
Deacon Al Manzella, Parish Life Director
Deacon Mark Leonard

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

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*

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY CENTER
2425 7th Avenue
(518) **328-0427**

Coordinator
Sharon Kowalski
skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org
Call for appointment

Facility Manager
Matthew Carabis

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 3:30 pm—3:45 pm or by appointment

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
If you are hospital bound, homebound or seriously ill and desire to be anointed, contact the Parish Office. Eucharist can be brought to any parishioner by a Eucharistic Minister.

Deacon Al's Corner

Bishop's Appeal – This past week all Parishioners were sent a "kick-off" letter announcing the start of the Bishop's Appeal. This weekend is called "Advance Notice Weekend." I will be speaking at the Masses this weekend to ask you to prayerfully consider your commitment to this year's Bishop's Appeal. Please remember that your contributions help all of the people served by the many ministries of the Diocese including Catholic Charities, and the Offices of Communications, Information Technology, Pastoral Services and Vocations to name a few. These and the many other Diocesan offices and ministries support us here at Immaculate Heart of Mary and support the people in the other parishes throughout the Diocese. Please help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the people of our Diocese.

Next weekend is called "Commitment Weekend." We will have the pledge cards in the pews. You will be asked to please make a commitment and pledge what you can to the Bishop's Appeal! Thank you.

Celebration of Immaculate Heart of Mary
On the weekend of April 30th and May 1st members of the Rosary Society will be distributing prayer cards containing a picture of, and a prayer to, the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We are asking every family to take a card home and say the prayer every day starting on May 3rd and ending 33days later on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, June 4th and 5th. Parishioners who are physically able, and willing to participate are asked to congregate around the statue of Mary in front of the Church on 25th Street five minutes before Mass starts. We will conclude our 33 days of prayer by consecrating ourselves to Jesus through Mary by praying together as a parish family. We will then process into the Church for Mass. This will be done before each of the weekend liturgies. Following the Masses there will be a reception.

Memorial Day Parade
Our Parish will once again participate in the Annual Memorial Day parade on May 30th. Next weekend there will be sign-up sheets in the back of the Church for anyone interested in marching. Please consider joining us if you are able.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: ***City Gardens***—Do you have a green thumb and nowhere to plant. Why not reserve a spot in the City Gardens?
For additional information please contact the office at 273-6020.

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** _____

ADDRESS _____

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS:

May 4th Meeting: will be held immediately following the Wednesday 5:30pm Vigil Mass for Ascension Thursday.

"Choose Life Then, That You And Your Descendants May Live." Deut. 30:19—Our Rosary Society will sponsor it's **Annual Baby Shower** during the month of May. The crib will be set up in the back of the Church for your gifts. We will be symbolically clothing our "spiritually adopted" babies with this project.

We promote the affirmation of life from conception to natural death. Everything that we do to support our Baby Shower helps to express this ideal. Items needed especially are disposable diapers, onesies, outfits, blankets, sweaters, one piece outfits, etc. Sizes are from newborn to 24 months.

MAY CROWNING/*Rosary Mass* will be held on **May 22nd** at the 11:00 am Mass. Brunch will follow at the American Legion in Green Island.

June 5th: This will mark the end of our ***"33 days to consecration of the Blessed Virgin".*** The Rosary Society will host a simple luncheon for any member who is unable to attend an evening meeting. Additional information will follow in future bulletins.

MARY'S KITCHEN: Mondays: 3:30 to 5:30pm—Courtesy of one of our volunteers, two of our guests will enjoy a Spaghetti supper at the Watervliet seniors on April 29th. Many thanks, Ann for your generosity!! Next week, we begin our Gift certificate raffles again.

All members of the community are invited – both parishioners and non-parishioners alike – to pick up a take out meal or have an eat in meal in our newly renovated Parish Life Center during those times. Questions about Mary's Kitchen? Contact Sharon at 328-0427 for more information.

We would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for the new area rugs located at both entrances in the Parish Life Center. The generosity of the Knights of Columbus has been unsurpassed over the years, as has their dedication and commitment to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Thank you for *ALL* you have done!

IHM PRAYER TREE MINISTRY—If you know of someone who would like prayers said for them on their behalf, or for yourself, please contact Brenda at 271-6184.

FAITH FORMATION—*For All Ages*

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

April 17: Meet and Greet with Deacon Al

Many thanks to Deacon Al and to our parents who took time out of their hectic Sunday schedules to get together and listen to Deacon Al's presentation on their importance of the future of the Church.

"See You Soon Sunday"- Fabulous!!!

What a wonderful Sunday morning!! Our young people were treated to games and crafts and then were able to treat parishioners after the 11am Mass.to an unbelievable array of goodies. Many thanks to all the parents, catechists and children who prepared and served all those wonderful treats!!

Confirmation: Rehearsal, May 2; Confirmation, May 4

Confirmation will be at Our Lady of Victory in Troy at 6:30pm on May 4. Candidates, sponsors and parents should be there no later than 6pm. Rehearsal will be at Our Lady of Victory on May 2nd at 6:30pm.

Reminder: Special seating at Mass for First Eucharist class: May 1, 2016

On May 1, the children preparing for First Eucharist will be attending the 11AM Mass together. There will be seats reserved for them in the front of the church. Please make sure they are in the church **no later than 10:30am**.

May: 15: Pentecost: Confirmation, Tim Nolan

Tim Nolan will be sealed with the Holy Spirit at the 11am Mass on May 15.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Following the opening prayer at the 11am Mass, Father will invite all children from **Pre-K 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/May

May 1: First Eucharist, 11am Mass May 8: Mother's Day May 4: Confirmation, 6:30am – OLV, Troy
May 15: Pentecost, Tim Nolan's Confirmation – 11am Mass May 18-21: Spring Enrichment; Check RCDA website
May 22: May Crowning; Rosary brunch May 30: Memorial Day Parade

DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT YOUR SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY ENVELOPE EARLY! DEADLINE FOR LISTED NAME(S) IS MAY 1ST. PAMPHLET WILL BE DISPLAYED ON MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 8TH IN RACK NEAR THE MAIN DOOR LOBBY EXIT.

Memorials for 2016

In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family 4/23/17	In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family 10/16/16	In loving memory of Genevieve M Dyer requested by her beloved husband Bill, Children & Grandchildren 8/28/16
In loving memory of William T Fahr, Sr & Julia F Fahr requested by the Family 7/31/16	In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John G Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family 7/31/16	In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope 7/3/16
In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family 7/3/16	In loving memory of James D Langford requested by Lilia Langford & Christine Callahan 6/12/16	In loving memory of Dr. Richard P Crinigan, Jr requested by his wife, Patricia and Children 4/24/16
		In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family 4/24/16

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Gospel of Matthew—This week, we will enjoy a DVD presentation on Chapter 3 of Matthew; *John, the Forerunner to the King.* You are invited to join us on Thursday between 6 to 7:30PM, at the Faith Formation and Ministry Center (2425-7th Avenue). For questions or for more information, please contact Sharon at 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

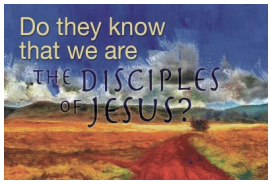
RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—Do you have ***questions*** about the Catholic faith? Is becoming a Catholic something you've thought about, but never actively pursued the ***"How can I do this"***? Have you been Baptized or made your First Communion, but still ***need to complete the sacramental process***? Are other family members Catholic and you would like to be able to ***share fully with them in worship***? If you would like more information, contact Sharon at 328-0427.

Fifth Sunday of Easter—"This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." When people watch us, do they know that we are the disciples of Jesus?

As Christians, we are called to do more than love the Lord. We are called to be his witnesses in the world by loving others as well. In today's Gospel reading, he gave us a new commandment, "As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." Anyone, everyone, should be able to look at us and see this love in action. If we are not witnesses to this love, then we are falling short of our mission.

So, how did Jesus love us? Selflessly. His love was never motivated by personal gain. On the contrary, he often suffered for us, and not just on the cross. He faced rejection and animosity for loving those who were considered "unlovable" in his culture. He lived a life of poverty and simplicity, never focused on amassing things for himself, but always willing to give of himself. This is the love we are called to imitate.

The task can feel daunting. We are not perfect people, and being witnesses to Christ-like love can strike us as a lofty challenge. Of course, it's easier to be selfless and generous with people who love us in return, or with those who stir our compassion. But to be consistent witnesses to loving one another in all circumstances--like Jesus does for us--that takes it to another level. Thankfully, however, Jesus doesn't expect us to do this on our own. He promises us his Spirit to live in us and love through us. Through our baptism, we have his Spirit dwelling in our hearts, along with the supernatural gifts of faith, hope, and love. May we make these gifts flourish.



Mass Intentions for Apr 25-May 1

Mon., Apr 25
9:00am—**COMMUNION SERVICE**

Tues., Apr 26 MASS
9:00am—**Helen & Thomas Sullivan**

Wed., Apr 27 MASS
9:00am—**Lv'g & Dec'd mem of IHM**

Thurs., Apr 28 MASS
9:00am—**Peter McGovern**, req by Kathleen Raleigh

Fri., Apr 29
9:00am—**COMMUNION SERVICE**

Sat., Apr 30
4:00pm—**Thomas Halpin, Sr**, req by the family
Marge Halpin Testo, req by the family
Philip A LaCivita, req by his wife

Sun., May 1
8:30am—**MaryAnne Bagnardi**, req by Joseph (son)
Gary Gingeresky, req by Frank Hanby & sons
William Lofink, Jr, req by aunt Marion/uncle Stan

11:00am—**William Barbuto**, req by family
Hon Vincent J Lamb, req by M/M Lawrence Lynch
Virginia & John Lemke, req by Ginny Fogarty/ Barbara Romanski

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
Collection for '15-'16 Calamities in USA
April 9-10, 2016……$2040.00
Weekly Collection (including mail-in)
April 18-19, 2015 …….$6814.00
Apr 16-17, 2016……..…$6816.00