



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

Watervliet/Green Island NY

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 13, 2015

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil—4:00PM Sunday—8:30AM and 11:00AM

Weekday Schedule

Communion Service: Monday and 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.

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Kathie Sousa
Deacon Mark Leonard
Fr Don Rutherford
Sacramental Minister

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: jpopo@ihm.rcpw.org

Secretary

Mary Beth Knapik

Archivist

Thomas Hanley: thanley@ihm.rcpw.org

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 3:30 pm—3:45 pm 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.

"What should we do?"

THE CROWDS asked John the Baptist what to do. Isn't that the question we ask many times in new or different situations? We might start a new job, move into a new house, join the military, volunteer at a soup kitchen, buy a new laptop, etc. There are many times we ask, "what should we do?"

John the Baptist was pretty clear when he challenged them to go the extra mile. If you have two cloaks, give away one; don't overcharge for your service; be satisfied with what you have. However, John reaffirmed that he would baptize them with water and Jesus would baptize them with the Holy Spirit.

John's challenge is doable. We might need to reassess what we currently do in our day-to-day relationships. Do we truly go the extra mile? The challenge Jesus gives us as He baptizes with the Holy Spirit *is* the extra mile. Jesus challenges us to *live the Gospel*.

What should we do to *live the Gospel*? First we start by putting God first. Didn't Jesus always put the Father first? We continue by putting others before us. This might mean changing the dynamics of many of our relationships; i.e., by putting the needs of our family before our own needs; or putting a co-worker's needs first; or putting the needs of the less fortunate higher up on our To-Do List.

Suddenly John the Baptist's challenge is not difficult. We can easily declutter, charge less, or give more. Jesus is asking us to give of ourselves, of our time, of our ego. Living the Gospel requires sacrifice, not giving from our surplus.

*What should we do to live the Gospel? Plain and simple. Love God and imitate Jesus.
Are we ready to ask that question? Blessings, Kathie*

PARISH NURSE—Immaculate Heart of Mary is proud to announce our new Parish Nurse, Barbara Nash! Barbara has successfully completed the required course and is ready and eager to start ministering to the health care and spiritual needs of our parish. There will be a commissioning ceremony during Mass where we will give Barbara our blessing and introduce her as the Parish Nurse. *Congratulations Barbara!!!*

SOCIAL JUSTICE—Please remember to place your donation for our neighbors in Sprakers in the box located on the back table of the Church. 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!

We invite you to become a member of our parish family. To begin the registration process, please fill out this form and place in the collection basket on Sunday. We will send you a new membership form for registration. Thank you

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____



Turn In and Pick up—Please remember to return all gifts – wrapped – for the names you picked from the Giving Tree.

Food pantry clients will pick up their Christmas meal bags and, for those who have children, their gifts on Saturday from 10 to noon in the Faith Formation and Ministry Center.

One More Wednesday: Faith and Fellowship w/ Bishop Barron—This year, on Wednesdays December 9 & 16, we have a program similar to our Lenten Tuesdays called “Faith and Fellowship”. We’ll meet in the Faith Formation and Ministry Center at 6pm, watch a segment of Bishop Robert Barron’s new DVD: “*the Mystery of God*”, break for coffee, desserts, cheese, crackers and a little chit chat. At about 6:40pm, we’ll watch the next segment and be finished around 7:15pm.

Anyone who would like to bring food items for our break, please contact Sharon at 328-0427, or use the sign up sheet in the back.

MARY'S KITCHEN: New Time 3 to 5pm—Mary's Kitchen is open Mondays from 3 to 5pm. All members of the community are invited – both parishioners and non-parishioners alike – to pick up a take out meal during those times.

Questions about Mary's Kitchen? Contact Sharon at 328-0427 for more information.

FAITH FORMATION—For All Ages

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

Advent Breakfast and Elves' Attic

Our young people in the AM session had a great time last week. Our thanks go to Mr. Gleason’s class who helped serve the breakfast and to our catechists and parents who helped with the Elves’ Attic. We will still have some items available for children who were absent or were unable to purchase items last week.

Advent Caroling

The PM session of Faith Formation will be caroling in the neighborhood surrounding the parish on December 20th. More details will be in next week’s bulletin.

As If Christmas Eve Isn't Special Enough: 4:30pm, Family Liturgy

With help from our Faith Formation Catechists, our young people in Faith Formation will present the Christmas story as a simple play during the homily at the 4:30pm Mass on December 24.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Following the opening prayer at the 11am Mass, Father will invite all children from **PreK to grade 3** to go to 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.

Here's What's Coming Up in December

December 19: Giving Tree food and gift pick up

December 20: Advent Caroling, Faith Formation

December 24: Family Liturgy/Christmas play

"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, 8:30 and 11am. **See you in Church!!**

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of 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?

If you would like more information, contact Sharon at 328-0427.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Exodus 19-23—Israel has experienced the burden of slavery. In Egypt, Israel was enslaved physically, politically and spiritually. Having come to Mt. Sinai and experienced the presence of God, Israel encounters the responsibility that comes with freedom. Authentic freedom means far more than being “free from”; more importantly, it means being “free for”. Are God’s people up for the challenge??

You are invited to join us on Thursdays, between 6 to 7:30PM, at the Faith Formation and Ministry Center (2425-7th Avenue). For questions or for more information, please contact Sharon at 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Memorials for 2015-16

 <p>In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family</p> <p>10/16/16</p>	<p>In loving memory of Dr. Richard P Crinigan, Jr requested by his wife, Patricia and Children</p> <p>4/24/16</p>	<p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family</p> <p>4/17/16</p>
<p>In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family</p> <p>4/24/16</p>	<p>In loving memory of Genevieve M Dyer requested by her beloved husband Bill, Children & Grandchildren</p> <p>2/28/16</p>	<p>In loving memory of William T Fahr, Sr & Julia F Fahr requested by the Family</p> <p>1/31/16</p>
<p>In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family</p> <p>1/3/16</p>	<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope</p> <p>1/3/16</p>	<p>In loving memory of James D Langford requested by Lilia Langford & Christine Callahan</p>

IHM PRAYER TREE MINISTRY—If you have someone you would like prayed for: increased health, speedy recovery from surgery or illness, safe travel; contact Brenda at 271-6184.

PARISH INFORMATION—New Members—In our weekly bulletin, there is a short tear off that you can use to begin the registration process. Once filled out, it can be put in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office. The parish secretary will then mail you a membership form and some information about the different ministries available at the parish, along with contact information.

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!!

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Weekly Collection (including mail-in)

Dec 6-7, 2014.....\$8784.00

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

Readings for the Week of December 13, 2015

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-6/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Ps 85:9-14/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-6, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Heb 10:5-10/
Lk 1:39-45

Mass Intentions for Dec 14-20

Mon., Dec 14

9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Tues., Dec 15 MASS

9:00am—Louise Kelly (1st Anniv), req by Anne Dembrosky

Wed., Dec 16 MASS

9:00am—Living & Deceased members of IHM

Thurs., Dec 17 MASS

9:00am—Anthony, Angeline, Francis Moffre, req by the daughter
Augustus DeCarlo famil, req by the grdaughter

Fri., Dec 18

9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Sat., Dec 19

4:00pm—Ruth Kramer (Anniv), req by her sister & family

Paul Esposito, Sr, req by the family

Barbara Ann Amato, req by the Amato family

Sun., Dec 20

8:30am—Marion Persons, req by Brenda
Mr C Bradley Culkin, req by Martha & Ron Soucy
Bertha Bariteau, req by MaryRose MacLasco

11:00am—Don Winterbourne, req by the family

Paul Esposito (10th Anniv), req by the family

Francis, Kathleen & Eileen Deck, req by Joan & Karl

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL



PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPE ASAP IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE NAMES OF YOUR LOVED ONES LISTED FOR CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE ANNUAL FLYER. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 14. THANK YOU