

JUNE 28, 2020

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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION ~ 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When we were baptized, we were baptized into Christ's death. Take a moment to ponder these profound words. We were baptized into death. In every sense of the word, we are asked to die. This is not just about our final death but about daily deaths due to inconvenience, discomfort, pain, loss, or others' needs. This is an incredible epiphany given the way we very often approach our lives. We do everything to avoid death, let alone encounter it! Many avoid pain, discomfort, inconvenience, uneasiness, change, interference, and suffering of any kind. We put a lot of energy into finding the easiest and least inconvenient way through many things. Even holding the door open for a stranger or saying hello to someone in the store can be major undertakings.

We are called to die. One of the biggest wake-up calls we can have is realizing that life is not about us! There are millions of other people sharing life on this planet with whom I have a relationship. Does my life celebrate those relationships? The most distracting question we can ask is, "What do I want to do?" The more focused, faith-filled question is, "What do I need to do?" What I need to do may not be what I want to do. However, asking this question more frequently will teach us how to more purposefully and intentionally live so we can be a life giving vessel for others. When we learn to live more sacrificially, to put the needs of others before our own, and to not always seek our own self-interest, we become aware of what baptism into Christ's death is really all about. These are the roots of virtue and the seedbed for justice, tolerance, solidarity, love, and peace.

Learning how to accept all the "small deaths" and sacrifices life calls us to teaches us how to approach our final death. All deaths ask us to empty ourselves into something or someone else. Whether we empty ourselves into the heart and soul of another human being or empty ourselves into God at the moment of our final death, new life is always received and nurtured. A heart that exclusively seeks its own interest is a heart that is closed to love. A heart that pours itself out to others and is content with being emptied is a heart that has been touched by and open to mercy. It is a heart that overflows with joy. ©LPi

Readings for the week of June 28, 2020 First Reading:

Elisha promised, "This time next year you will be fondling a baby son." (2 Kg 4:16a)

Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

Second Reading:

Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus. (Rom 611)

Gospel:

"Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." (Mt 10:38)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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IHM 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 at 518-271-6184.



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Let us continue to pray for one another, our nation and for the world; for the turmoil to end, and a turn to peace among all people.

MARY'S KITCHEN OPENS, MONDAY, JULY 6th for TAKE OUT only!! Hours will be 3:00 to 5:00pm.
Please wear mask when picking up food.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE—The pantry is open to registered clients of the pantry on Tuesdays & Thursdays, between 9 AM & 10 AM. Clients are to remain in their cars and the volunteer workers will take their name and bring the food out to the car. Until further notice, the Parish Life Center is closed to the public. Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

In Memoriam ~ 2020-21		
In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson	In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan	In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family
In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family	In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family	In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope
In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family	In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family	In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family
	1	In loving memory of

NOTICE UPDATED: Weekday Masses to begin this Tuesday, June 30th.

Masses are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 AM.

Requested Mass Intentions/or previously reserved Masses (prior to COVID—19) will be rescheduled first before any new requests can be taken.

Watch for updates in bulletin and on website for re-opening of the Mass Intention Book. We thank you for your patience.



Watch your local Watervliet TV channel 1303 for the video of Immaculate Heart of Mary's current Weekend Mass.

Readings:

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42 Monday: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 [9a]/Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17 [23b]/Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10cd]/Mt 9:1-8 Friday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 20:24-29

Saturday: Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 9:14-17

Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 [cf. 1]/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-

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RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS ~ God Is Love

I was recently at a Catholic conference and had a conversation with someone living in the thick of Hollywood culture. He was Catholic and spoke of how hard it was to live out his faith amid tremendous temptation and negativity toward religion. He spoke about how going to daily Mass helped to keep him centered and stay strong in his faith. He was a great witness to living out one's faith in the face of disbelief.

One thing that he told me stood out above all the rest. He spoke of his engagement to his fiancé and how important it was to him that God was a major part of their relationship and their lives as individuals as well. He told me he said something to her like, "If you don't love Jesus more than you love me, this is never going to work." What an amazing and truly moving witness!

Songs and books are written about the intense longing one human being can have for another. We can describe another as meaning everything to us. We speak of wanting to offer our complete selves to our beloved. However, true love is about more than wanting to be with that person. It is about wanting that person to know a love even greater than theirs: the love of God. No love can last without God. My Hollywood friend knew this to be the case. He showed his true love for his wife-to-be by sharing more than himself — he shared the very One who created love. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS* ©LPi

Adam & Katherine Novak
John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot
requested by the Family

Thank You -

To all the parishioners who have been mailing their weekly contributions, or dropping the envelopes off in the Mail Slot in the 7th Avenue door of the Parish Life Center.

We greatly appreciate your commitment and continuing support to Immaculate Heart of Mary. God bless you for your faithfulness.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Contributions received for the week of:

June 11-17, 2020—\$4865.00 This total includes the tithing envelopes & Electronic Giving (We Share).

