

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

Watervliet/Green Island NY

December 29, 2019

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil—4:00PM

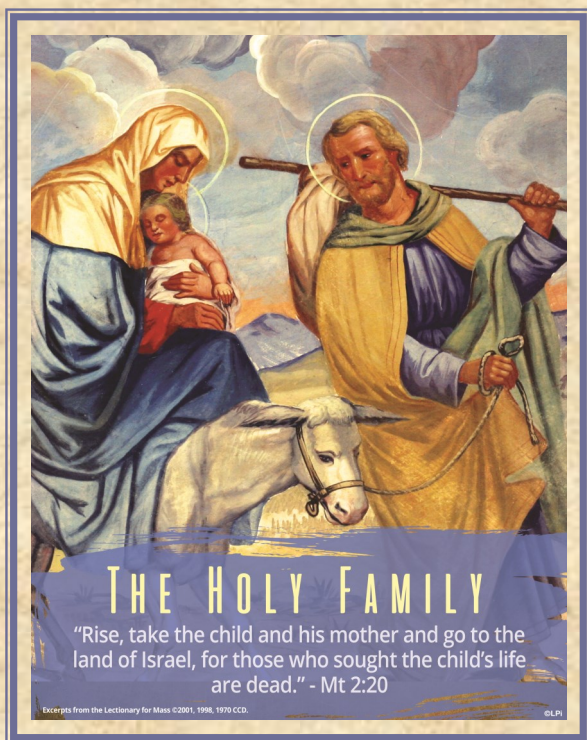
Sunday—8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

Communion Service: Monday, 9:00 AM

Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:00 AM

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE



PASTORAL STAFF
Fr Don Rutherford, Pastor
Deacon Mark Leonard
Shawn Allen, Business Administrator
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: 8:30am—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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RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

God's GPS Never Fails

I use GPS wherever I go, and it serves me well most of the time. However, sometimes it leads me to a place that does not exist. Then there are those times when I am about to turn, and the man inside my phone shouts out, "GPS signal lost!" or "Rerouting!" The problem is, when the area is unfamiliar to me, I have no choice but to listen. I could try to get where I am going by simple intuition or by pulling over to look at a paper map, but I don't trust my sense of direction. And I haven't bought a paper map in close to a decade!

Many people move through life without any direction. They find themselves constantly rerouting and wondering when they will ever get to a satisfying final destination. What they need is a compass and a companion for the journey. Yet they have no idea how to get either.

Prayer can serve as a compass, and it connects us to a companion for the journey. Stewardship living is impossible without prayer. If we count on our own will and believe we can become fruitful without daily contact with the Divine, we can find ourselves looking for directions more than moving toward a destination. God, through prayer, will help us see all we have as a gift. God, through prayer, will lead us away from materialism and selfishness and toward freedom and generosity. Even when we fall to sin, the path back is clearer. God's GPS signal is never really lost.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule for Holy Day of Obligation

December 31 - 5:30 PM

January 1 - 9:00 AM

IHM PRAYER MINISTRY~ The prayer tree ministry is made up of a group of people who pray for others—for anyone who would like to have prayers said for themselves for wellbeing; or for a family member, relative or friend, contact **Brenda** at **518 271-6184**. We believe as faith-filled people, prayer matters and offers hope. If you think you might be interested in being part of the prayer tree ministry, call the phone number above.

PLEASE NOTE HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The Parish Office will be OPEN Monday, Dec. 30th and CLOSED Dec. 31st & Jan. 1st for New Year's Holiday. We will be re-open on Thursday 8:30am to 3:00pm, and Friday 10:30am to 3:00pm.



MARY'S KITCHEN: Mondays, 3 to 5pm ~ Mary's Kitchen will be open on Monday, December 30 at the regular time.

Note: We are looking for volunteers to bring food items to Joseph's House in Troy occasionally on Tuesday mornings. Please contact Sharon if you might be able to help. Thanks!!

Come join us at Mary's Kitchen. All members of the community are invited – both parishioners and non-parishioners alike – to enjoy an eat in meal, chat and relax with friends or to pick up a meal to take out. Questions?? Contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 for more information.



Collection of Personal Care Items for Joseph's House—Many thanks to all who donated personal care items for residents of Joseph's House. We collected over 350 items. God bless you for your generosity and caring always.

RCIA AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION for ADULTS AND OLDER CHILDREN ~ We are currently meeting Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 3pm. Ed and Don are preparing to receive their sacraments on the Easter Vigil in the spring. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) or are curious about the process, feel free to stop in and see what it is all about.

Need more information?? Contact Sharon at 518 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

SCRIPTURE SHARING: The Letter of James - Please note: We will not have Scripture on December 26 and January 2. Sessions will resume on January 9. We meet on Thursdays from 2 to 3pm in the Parish Life Center. Our new series is on the Letter of James. On January 9, we will view a DVD based on James 1:19-27.

Why not join us?? For more information, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Reading-Colossians 3:15 "And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body."

Pope Francis- Laudato Si: "As Christians, we are also called 'to accept the world as a sacrament of communion, as a way of sharing with God and our neighbors on a global scale.'"

Catholic Social Teaching-USCCB,1991: "To insure the survival of a healthy planet, then, we must not only establish a sustainable economy but must also labor for justice both within and among nations."

Care 4 Creation: "To save us from all sin, O Holy trinity, deliver us."

Faith Formation: For All Ages

Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of
Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

2019-2020 Faith Formation Sessions

**Please note: there will be no AM or PM sessions on December 29. AM and PM sessions will resume on January 5, the Feast of the Epiphany.*

The AM session for Faith Formation (Prek-3yr old-gr.7) is 9:45 to 10:45am and the PM session (gr.8-12) is 12 noon to 1:15pm. Questions, please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Faith Formation: The Mass is the Class

We anticipate seeing you at Mass every Sunday. Mass is where we celebrate and live out all we learn about our faith in Faith Formation. It is where we meet Jesus every week in the Liturgy of the Word and in the Eucharist. Questions about our Faith Formation program? Please contact Sharon at 518-328-0427 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Children will join Faith Formation catechists in the CLOW room for special readings directed towards children. Father will call them forward and they will leave with the catechists and return after the Prayer of the Faithful.

Here's What's Coming Up in January

January 5: Epiphany of Our Lord
January 5: Faith Formation AM/PM sessions resume

January 12: Baptism of Our Lord
January 12: Parish Christmas Party, PLC following 11am Mass


January 13: Gathering Disciples, 6pm PLC

INCLEMENT WEATHER ALERT!!! During the Winter months when there is a Watervliet School closing due to

snow or severe weather conditions, there will be NO morning Mass nor Communion Service that day!

The parish office will also be closed. **WATCH YOUR LOCAL TV STATION!!**



In Memoriam ~ 2019~2020		
 <p>In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family</p> <p>10/25/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family</p> <p>5/24/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family</p> <p>5/10/20</p>
<p>In loving memory of William T, Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family</p> <p>2/9/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope</p> <p>1/19/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family</p> <p>1/19/20</p>
<p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family</p> <p>1/12/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan</p> <p>1/5/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family</p> <p>12/29/19</p>

Gospel Meditation ~ “*Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you.*” 725 kilometers. That’s the distance on modern roads from Bethlehem to Cairo. Assuming one covered 40km a day on foot—ambitious for two young parents and their infant son—the journey would take well over two weeks. Of course, the Holy Family didn’t have modern roads. They would travel through wilderness, fear bandits, run low on water, and cross the vast Sinai Peninsula in a reverse of their forefathers in Exodus. Here, in struggle and sacrifice, are the beginnings of the forging of the Holy Family.

“*Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod.*” Large Jewish communities existed in most major cities of the ancient Mediterranean world, after the collapse of their kingdoms chronicled in the Old Testament, and Joseph could likely find work as a carpenter. All the same, today’s Gospel reminds us that the first formational years of Jesus as a babe-in-arms were spent in a strange land. The members of the Holy Family were foreigners, outsiders, immigrants.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. God took on our humanity. He is in solidarity with our own trials and difficulties. On the feast of the Holy Family, we honor the special place of the family within society. We are invited, too, to recall those families who share in the struggles of the Holy Family in a particular way. We pray for immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. We pray for all parents who sacrifice their own well-being and comfort so their children may have a better life. ©LPi



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat., Dec 28
4:00pm—John & Louise Kelly, req by Mick & Anne Dembrosky

Sun., Dec 29
8:30am—James Mantello, req by Linda Dunbar
Julia Gamble (Lv'g), req by Gonsowski family
Margaret Rose Gonsowski, req by son/daughter
11:00am—Living & deceased members of IHM

Mon., Dec 30
9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Tues., Dec 31—SOLEMNITY OF MARY, VIGIL
5:30pm—living & deceased members of IHM

Wed., Jan 1—HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
9:00am—Helen Werner, req by her daughters,
Judy, Kathy and Sue

Thurs., Jan 2
9:00am—All parishioners of IHM

Fri., Jan 3—NO COMMUNION SERVICE

Sat., Jan 4
4:00pm—Phyllis Palitsch, req by Brenda Persons
Carl & Agnes Dembrosky, req by Mick & Anne Dembrosky
Living & deceased members of IHM

Sun., Jan 5
8:30am—James C Mantello, req by IHM Staff
11:00am—Edward C Kennedy, req by the family
Margaret Alund, req by Lorraine Alund

HOLY FAMILY



HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE ~ We now have hearing assist earphones that are available for use during Mass time. The hearing aid is linked to the same frequency as our sound system and will only work within the Church building. If you have difficulty hearing, please feel free to use one of them during Mass, they are located on a stand at the rear of the church. Just return the earphone to the same stand where you picked it up.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND ~ "Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another." Work to live in your marriage as God desires by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 27-29, 2020 in Albany, NY and Jul 10-12, 2020 in East Windsor, CT. For more information, call Pat & Mary Jo McLaughlin at 860-315-2127 or visit them at <https://www.mectw.org/>.

PRESENTING THE GIFTS AT MASS ~ Any parishioner who has a Mass intention at a specific Mass, please speak with a 'greeter or usher' as soon as you arrive at church that you would like to bring up the Eucharistic Gifts for that Mass... They will be happy to assist you.



ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
Weekly Collection (incl mail-in/E.G.)
Dec 15-16, 2018.....\$5672.00
Dec 14-15, 2019.....\$4980.00