



Then Jesus was led into the desert
by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil.
Mt 4:1

FIRST SUNDAY OF
Lent

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

Watervliet/Green Island NY

March 5, 2017

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil—4:00PM

Sunday—8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

Communion Service: Monday and Friday at 9:00 AM

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

All Are Welcome

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

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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.

Deacon Al's Corner

Field Hospital - In his first book as Pope, Francis has described the Church as a “field hospital” offering people “first aid.” The pontiff also spoke of his “special relations” with people in prison and the need for the Church to show compassion to homosexuals. He further states that “the Church is not a tollhouse; it is the house of the Father, where there is a place for everyone, with all their problems. **“All Are Welcome.”**”

Baptisms – We had two Baptisms on February 26th Nicholas and Mabel! Congratulations to Nicholas Diaco and his parents Katherine and Michael; and Congratulations to Mabel Dunbar and her parents, Shane and Julianne. Please know how happy we are to have you celebrate this first Sacrament of initiation with our parish family. We hope to have you celebrate “the Eucharist, our family meal” with us for many years to come. May God bless you.

Participation – Super Bowl 51 may be a distant memory by now, but if you watched it, do you remember what you did besides sitting there watching the TV? For many people there are rituals associated with watching the Super Bowl. Were you alone or with others? Did you have snacks, wings, beer, and soda? Did you talk about what you saw? Did you discuss the game and the commercials? The Mass is our sacred ritual. What do you do when you come to Mass? How well do you listen and participate? Do you sing? Do you listen to the readings from Scripture; do you listen to the homily? Do you **recognize Jesus** in the Word and the Breaking of the Bread? The more you participate in the Eucharistic celebration the more you will “get out of it.”

VOCATIONS MINISTRY—*At this, Jesus said to him, “Get away, Satan! It is written: ‘The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.’”* This verse 10 from Matthew 4:1-11 gives Jesus’ response to the Devil in resisting his persistent temptations to ignore the Will of God. Let us use these powerful words to guide us when God calls us to serve Him. Just as today’s Gospel showed Jesus’ refusal to turn away from His vocation, we must not turn away from our own vocations, but instead pray for God’s help in resisting the temptations and distractions that are around us. We pray also for God’s mercy and guidance for all those among us who are called to vocations of the priesthood, religious life, or lay ecclesial ministry, including ways that we can assist them in fulfilling their callings.

Please sign up to bring the Traveling Chalice to your home as you pray.



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 _____

+ **Tuesdays in Lent: Get Ready for Something Special**—Start with a simple supper and then Adoration or a video series by Bishop Robert Barron, “*Catholicism: the Pivotal Players*”; sounds like we could be ready to experience a special Lenten journey...

Please sign up to share a soup or a salad – sign up sheets are on the table in the foyer of the church. Hope to see you at 5:30pm, beginning Tuesday, March 7 for a special Lenten experience.

Stations of the Cross: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus—Share a special gift with your families this Lent; take some time out of your busy lives to attend the Stations as a family at **7PM on Fridays**. Sometimes to really understand the journey, you have to walk in the footsteps of Jesus on His way to the cross.

There are many ways to experience the Stations; many ways to express the same prayer: The schedule this year is: March 3: Traditional; March 10, Rosarians: St. John XXIII; March 17, Confirmation: Today’s Disciples; March 24, FF/RCIA, Everyone’s Way of the Cross; March 31: Rosarians, Through the Eyes of Mary; April 7: Gr. 6-9. Deacon Al will also have stations in the afternoon on Good Friday at 3pm.

Lenten Prayer Banner—As Christians, we know the Cross to be a symbol of healing, sacrifice and great love. In the back of the church, there is a Lenten Prayer Banner. Crosses will be placed nearby in a basket. Please take a cross, write on it the name of a person or intention that you will be praying for this Lent and pin it to the banner.

Smile Train: Man Proposes and God Disposes... Because of the bad weather on February 11/12, we had a make-up bake sale last week end. We were hoping to collect enough in donations and sales to match last year’s total – which was a record – of \$2613. Through the INCREDIBLE generosity of the friends and parishioners of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, we will be sending a check to Smile Train in the amount of **\$3690.00**...with our 5x matching grant, that total will grow to **\$18,450**...over 70 children will now be able to have a life changing surgery and a rebirth, or “resurrection” to a new life. They will be able to go to school, have friends, someday get a job, be married and have their own families...all because of you.

What a lesson in trust we learned this year. We were so disappointed when we saw the snowstorm intensify...we thought we might let our Smile Train children down this year...but, God had other plans...

May God bless you all with the gift of rebirth; in health, faith and hope; from the God who constantly calls us to love each other, as He loves each of us

Lenten Coins: This Year, “Lift High the Cross” —This year’s Lenten coins were purchased for the parish by Faith Formation as a show of gratitude for all the support given to our young people by the parish. On the coin, are the words to a familiar hymn, “Lift High the Cross, the Love of Christ Proclaim.” This hymn is used for different feasts and solemnities, such as the Exaltation of the Cross; Palm/Passion Sunday, Holy Week and the Easter season.

We remember our Lord’s words, “He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake will find it.” (Mt 10:38,39). May carrying this Lenten cross, in our pocket or on a key chain, help us to remember our Lord’s great sacrifice and love as we journey with him in this season of Lent.

Faith Formation For All Ages

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

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Lent: What can I Do for Lent This Year??

What will Lent mean to you, as a family, this year? Just another few weeks of cold winter weather...giving up chocolate or desserts...

OR, how about really taking a look at this liturgical season of **Purification and Enlightenment**? There is so much happening at Immaculate Heart of Mary this Lent. Every Tuesday in Lent there is a simple supper at 5:30pm, followed by Adoration or a DVD that makes being Catholic make sense. Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7pm...first the Traditional stations, the second Friday is presented by the Rosary Society, the third presented by our Confirmation candidates, sponsors and parents; Everyone’s way of the Cross is next; the fifth week is again led by our Rosarians; finally, our grades 6-9 will present the Stations on April 7.

OR, how about making a real effort to get back into the practice of attending weekly Mass as a family? It seems so easy to scoop up the children after Faith Formation and go right out the door of the church...is whatever we’re rushing out to as important as celebrating the next 40 minutes with the community in an experience of worship and thanksgiving for all God has done for us that week?? Think about it and try it for a few weeks...you just might find that it’s a life-changer.

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.

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.

Here’s What’s Coming Up in March

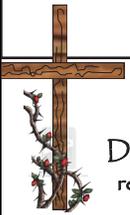
Lenten Tuesdays: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11
March 16: An Evening with the Apostle, Peter



Holy Hour for Vocations: March 21

Stations of the Cross: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7 and Good Friday

In Memoriam ~ 2017

 <p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">12/17/17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">10/15/17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of J. Vince Cocca requested by his wife and Children</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">10/8/17</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John G Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">8/20/17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of William T, Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">7/30/17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of James D Langford requested by Lilia Langford</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">7/23/17</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">7/2/17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">7/2/17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">4/23/17</p>

SCRIPTURE STUDY: *Gospel of Matthew*—You are invited to join us Thursday, March 9, from 6pm to 7pm in the Parish Life Center for a DVD on Chapter 18 of the Gospel of Matthew, *Characteristics of the Christian Community*. For more information, please contact Sharon at 328-0427 or skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org. All are welcome to join us, no previous study required!!

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

4/23/17

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.

Mary's Kitchen: Winter hours 3:00—5:00pm—What a treat our guests had last week!! Thanks to some wonderful donations, the menu included Seafood gumbo, turkey rice soup, Pasta, red beans/rice/veggies and the usual sandwiches, hot dogs and tossed salad. Add to that, some wonderful treats that were left over from the Bake sale for Smile Train...not bad for a soup kitchen!!

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.

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.

ROSARY SOCIETY—The Rosary Society usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month. However, due to the fact that Ash Wednesday is March 1st, the rosary Society meeting in March will be on the 15th. Please continue to say the rosary for World Peace and join us before the 8:30am Mass on Sundays to pray the rosary as a group. If you have any questions, please contact Linda at 209-6446.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Weekly collection (including mail-in)

Feb 20-21, 2016.....\$6515.00

Feb 18-19, 2017.....\$7577.00

Feb 27-28, 2016.....\$6161.00

Feb 25-26, 2017.....\$6090.00

Thank you for your continuing support to Immaculate Heart of Mary.



Sat., Mar 4
4:00pm—Lv'g & deceased members of IHM

Sun., Mar 5
8:30am—William Fahr, Sr (B'day), req by the family
Robert Robillard, req by Legnard Curtin Aux
Dorothy (1st Anniv)/Joseph (B'day) Slupski, req by Keith Slupski

11:00am—Sean O'Brien, req by Marilyn LaParl
Joan Hall/Dolores Lazzaro } The Mercer
Helen & Bill Ryan } family

Mon., Mar 6
9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Tues., Mar 7
9:00am—Charles Centanni, req by wife, Marge
Jim Langford (9th Anniv), req by Lilia Langford
Charles Bulson, req by Duffey family

Wed., Mar 8
9:00am—Margaret Foley, req by Lorraine Alund
Sophie Halayko, req by Toni/Stephen Halayko
Charles Bulson, req by Lucille Lacosse

Thurs., Mar 9
9:00am—Charles Bulson, req by Audrey O'Hare
Jacqueline Gauthier (B'day), req by Jean Perras
Margaret Foley, req by Kathleen Raleigh

Fri., Mar 10
9:00am—COMMUNION SERVICE

Sat., Mar 11
4:00pm—Eileen Deck, req by Joan & Karl
Mr & Mrs Matthew McAvoy, req by grandchildren
Teresa L Fahr (1st Anniv), req by the family

Sun., Mar 12
8:30am—Living & deceased members of
11:00am—Selina Hudy, req by her husband
Linda Housel, req by Bob & Carol Carlson
Maurice Collins (T-Boy), req by Marie Mock/
Brenda Persons