

# IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

Watervliet, NY



*Renew*  
THE FACE OF  
THE EARTH.



PSALM 104

*welcome*

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Mon - Thurs: 8:30am - 3:30pm  
Fri - Closed

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Coordinator  
Sharon Kowalski  
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Call for information  
or appointment

*Church and Parish Center - Handicapped Accessible*

**5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - MAY 2, 2021**

**Celebration of the Eucharist**

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

Weekday Schedule

Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday, Mass at 9:00am

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

**Prayer Ministry** ~ We believe as faith-filled people, prayer matters and offers hope. The Prayer Tree Ministry is made up of a group of people who pray for others. If you would like prayers said for a family member, relative, or friend contact Brenda Persons at 518-271-6184.

### **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](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org).

**Scripture Sharing: Jesus: the Way, the Truth and the Life** ~ This series is produced by Ascension Press and presented by Jeff Cavins, Marcellino D'Ambrosio, and Edward Sri. This week's session is entitled "Discipleship: The Way of the Kingdom". Jesus has come to announce the Gospel, the Good News, that exile is over. As eager as Jesus is to bring the Good News to as many as possible, he keeps a constant focus on teaching and training his disciples. What is the way of discipleship?? What are its demands and benefits, for all of us??

For 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](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org)

**Mary's Kitchen: Mondays, 3 to 5pm: *WE'RE BACK!!*** - 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!!

Many thanks to Schuyler Bakery for their weekly donations of rolls that are used to make sandwiches for our guests.

Email [skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org) or call 518-328-0427 for more information.



If you would like your mother's name listed on the Annual Mother's Day Remembrance flyer, please submit it before Wednesday, May 5th. The listing will be available weekend of May 8-9 on a table at rear of Church.

**Faith Formation For All Ages** ~ Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry [skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org)

### **Faith Formation: 2020-2021; MAY SESSIONS: PLEASE NOTE**

Mr. Passonno's class will meet in the Parish Life Center on **May 23rd**. Miss Marge's and Mr.

Gleason's classes will meet in the Faith Formation Center on **May 16**. Mrs. Carabis' and Mrs. Kowalski's class will meet in the Parish Life Center – with their parent(s) - on **May 16**. See you at 9:45am on those Sundays!!

**Please note: ONLY those preparing to receive First Eucharist in June, will meet on May 16 in the Parish Life Center at 9:45am. At this session, we will hand out the banner kits and have a rehearsal for First Eucharist in June.**

Please contact Sharon at [skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org) or 518-328-0427 for more information or questions.

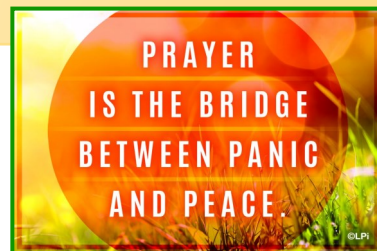
**Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW):** Currently on hiatus.

### **GOSPEL MEDITATION - Fifth Sunday of Easter**

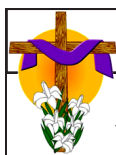
"Spiraling out of control," is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that "feelings" have become a "new god" and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checkered past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God's life.

Giving up our will to God's can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God's commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be "human freedom." They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace. ©LPi







## In Memoriam ~ 2021

<p>In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys &amp; The Butlers requested by Bob &amp; Carol Carlson 2/6/22</p>	<p>In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald &amp; Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don &amp; Patti Hogan 1/23/22</p>	<p>In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family 10/24/21</p>
<p>In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family 9/26/21</p>	<p>In memory of our beloved son Michael D Kowalski requested by Michael and Sharon Kowalski 9/19/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Adam &amp; Katherine Novak John &amp; Rosalie Novak &amp; Florence Szpot requested by the Family 9/5/21</p>
<p>In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family 8/22/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond &amp; Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope 7/18/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of The Barron &amp; Rys Families requested by the Family 7/18/21</p>
<p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family 7/11/21</p>		

### Live the Liturgy ~ Inspiration of the week

Anyone familiar with gardening knows that proper and timely pruning is essential. The health of the plant depends upon it. An unpruned tree can quickly produce suckers that zap many of the essential nutrients from its body. Pruning requires patience and vision. Studies reveal that plants often respond defensively to being pruned, displaying reactions that are similar to hurt or discomfort. Pruning is not easy but necessary. A hard lesson for us to learn is that we also need to be pruned. We become far healthier when we allow God to stretch, refine, and form us into the best version of ourselves. The fruit that then comes from our vines will be more abundant, nutritious, and robust. Left to our own devices we can easily find ourselves running amuck and spiraling out of control. Without a proper vision and trust in the Master Pruner, we will never find the contentment we desperately desire. Nor will the work of the Gospel stand a chance of succeeding. ©LPi

**I AM THE  
TRUE VINE,  
AND MY FATHER  
IS THE VINE  
GROWER.**

John 15:1

### REFLECTION

Using the metaphor of a vine and branches, Jesus urges his disciples to "remain in me" in order to bear good fruit and thereby glorify God. What would be some examples of "good fruit" that you have produced?

### Readings for the week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8  
Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14  
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a  
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8  
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11  
Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17  
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21  
Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

**News from Pastoral Center ~ We are Hiring!** The Pastoral Center located at 40 North Main Ave., Albany is hiring for the following positions: Temporary Database Specialist, Senior Chancery Administrative Assistant, General Maintenance Worker and Payroll Benefits Administrator. for a complete list of job openings send resumes to [diocesan.hr@rcda.org](mailto:diocesan.hr@rcda.org) or visit [www.rcda.org](http://www.rcda.org).

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., May 1

4:00pm—Charles Rutherford, req by Peggy Fisk  
Alice Duffy, req by Arsenal City Kids  
Living & deceased members of IHM

Sun., May 2

8:30am—Marci Fushs, req by Bob & Carol Carlson  
Charles W. Rutherford, req by Fred & Margaret Gonsowski  
MaryAnne Bagnardi, req by her son Joseph  
11:00am—Carole Maloney, req by the family  
Bill & Harold Avery, req by family  
Lv'g & dec'd members of St Patrick's Craft Guild, req by Toni Delduce

Tues., May 4

9:00am—Madeline T. Whaley, req by Dolores Shaw

Wed., May 5

9:00am—Thomas/Helen Sullivan, Estate

Thurs., May 6

9:00am—Sr Mary Damien Cushing, CSJ (B'day), req by Shufon family

Sat., May 8

4:00pm—Grant Dennin, req by his sister Kay Margaret Halpin, req by family  
Marge Halpin Testo, req by family

Sun., May 9 - Mother's Day

8:30am—Charles Rutherford, req by LouAnn Cleary  
Patricia Maron, req by Bob & Carol Carlson  
Living & deceased members of IHM  
11:00am—Patricia Connors, req by Barbara Thornton & family  
Donald & Marilyn MacMartin, req by family  
Carole Maloney & son Jeff, req by family

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION  
Weekly Collection (incl mail-in/E.G.)  
Apr 17-18, 21—\$4987.00