

welcome

September 20, 2020

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PARISH LIFE CENTER

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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Fri - Closed

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

Call
upon
Him.

PSALM 145

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25th SUNDAY~IN ORDINARY TIME

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

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 -

If I work for five hours, I expect to get paid for five hours. If I work for two, I expect to get paid for two. What if we worked for a company that paid everyone the same amount regardless of how long they worked? How would we feel going home with the same pay for working eight hours as my co-worker did for working only two hours? Secular wisdom would have a huge problem with this and a visit to the Labor Board would quickly pursue. But this is God's wisdom and God's ways.

We sometimes think that if we pray more, better, or more fervently and go over and above with the practice of our faith, God will somehow reward us and present us with some kind of merit badge. We are so wrong. Spiritual practices have only one true purpose: to deepen our love for God. In deepening our love for God, we also increase our ability to see God's presence around us, living life more purposefully and contemplatively. What if God chooses to treat someone who has come on the scene of faith later in life the same as someone who has devoted their whole lives to it? Does it really matter? If we have the merit badge notion of faith, we can find ourselves feeling a little arrogant and even jealous of folks who have not followed the same path that we have. We can even see ourselves as the privileged few who have a corner on the faith and fully possess it.

That thinking doesn't square with God. God is all about mercy in abundance and is ready to take anyone to himself regardless of when they come. He is only happy that they have come home and delights in their return. After all, if you really and truly love someone, does it matter what they will give you in return or what you receive as a benefit? If relationships were assessed based upon productivity, they would lack authentic love. We invest too much self interest in our prayer and neglect to see it as an opportunity to pursue our Lover and deepen the intimate bond we have with God.

When we breathe our last, all that is of consequence is union with God. If my love for God is real, I am going to want to live the Gospel, abide by the commandments, practice my faith, forgive and love my neighbor, and care for the environment, regardless of how much time it takes or benefits me. We want God to think and behave as we do, and in doing so, we set ourselves up for disappointment. God has a totally different agenda and that's okay.

©LPi

Scripture Sharing:

"The Wild Goose" ~

This has certainly been a year of changes and we thought we might follow that trend and try a different type of format. Our new series is entitled "The Wild Goose", a term the ancient Celts had for the Holy Spirit. Presented by Franciscan Fr. Dave Pivonka, it is a series that begins each week with a DVD, followed by a few discussion questions and then some suggestions for reflection during the week. Even if you can't make it for all 14 of the sessions, we encourage you to stop in and try it out.

For all those interested, we will meet on Thursdays from 2 to 3pm in the Parish Life Center. For more information, please contact Sharon: email - skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

or at 518-328-0427.

Faith Formation - For All Ages

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

Faith Formation: 2020-2021

We have begun planning for Faith Formation sessions during the 2020-2021 school year. Our opening will be delayed until November, to give parents a chance to adjust to whatever the "new normal" looks like. We are hoping to have our annual collection of winter gear for Joseph's House beginning in mid-October. As soon as we have details finalized, we will include them in a parent mailing the beginning of October. Meanwhile, please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Keep healthy and God bless.

Questions, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW):

Currently on hiatus.

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!!


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



RCIA & 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.

Thank you all who continually mail their weekly contributions to Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. The office is open Monday thru Thursday, from 8:30am - 3:30pm; you are also welcome to stop in/or drop your envelope in the mail slot located on the 7th Ave door. And... as a reminder to those attending Mass on weekends; (since there are no collection baskets passed among the pews, due to pandemic regulations) there is a wicker basket on a white pillar in the main lobby of the church and one within the worship space near back wall to place your contributions. God bless you for your steadfast commitment as Stewards in supporting your parish.

In Memoriam ~ 2020 ~ 2021		
 <p>In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family</p> <p>3/7/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family</p> <p>2/21/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family</p> <p>2/21/21</p>
<p>In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson</p> <p>2/7/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family</p> <p>1/17/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope</p> <p>1/17/21</p>
<p>In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan</p> <p>1/10/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family</p> <p>1/10/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family</p> <p>10/25/20</p>

Good and Evil

Question:

If God is good, why is there evil in the world?

Answer:

The problem of evil is perplexing. If God is all-powerful and all-good, why doesn't He stop bad things from happening? He must either not be all-powerful, or perhaps He's not very good after all. Human beings have faced the possibility of evil since the very beginning of our existence. In granting us free will, God gives us the ability to make free choices. God does not force us into moral perfection. We are not forced to love Him or to love our neighbor. We must make the decision ourselves. This means, of course, that we have the ability to choose against love.

One small decision of selfishness, jealousy, or pride may not seem so bad. But every decision — good or bad — is like a stone dropped into a still pond. The ripples extend much farther than the original stone. When decisions against love begin to compound, they affect families, neighborhoods, and nations. This is all the more reason for Christians to be faithful to our baptismal call to love one another as

Christ has loved us! ©LPi

NOTE: IHM Mass for current Weekend will be televised on the Watervliet local station (check for viewing time)

IHM Prayer Ministry~

If you would like prayers said for a family member, relative, or friend contact Brenda at 518-271-6184.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Sept 19

4:00pm—Brandon Sylvester, req by Brenda Persons

Angelynn Moffre, req by Bob/Kathy Falzo
Thomas P Callahan, Sr (2nd Anniv), req by The family

Sun., Sept 20

8:30am—Andre Colarusso, req by his wife Frank Blair, Jr (Anniv), req by sister/nephew Norma Brennan, req by Rosary Society

11:00am—Michael Kowalski, req by Marge Centanni
Nicholas R Panetta, req by Judy/Phil Pope

Tues., Sept., 22

9:00am—Norma Brennan, req by Lorraine Bulson

Wed., Sept., 23

9:00am—Kevin Bulson, req by Adams family

Thurs., Sept 24

9:00am—Kevin Bulson, Lorraine Bulson

Sat., Sept 26

4:00pm—Robert J Strohecker, req by Fahr family

Jean Dean, req by Bob/Kathy Falzo
John Ogden, req by Bettianne/Ed Smulski

Sun., Sept 27

8:30am—Norma Brennan, req by Emma Poleto

Kevin Bulson, req by Gail Mantello
Edmund Luzine, req by Fred Gonsowski

11:00am—John Connors, Sr Mavis Jewell,
Rosalie Novak, req by Patty Johnson/Joyce Novak

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
Weekly Collection (incl Mail-in/E.G.)
Sept 5-6, 2020—\$5310.00

THE
ROSARY
IS THE
"WEAPON"
FOR THESE
TIMES.

ST. PADRE PIO



LIVE THE LITURGY - Inspiration for the Week

Think for a moment about the most special person in your life. Why do you love them? Many people will answer that question noting character traits they admire about the person, pointing to an indescribable compatibility that exists and describing a deep sense of connection and intimacy or even a sense of rightness about the relationship. In relationships that are authentic and true, rarely are the personal benefits gained from the relationship noted as motivating factors for its pursuit. If we truly love someone we do so simply because it is right and good to do so and not for some other self-serving reason. Why do you love God? The sense of happiness and the gift of mercy that come from that relationship are God's to give, regardless of when in life we come to Him. God's ways are different than ours.

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"I feel that
the greatest
destroyer of peace today
is abortion, because it is a
war against the child, a
direct killing of the
innocent child, murder
by the mother herself."
~ Mother Teresa of Calcutta