

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

of Watervliet and Green Island, NY

welcome

Pastor

Fr. Don Rutherford
Parochial Vicar
Fr. Samuel Bellafiore

Business Administrator
Shawn Allen
sallen@ihm.rcpw.org

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: 8:30 - 3:30pm
Fri - Closed

Administrative Assistant
Judith Pope ext. 301
jpope@ihm.rcpw.org

Secretary
Mary Beth Knapik ext. 302

Sacramental Records/Archivist
Linda Dunbar ext. 305
ldunbar@ihm.rcpw.org

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH
MINISTRY CENTER
2425 7th Avenue
Watervliet, NY 12189

Coordinator
Sharon Kowalski
Direct line: 518 328-0427
skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Call for information
or appointment



Church
and Parish Life Center
Handicapped
Accessible



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ONE MIGHTIER
THAN I IS
COMING.

MARK 1:7A



DECEMBER 10, 2023

Celebration of the Eucharist

Weekend Masses - Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am and 11:00 am

Weekday Scheduled Masses - 9:00 am

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Adoration, Tuesday - 9:30 to 11:00 am



FOOD PANTRY~NEW ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

- ~ Stuffing Mix
- ~ Cranberry Sauce
- ~ Turkey Gravy
- ~ Jello/Pudding

Thank you for your continuing support of our Food Pantry!

MARY'S KITCHEN: MONDAYS, 3:00pm to 5:00pm ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Stop by between 3 to 5pm on Mondays and sit down to enjoy a meal with friends or pick up a meal to take home: Soup, salad, sandwich, entrée and dessert!!

Questions?? Please contact Sharon at skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org or call 518-328-0427 for more information.

Readings for week: December 10th

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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.

SCRIPTURE SHARING: Max Lucado, *Help Is Here*

We have started a new series entitled "*Help Is Here*". The theme of this series is finding fresh strength and purpose in the power of the Holy Spirit.

As believers, we know a lot about God the Father and Our Lord Jesus Christ. Sometimes, our greatest gift – the Holy Spirit, is acknowledged but lesser known.

Come join us and we will all listen and learn a little more. All are invited. We meet 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

FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL AGES - Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry - skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Faith Formation: 2023-2024

Faith Formation sessions for 2023-2024 are 9:30 to 10:45, followed by 11am Mass.

Sessions are open to children from 3 years through Confirmation. Sacramental programs require a two year preparation at Faith Formation sessions.

If you would like to register your children and have not yet done so, please contact Sharon at skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org or 518-328-0427 for more information or questions about Faith Formation and/or receiving sacraments at IHM.

CHRISTMAS PLAY: DECEMBER 24 AT 4:30pm -

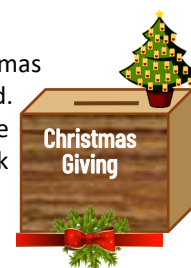
We are continuing to practice for the Christmas Eve Nativity play. Please make sure your children are in the church at 9:30am.

ELVES ATTIC: DECEMBER 17

Next Sunday, December 17, we will have our annual "Elves Attic" with the Faith Formation children from 9:30 to 10:50am. We will have an assortment of gifts that they may purchase for their families and friends, all at "rock bottom" prices. Call Sharon at 518-328-0427 for details.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE GIVING BOX

Once again this year we are requesting donations for our Christmas Tree Program to help others in our community who are in need. The wooden "Donation box" will remain on the table at the back of the Church until Wednesday, December 20th. Thank you for your generous support of our Christmas program!



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Christ is making a journey into each of our hearts this Advent. Clear away whatever blocks his way. Make straight the path.

Invite him in.

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In Memoriam ~ 2023 ~ '24

In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family <small>12/15/24</small>	In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family <small>6/2/24</small>	In memory of our beloved son Michael D Kowalski requested by Michael and Sharon Kowalski <small>2/18/24</small>
In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family <small>2/18/24</small>	In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan <small>2/18/24</small>	In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson <small>2/4/24</small>
In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope <small>1/14/24</small>	In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family <small>12/31/23</small>	Prayer Team Ministry - If you would like prayers said for someone, contact Brenda at (cell) (838) 267-5801.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK ~ *Reflect and Respond*

First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah offers comfort and hope to the Israelites who were captive in Babylon in proclaiming that the glory of the Lord is returning to Israel.

Do you have family or friends who could use words of encouragement from you?

Second Reading:

Peter speaks of being at peace while we wait for the promise of new heavens and a new earth when Christ returns.

What gives you peace of mind these days?

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RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* who is pregnant with her first child.

As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." — 2 Peter 3:13

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~ MASS INTENTIONS ~

Sat., Dec 9

4:00pm—Earl VanBuskirk & granddaughter
Kathy Fisk, req by the family
Theresa Ogden, req by the Beston family

Sun., Dec 10

7:30am—Lv'g & dec'd members of IHM
11:00am—Adam Novak, req by his daughter
C Bradley Culkin, req by Martha/Ron Soucy
Anne Fusco req by Patrick & Sherry

Tues., Dec 12

9:00am—Mary Ann Rourke, parish

Wed., Dec 13

9:00am—Wm James Kennedy, parish

Thurs., Dec 14

9:00am—Nancy Comley, req by Mike &
Eileen Comley
Gonsowski Family, req by son & daughter

Sat., Dec 16

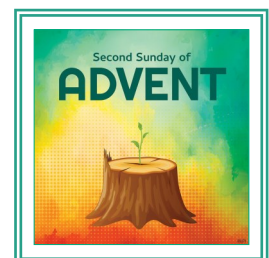
4:00pm—Anne Fusco, req by
Brenda Persons

Sun., Dec 17

7:30am—Anthony Gicobbi, req by Gicobbi
family
Living & deceased members of IHM

11:00am—Nancy Comley, req by Lois Comley
Paul Esposito, Sr, req by the family

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,
....make straight his paths"*



FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
Weekly Collection (incl mail-in, E.G.)
Nov 25-26, '23.....\$4851.00