



Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

Watervliet/Green Island NY

December 16, 2018

Celebration of the Eucharist
Saturday Vigil—4:00PM, Sunday—8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Weekday Schedules
Communion Service: Monday & Friday, 9:00 AM
Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9:00 AM

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

PARISH 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 the 4:00pm Mass

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

The Anointing of the Sick will be administered the first full weekend of each month, immediately after each Mass.

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Deacon Al's Corner ~

Conversion – What do you think of when you hear the word “conversion?” Conversion means to alter or change. In today’s Gospel John the Baptist is telling the people they need a conversion of heart and attitude. He tells them “share your extra cloak with the person who has none,” “do not practice extortion,” and “do not falsely accuse anyone.” The Gospel concludes by telling us that John was “Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.” The good news is John believed that the people (we) can change. We can change by sharing with the less fortunate, by protecting our environment, by loving our neighbors and by being honest. We can also change bad habits like mean or angry behavior. What would John ask you to change? Conversion, change, is possible with God’s help. That’s good news!

Rejoice – The liturgical colors for the other three Sundays in Advent is violet, but today, on the third Sunday of Advent, we can use rose vestments and we light the rose colored candle. Violet is the color for penance and rose for rejoicing. As we get closer to Christmas the mood shifts from sadness to rejoicing. We’ve been reading and reflecting on the “blue Books,” reading the Infancy Narrative (Luke chapters 1 & 2) and we have been praying more during Advent. Or have we? If we haven’t done these or other similar prayerful things to get ready for Christmas there is still time. If we do more to keep **Jesus** in our heart during Advent, we will rejoice more with His gifts of Peace, Joy and Love at Christmas. That’s more good news!

Relax – Maybe you haven’t been able to do all you wanted to do during Advent. Maybe you are struggling with something difficult. Please take some time to breath in the love of God that surrounds you, and exhale all that gives you anxiety. Stop and focus on your breathing right now. Breath in the love of God that surrounds you, and exhale all that gives you anxiety. God loves you unconditionally. Now that’s real Good News!

Parish Reconciliation – *Fr. Rutherford is available on Saturdays prior to the 4:00pm Mass for Reconciliation. He will also provide opportunities for Reconciliation on December 18th at 9:30am following Mass and at 6:30pm in the evening.*



Advent Prayer: Week 3, Joy

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

Social Justice: Caring for the Environment

Philippians 4:6—“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God”.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si:—“Yet God, who wishes to work with us and who counts on our cooperation, can also bring good out of the evil we have done”.

Catholic Social Teaching:—“we believe economic freedom, initiative, and creativity are essential to help our nation find effective ways to address climate change”.

ISLAM 101: Presentation by Rev Fr. Jim Kane—As we approach the birth of the **Prince of Peace** it would be a good time to learn about the faith of our Muslim sisters and brothers.

The Rev. Fr. Jim Kane, interfaith affairs Director of the Albany Diocese, will offer an overview of ISLAM, the religion of the Muslims on **December 19 at 6:00pm in the Parish Life Center**. The purpose is to increase knowledge about a faith understood by few yet prominently featured in the media. Pope John Paul II during his 2001 visit to Syria said: **"Together we must proclaim to the world that the name of the one God is a name of peace and a summons to peace."**

Scripture Sharing: New Study, The Gospel of John—Please note: there will be no Scripture sessions on December 13 due to scheduling conflicts.

Join us Thursday, December 20 from **2 to 3pm** for a Scripture study on the Gospel of John. Prepared by Dynamic Catholic, it is called the Turning Point and will take a look at *"Eight Encounters with Jesus that will Change Your Life"*. All are welcome- no previous study necessary. Hope you will join us!! For more information, please contact Sharon at 518 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

RCIA and Sacramental Preparation for Adults and Older Children—

Need to receive sacraments –Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation; for yourself, an older teen or young adult? Whatever your needs may be – whether completing the Sacraments of Initiation or questions about becoming members of Catholic faith, we are here to help you make it happen. We will work around your schedule and your individual area of need.

Something to consider - Do you know that in order to be a godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation, you must have received all three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation)???

Just a quick note. Children attending Catholic high school do not make their Confirmation through the *school*, but through their *home parish*. Need more information?? Contact Sharon at 518 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Pray for Vocations—Will you pray this each day this week?

God, in Baptism you called me by name and made me a member of your people, the Church. Help all your people to know their vocation in life, and to respond by living a life of holiness.

For your greater glory and for the service of your people, raise up dedicated and generous leaders who will serve as sisters, priests, brothers, deacon, and lay ministers.

Prayer & Worship: Monday, December 17—There will be a meeting of the Prayer & Worship committee, at 6pm on Monday, December 16 in the Parish Life Center. All are welcome.



Mary's Kitchen: Mondays, 3 to 5pm—Please note: *Mary's Kitchen will be closed on December 24 and 31. We will reopen at the regular time on January 7.*

We will be purchasing a new refrigerator for Mary's Kitchen thanks to the generosity of the Passonno family. May God bless them as abundantly as they have blessed us!! Questions about Mary's Kitchen?? Contact Sharon at 518 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org for more information.

Faith Formation - For All Ages: Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Practice for Christmas Eve Play

We are practicing for the Christmas Eve play (which will be presented on December 24, at the 4:30pm Mass) at Faith Formation sessions this weekend. Please be sure to let your child's catechist know if your children will be available on those dates. Questions?? Call Sharon at 518-328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Caroling: Sunday December 16

Our young people in Faith Formation, their families and any interested parishioners will go caroling in the surrounding neighborhoods December 16, immediately after the 11am Mass. When finished, we'll meet back in the Parish Life Center for an Advent Pizza party.

Faith Formation Sessions

There will be no AM or PM Faith Formation sessions on December 23 and 31. Classes will resume on January 6 at the regular times.

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 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 16: Family Mass at 11am, followed by caroling

December 17 Prayer and Worship, 6pm PLC

December 24: Christmas Eve Family Mass, 4:30

<h2>In Memoriam ~ 2019</h2>		
 In loving memory of J. Vince Cocca requested by his wife and Children <small>11/10/19</small>	In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family <small>10/20/19</small>	In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family <small>5/12/19</small>
In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family <small>4/28/19</small>	In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John Novak, Rosalie & Florence Szpot requested by the Family <small>4/7/19</small>	In loving memory of William T, Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family <small>1/27/19</small>
In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope <small>1/6/19</small>	In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family <small>1/6/19</small>	In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family <small>12/23/18</small>

A Message From Our Neighbor:

Blue Christmas: A Service of Remembrance & Hope ... For some people Christmas is a difficult time. The joy of the season is overshadowed by the grief over the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, or the end of a marriage. If this is true for you this year or if you know someone for whom it is true, we encourage you to come to our community **Blue Christmas Service** on **December 16th at 7:00pm** at St John's Episcopal Church, 405 Vliet Blvd, Cohoes. This service is designed especially for you. You are not alone. You are loved.



IHM Prayer Ministry—If you would like the prayer team to pray for you or a loved one; or would like to be a part of the prayer team, please contact Brenda at 518 271-6184.

IHM Website:

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. **Check it out and see for yourself!!**

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
DUE TO AN EARLY DEADLINE THE COLLECTION TALLY WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN.



Bringing up the Eucharistic Gifts at Mass—Any parishioner having a special Mass intention at a particular Mass, is welcome to carry up one of the Eucharistic Gifts at the Offertory. Upon arrival at Church, speak with one of the ushers and they will be happy to assist you.

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Christmas Flower Remembrance

Please submit your names **before December 18th** to allow ample time for preparation of flyer which will be displayed to take home on Christmas Day. The sheets will be on the back table in Church.



Mass Intentions for the Week

- Sat., Dec 15**
 4:00pm—Joan Ross, req by Cindy & Gene John/Louise Kelly, req by Mick/Anne Dembrosky Living & deceased members of IHM
- Sun., Dec 16**
 8:30am—Marion Persons (8th Anniv), req by Brenda, Norman & Edgar
 John Somich, Anniv, req by Helen Somich
 Edward Kennedy, req by the family
 11:00am—Marian/Don Winterbourne, req by family
 John Bonville (8th Anniv), req by family
 Paul Esposito, Sr, req by the family
- Mon., Dec 17**
 9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE
- Tues., Dec 18**
 9:00am—Charles Bulson (B'day), req by family
- Wed., Dec 19**
 9:00am—Carl & Agnes Dembrosky, req by Mick & Anne Dembrosky
- Thurs., Dec 20**
 9:00am—Joseph Monaghan, req by Joseph Early
 Marie Delisle, req by Peg Fisk
- Fri., Dec 21**
 9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE
- Sat., Dec 22**
 4:00pm—Frank Comley, req by Joseph Early
 Dara Martin, req by Joseph Early
 Francis and Kathleen Deck, req by Karl & Joan
- Sun., Dec 23**
 8:30am—C. Bradley Culkin, req by Martha & Ron Soucy
 Walter Tuchowski, req by Tom & Jane Hanley
 Living & deceased members of IHM
 11:00am—Louise Kelly (4th Anniv), req by Mick & Anne Dembrosky
 Geraldine Wellworth, req by Mary Ellen Hanley
 Mary Theresa Cassidy, req by Anthony Cassidy & Marilyn LaParl

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.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
 HOME PHONE: _____ CELL: _____