

Third Sunday of
ADVENT



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

Facility Manager

Matthew Carabis

**FAITH FORMATION &
YOUTH MINISTRY CENTER**

2425 7th Avenue
(518) 328-0427

Coordinator, Sharon Kowalski

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org
Call for appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday prior to 4:00pm Mass
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.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

Watervliet/Green Island NY

December 11, 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.

Deacon Al's Corner

Third Sunday in Advent – Gaudete Sunday – means “Rejoice Sunday! There is a perplexing paradox about Christmas. I read that there are more family fights at Christmastime than any other time of year. People become stressed out because they either spend more money than they should for Christmas gifts, or they feel guilty because they didn’t spend enough! Relax. Do what you can, and then enjoy the spirit of the Advent season.

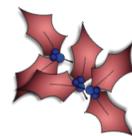
Let’s consider the birth of Jesus. Joseph and Mary couldn’t find a room at the Marriott. They ended up staying in a stable. Then the three “Wise Men” brought gold, frankincense and myrrh! Great baby gifts! Just like a man (men)! I have a hard time selecting gifts too. Jesus didn’t come to “receive” anything from us but love and respect. He came to bring us the greatest gifts of all – Love, Joy and Peace. Gifts the world cannot give us nor take away from us as long as we have faith in Jesus.

That’s why we rejoice this Sunday and every Sunday! Relax. Do what you can, and then enjoy the spirit of anticipation of the Advent season.

Retreat - Please keep me in your prayers as I will be away for the weekend on retreat. Thank you.

Reflection and Prayer – I will be bringing my “Little Blue Book” with me to read while on retreat. And I will be praying for all of you. Please keep reading and reflecting on the “Little Blue Book;” and praying during Advent.

Advent Reconciliation Services



Immaculate Heart of Mary

St Mary’s, Waterford

St Augustine’s, Troy

Dec 13, 1:30-2:30

Dec 14, 7 PM

Dec 19, 7 PM

VOCATIONS MINISTRY: On today’s third Sunday of Advent, we light the only rose-colored candle in the Advent wreath. We parishioners rejoice in God’s merciful love by continuing to pray for vocations that promote our Christian message. During his first papal Gaudete Sunday address in 2013, Pope Francis said, “The Christian message is the ‘Gospel,’ that is, ‘Good News,’ an announcement of joy for all people. The Church is not a shelter for sad people; the Church is the house of joy!” Whether our vocation is to the priesthood or religious life, marriage, or generous single life, we rejoice that we are called to invite all people to our ‘house of joy’ to share Christ’s ‘Good News.’ Please sign up to bring the Traveling Chalice to your home as you pray.



The Giving Tree—Names of children needing our assistance are on the tree. Please take a tag, purchase a gift, wrap the gift and return with the tag on or before Sunday, December 11th.



ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS—Please remember that the annual Rosary Cookie Drop will take place on Wednesday, December 14th. Please drop off your donations at the Parish Life Center. Rosary members will then sort the cookies for distribution to those less fortunate.



GATHERING DISCIPLES (Evangelization): The Gathering Disciples meeting will be at 6:30pm in the Parish Life Center on December 12. All are invited to attend and share their ideas for continuing to make our parish a vibrant and welcoming community.

MARY'S KITCHEN: Winter Hours 3:00 to 5:00 PM

All members of the community are invited – both parishioners and non-parishioners alike, to pick up a take out meal or to enjoy an eat in meal to chat and relax with friends. Questions?? Contact Sharon at 328-0427 for more information.



Caroling, December 18 ... Immediately after the 11

am Mass on December 18th, we will be caroling in the neighborhoods adjacent to the church. Afterwards, we will meet in the Parish Life Center for an Advent pizza party. All are invited to be part of this activity. Questions?? Contact Sharon at 328-0427.



Joy to the World!



Hannaford Gift Cards are available for purchase at the Parish Office during the week. The Holidays will be here before you know it....Don't forget that they make great stocking stuffers! You purchase the card from us and IHM gets 5%. So think gift cards, and make it Hannaford!! Your participation in this program is greatly appreciated.

FAITH FORMATION—For All Ages

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

Advent Breakfast, Elves' Attic: Lots of Fun!!

The children had a great time at their Advent breakfast and really enjoyed purchasing items for Christmas at the Elves Attic. Many thanks to all who helped to make this possible!!

Practices for Christmas Play and Caroling

On December 11 & 18, we will have practice during the AM session for the Christmas Eve play. We will also practice the songs we will be singing for caroling after the 11am Mass on December 18.

Faith Formation Theme 2016-2017: Prayer and Works of Mercy

AM sessions for grades Pre-k to 7 are 9:45 to 10:55, with Mass at 11AM. PM sessions for grades 6 to 10+ are 12:15 to 1:15pm, following the 11am Mass.

Please call the Faith Formation office at 328-0427 to register your child or for details about our Faith Formation Program,

Here's What's Coming Up in December

December 11 & 18: practice for Christmas Eve play and caroling

December 12: Gathering Disciples (Evangelization)

December 17: Giving Tree



December 18: Caroling after the 11am Mass and Advent Pizza party (Faith Formation)

December 21: Blood Drive

December 24, 4:30pm: Christmas Eve Family Mass



Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Following the opening prayer at the 11am Mass, Father will invite

all children from **Pre-K to grade 3** to go 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.

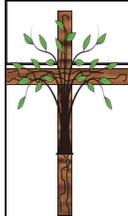
"The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church's life." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1407). The weekly celebration of the Eucharist on Saturday evening or Sunday morning defines who we are as Catholics – in our parishes, in our households of faith, in our neighborhoods, and in our world.

We have **3 Mass options every weekend:** Saturday, 4pm; Sunday, 8:30am and 11am. **See you in church!!**

IHM Website: What's Happening??? - Have you been on the IHM website, www.rcpw.weebly.com lately? If you forgot to pick up a bulletin last week, you can find it on the website, as well as Mass times, information on Faith Formation, Reconciliation, contact information for the staff and parish offices and even some suggested sites for daily prayer and other organizations. Check it out and see for yourself!!



In Memoriam ~ 2017



In loving memory of
John A O'Brien
requested by the Family

10/15/17

In loving memory of
J. Vince Cocca
requested by
his wife and Children

10/8/17

In loving memory of
Joseph V Germano
requested by the Family

4/23/17

In loving memory of the
Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family
& Monticup Family
requested by Rose Brooks & Family

4/23/17

In loving memory of
Adam & Katherine Novak
John G Novak & Florence Szpot
requested by the Family

2/19/17

In loving memory of
William T, Sr, Julia F
and Robert A Fahr
requested by the Family

1/28/17

In loving memory of
James D Langford
requested by
Lilia Langford & Christine Callahan

1/22/17

In loving memory of
John T Sherlock
requested by his wife and Family

1/22/17

In loving memory of
The Barron & Rys Families
requested by the Family

1/1/17



NO ROOM AT THE INN - Our Advent Program is now underway. We are hoping to raise \$6,000 to build a home in Haiti so that a family no longer has to live in a shanty. There is a brown wooden box on the back table marked for this purpose. Please place your donations in this box. Please be as generous as possible. In the miracle that is Christmas, the kindness of strangers can turn despair into joy and a renewed sense of hopefulness. Sincere thanks for your generous support of our Christmas program!

In loving memory of
Bryan T Roberts (son)
Raymond & Helen Werner (parents)
requested by Judith Pope

1/1/17



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Gospel of Matthew—Please note: We will next meet for Scripture on **Thursday, January 5**. For more information, please contact Sharon at 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

RCIA and Sacramental Preparation for Adults—Do YOU have questions about the Catholic faith? Need to receive sacraments – either Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation, for yourself, an older teen or young adult?

Whatever your needs may be, we are here to help you make it happen. We are able to work around your schedule and your individual area of need. Want more information?? Contact Sharon at 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Pope Francis - Isaiah 35:3-4 - Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, say to those whose hearts are frightened: "Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication." Laudato Si (*paragraph 14*) —We require a new and universal solidarity. As the bishops of Southern Africa have stated: "Everyone's talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation."

IHM PRAYER MINISTRY—Contact Brenda Persons at 271-6184 if you would like the prayer team to pray for you or a loved one who is ill or undergoing surgery.



"Are
You the one
who is to
come"?

- Sat., Dec 10
4:00pm—Paul Duffey/Marcia King, req by the family
Robert Fahr, req by Ginny/Diane Jakubics
Margaret V Murphy (20th Anniv), req by dgtr Ginny, grdgr, Diane
- Sun., Dec 11
8:30am—Living & deceased mem. IHM
11:00am—Bob Fahr, req by McBain family
John Somich (Anniv), req by Helen Somich
Nicoletta Romanelli, req by daughter Theresa
- Mon., Dec 12
9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE
- Tues., Dec 13
9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE
- Wed., Dec 14 MASS
9:00am—Louise Kelly (2nd Anniv), req by Mick/
Anne Dembrosky
- Thurs., Dec 15 MASS
9:00am—Betty Hayes, req by her children
- Fri., Dec 16
9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE
- Sat., Dec 17
4:00pm—Marion Persons, req by Brenda
Bill Jakubics (4th Anniv), req by wife, Ginny &
dgtr Diane
Robert Fahr, req by the Amato famiy
- Sun., Dec 18
8:30am—Carol Hynes, req by the family
C Bradley Culkin, req by Martha & Ron Soucy
Elijah Kennedy, Jr, req by the Hanley family
11:00am—the Deck Family, req by Karl & Joan
Wm & Virginia Riedy, req by Dave & Maureen
McMahon
Marian & Don Winterbourne, req by the children

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Weekly Collection (including mail-in)

Dec 5-6, 2015.....\$9039.00

Dec 3-4, 2016.....\$8618.00

Thank you for your commitment and faithfulness as Stewards in support of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.