



**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**
819 E. Cathedral Road
Philadelphia, PA 19128
215-483-1000, Fax: 215-483-1732
Website: ihmphila.org

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
SCHOOL**
815 E. Cathedral Road
Philadelphia, PA 19128
215-482-2029
Website: iheartmary.org

Rev. Edward J. Casey, Pastor

Rev. Quan H. Tran, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Sean P. Bransfield, in Residence

Deacon Salvatore R. Bianco

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY - THE LORD'S DAY

Vigil - Saturday 5:15 pm

7:30 am, 9:30 am, and 11:30 am

WEEKDAYS: IN SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Monday thru Friday 8:30 am

Saturday 8:00 am

Wednesdays when school is in session Mass will be held in the Church - 8:30 am

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

5:15 pm Vigil Mass

8:30 am, Noon, & 7:00 pm

HOLIDAYS: IN CHURCH

9:00 am (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Thanksgiving Day)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN CHURCH

Saturday 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

TUESDAY

SOLEMN EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AFTER 8:30 am MASS UNTIL 6:30 p.m.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

**TUESDAY EVENING AT 6:30 pm
BENEDICTION FOLLOWS NOVENA PRAYERS**

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

Baptism - The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Sundays at 12:30 PM.

Pre-Jordan - Instruction/sacramental preparation for parents of children to be baptized is held every other month. The meeting is usually held in the Sacred Heart Chapel, except during Lent, when it is held in Church. Parents of children to be baptized should contact Mrs. Denise Schmidt in the parish office between the hours of 9am and 4pm to register. **The next date for the Parent Pre-Jordan is Tuesday, January 7 at 7 PM.** Pre-Jordan sacramental preparation is required for **each** child to be baptized at IHM. Please see the guidelines for choosing a sponsor on page 6 of the Parish Bulletin.

Marriage - To adequately prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage, Archdiocesan policy requires that couples contact one of the priests of the parish at least 6 months in advance.

Pre-Cana Marriage Prep—Spring Session TBA.

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is the program for those interested in initiation into the Catholic Faith. Information is also available for those who may not have completed the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation).

Please contact the Director of Religious Education, Mary Anne Kostic-King -215-483-4266

We Pray and Worship Together

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF
December 15, 2024**

SAT.	14	5:15 pm	Joan A. Reed
SUN.	15	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Deceased Members of the Santo & Caruso Families George & Marie Wandsleben
MON.	16	8:30	Rudy Yee
TUES.	17	8:30	Kevin Montgomery
WED.	18	8:30	Rebre & Hoffman Family
THUR	19	8:30	Ann Kusniesz
FRI.	20	8:30	Mr. & Mrs. Tinh Nguyen
SAT.	21	8:00 5:15 pm	Mary E. Barr 27th Anniversary Helen & Thomas Wynne
SUN	22	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Patricia A. Kost All Deceased Members of the Salvatore, Schneider, & Alfieri Families

***Please note, not all Mass intentions are for the deceased, some are for the living.**

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need.

Maria Aduso, Ruben Aduso, Cindi & Lance Bownet, Josie Bucolo, Dolores Buzby, Lois Cartwright, Brooke Conklin, Walter Crate, Helen Cyzio, Maria Downey, Francis "Joe" Elliott, Dr. Angeline M. Gampico, Bernadette Giambuzzi, Lora L. Golasa, James Goussy, Joseph Henkel, Regina Joka, Mary Jo & Paul King, Olga Kostic, Mary Krier, Marianne Leahy, Charles Lott, Patricia Markelewicz, Dominic Matteo, Trudy & Dick Neff, Frances Orlicki, Bill Pinto, Maria Prince, Christine Seymour, & Sierra, David Sparacino, Sr. Mary Thaddeus, Wayne Whitehouse,



We continue to pray for our men & women in the military here and overseas and for all 1st responders.

The food that you so generously donate goes to the following organizations:

North Light Community Center

Missionaries of Charity

St. Francis Inn

Military & Family Readiness Program

Thank you for helping those in need.

The Sanctuary Light in our **Sacred Heart Chapel** for the week of December 16 to December 22

is in loving memory of
Diego Burbano
requested by his wife,
Frances Burbano.



ROSES

The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving member of Gladys & Nick Di Natale requested by their daughter, Jean Di Nardi.



The rose placed in the **Chapel** is in loving memory of John & Gertrude Coyle requested by John & Kathy Romano.

Sunday Offering Week of December 1, 2024

Envelopes	\$ 10,458.00
Loose	935.00
Parish Giving (E-Giving)	760.00
	\$ 12,153.00

of envelopes – 489
Average - \$21.39

To make a **secure contribution** on-line please visit ihmphila.org and click on the Parish Giving Logo.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



Pastor's Page

The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as “Gaudete Sunday”. *Gaudete* is translated from the Latin as “Rejoice”! This comes from the Introit or Entrance Antiphon for the Mass day. The quote is taken from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians (4:4-5). “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say, Rejoice! Indeed, the Lord is near. “

The Old Testament reading today is from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah. The book itself is very small, only 3 chapters. Today’s passage is a message of hope to the Israelites who have seen the kingdom continue to fall apart and be threatened by the Babylonians. The message can be drawn across to our day, with the message of hope that leads us to rejoice.

Zephaniah talks about “The Lord has removed the judgment against you...the King of Israel, the Lord is in your midst.” This is the reason for our joy, God is in our midst.

The second reading continues the Introit. St. Paul challenges us to respond in the most appropriate way to the message: “your kindness should be known to all”. Paul then outlines the course of action we should take, knowing that the Lord is near. Prayer and petition with Thanksgiving are correct courses of action.

The Gospel passage from Luke today (3:10-18) sees John preaching and giving some concrete examples of what his baptism of repentance should entail. The people are eager to follow him, and they ask what they should do. “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none”. Same with food. It is interesting that even the tax collectors were being baptized and John told them to stop extorting more than was proscribed. Act honorably, be honest.

So many people had hoped that perhaps John was the messiah, the one who was coming to save God’s people, the fulfillment of all of the prophecies. Instead, John speaks the truth in his humility and says: I am not the one. There is one coming after me. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Let us continue to listen to the voices of Advent. We rejoice in God’s gifts to us.

Father Casey

Clergy Schedule for Next Weekend (celebrants are subject to change)

Saturday, December 21, 2024

Vigil 5:15 pm - Fr. Quan

Sunday, December 22, 2024

7:30 am – Fr. Quan

9:30 am - Fr. Sean

11:30 am Fr. Casey

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

- 1) 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 (17C)
- 2) 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
- 3) Luke 2:41-52



Each Tuesday the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for our adoration in our Sacred Heart Chapel from 9 am to 6:30 pm. Benediction and Novena follows.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR
BROTHERS AND SISTERS**





CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2024



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (Confession)

Wednesday, December 18, 2024
6:15 PM to 7:15 PM
Saturday, December 21, 2024
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

MASSES

Tuesday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024
Vigil 4:00 PM
Vigil 7:00 PM

Wednesday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2024
7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Tuesday, January 31, 2024
Vigil 5:15 PM
, Wednesday, January 1, 2024
8:30 AM & 12 PM

Confessions and all Masses are in the Church

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Father Sullivan Hall
Tuesday, December 31, 2024
8:00am to 1:00pm

To schedule an appointment visit:
[Red CrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)
and enter: IHM Parish

There is no better way to start the New Year then by giving the gift of life.



Visits to the Sick

We are in the process of gathering the names of parishioners who due to illness or age or mobility are not able to make Mass on a regular basis. If you are in need or you know someone who would like to receive the Eucharist at their home, please contact Denise Schmidt, the parish secretary during business hours with their information. We will be setting up visits by our Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.



As a reminder, please do not leave bulletins, food, tissues or any other articles in the church pews. Please be mindful that there are several Masses over the weekend and the pews should be as clean as possible.

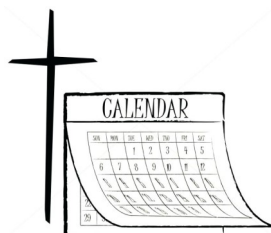
Your continued help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

2025 CALENDARS

We just recently found out that we lost our sponsor for the Church calendars. We have placed the order for the calendars and they will be coming in the next couple of weeks.

If you own a business and would be interested in sponsoring the calendars for **2026** please call the Rectory Office at 215-483-1000.

Thank you.



*Welcome to the newest members
of our IHM Parish*

Rhina Navarro

CLEANERS NEEDED FOR GOD'S HOUSE

We are still looking for a few volunteers to help keep our church clean. It will be dusting, vacuuming the rugs and cleaning the glass doors.

If you are able to clean once a month please contact Denise Schmidt in the Parish Office 215-483-1000

The next casserole pickup for St. John's Hospice is on Wednesday, January 8 at 9 am.

CHURCH KNEELER RESTORATION PROJECT

We are still accepting donations for the **Church Kneeler Restoration Project**. Forms and envelopes are at all the entrances of the Church and Chapel.

The person that you choose to memorialized, their name will be placed on a plaque that will hang in the Church. This is a beautiful way to remember your loved one and support the improvement of our Church.

If you have any questions, please call Denise Schmidt in the Parish Office. 215-483-1000.

St. Vincent dePaul Society

The next scheduled meetings of the

St. Vincent dePaul Society
will be held in

Fr. Sullivan Hall

from 7-8:30 pm

**December 30, January 20, February 10 &
March 3.**

All are welcome to join us in this rewarding work.

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree has now come to a close.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Giving Tree.

Your generosity has once again surpassed our expectations.

We are extremely grateful to our wonderful parishioners and how generous and caring you are to those in need.

We wish you all a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and may God continue to bless you in the coming year!



Pray the Advent Wreath
Prayer for Week 3:

"O Almighty God, gracious provider and giver of life, we anxiously await the celebration of your birth. Like the people of long ago, our ancestors in faith, we, too, are in need of light, in need of direction, in need of your Word, to show us the way. Our busy lives and the consumerism that surrounds us make it difficult to recognize your kingdom and to hear your voice. Help us Lord, to focus on you. Amen."

Parish Resources

SPONSOR GUIDELINES FOR BAPTISM/ CONFIRMATION

Church law requires that Baptism and Confirmation sponsors themselves frequent the sacraments regularly.

When someone who does not meet that requirement is designated as a sponsor, it is always an unpleasant (and frequently painful) experience for the priest, the parents of the child, and most especially for the person designated.

The reason a sponsor must be a practicing Catholic is that a sponsor is expected to pay special attention to the efforts of the person who is being baptized or confirmed to live a Christian life in keeping with the teachings of the Catholic Church. In the case of Baptism, sponsors are also expected to assist the parents of the child in their Christian duty as parents, by offering them support through good example, encouragement and prayer.

A sponsor should be a registered parishioner of IHM for at least 6 months. The person should also have received all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation. The Sponsor must be at least 16 years of age. The Sponsor should also participate at Mass each Sunday. If married, the sponsor must also be in a valid Sacramental marriage.

By issuing a Sponsor Certificate, a priest assures members of the faithful that a person is a Catholic in good standing who is eligible to serve as a sponsor for Baptism and/or Confirmation. Please contact the Rectory during regular business hours to inquire about Sponsor Certificates.

PARISH STAFF

Mr. Patrick Foley - *Principal of IHM School*
Mrs. Emily Miller - *Business Manager*
Mrs. Denise Schmidt - *Parish Secretary*
Mrs. Traci Kovach - *Tuition Officer*
Ms. Linda Pfefferle - *Director of Music*
Mrs. Mary Anne Kostic-King - *Coordinator of Religious Education*
Mr. Gene Martino - *Facilities Manager*
Mrs. Denise Schmidt - *Bulletin and Website Editor*

OUR PARISH OFFERS SPIRITUAL MATERIALS LOCATED IN OUR CHURCH

An organization called **Stewardship: A Mission of Faith** provides us with a Display Case containing free books, CD's and booklets, many created by top Catholic authors and speakers. Any donations are used to spread the program to other parishes.

IHM Free Lending Library: Over 400 books donated by parishioners are available, covering a wide range of spiritual topics. **Pamphlet Rack**: Contains pamphlets, prayer cards and sacramental materials donated by parishioners. Donations for these materials stay within the parish.

All of the above resources are located in the room adjacent to the main entrance of the church.

We need to know our Faith before we can share it!

IHM CHURCH MINISTRIES & GROUPS

LITURGICAL

Altar Servers: *Rev. Edward J. Casey*
Ministry of the Word (Lectors): *Sidney J. MacLeod, Jr., sidneyj@macleod.com*
Ministry of the Eucharist: *Mary Ann Kostic-King, mking@iheartmary.org*
Ministry of the Eucharist Outreach: *Chuck Fuges, (215-482-1397)*
Music Ministry: *Rehearsals—Tuesdays at 7:30p.m. in Church. Contact: Linda Pfefferle, Musicfef5@gmail.com*
Ushers: *John Rudolph, Peter Caruso*
Sacristans: *Peter Caruso, Bill King*

SOCIAL OUTREACH

CYO: *High School and Grade School—Christian Hochstuhl ihmcyo.athletic.director@gmail.com*

Golden Age Club: *Meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays, in FSH at 11a.m. President, Laura Kusniesz at (215-483-9243)*

St. John's Hospice Casserole Day: *first Wednesday of each month Next pick up is December 4 @ 9am.*

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Home & School Association: homeandschool@iheartmary.org

Tuition Office: *contact Traci Kovach (215-482-2029). Hours are Tuesday & Wednesday 9a.m. to 2p.m. or email: tuition@iheartmary.org*

SCRIP: *S&C and Supermarket Scrip—Traci Kovach scscrip@iheartmary.org;*

PASTORAL

Parish Pastoral Council: *advises Pastor on Parish matters*
Parish Finance Council: *helps manage parish resources*
Parish Religious Ed. Program (P.R.E.P.): *Grades 1 to 7 - Tues. evening 6:00-7:30p.m. - school year only. Mary Anne Kostic-King, D.R.E. (215-483-4266)*
R.C.I.A.: *Mary Kostic-King (215-483-4266)*
Safe Environment: *promotes the safety and welfare of our children Denise Schmidt (215-483-1000)*
Parish Memorial Fund: *a lasting & spiritual remembrance of a loved one. Monthly Memorial Mass is celebrated for all enrolled in the Fund.*
Care of Church and Chapel Spaces: *parishioners who clean God's house weekly. Denise Schmidt (215-483-1000)*
Counters: *Ann McElroy, irishaim@comcast.net*

SPIRITUAL OUTREACH

Legion of Mary: *Prayer and service for Jesus through Mary. Meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in Father Sullivan Hall (former Teacher's Lounge). Call Frank Klusek (215-356-3441)*
St. Vincent de Paul Society: *assist people in need in the Roxborough area. To leave a confidential message or to find out more about SVDPs call (215-483-1000)*
Knights of Columbus: *Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 7:30pm in the K of C Room in FSH. contact Joe Flemming (215-964-2624) or josephflemming0@gmail.com*
Respect Life Committee: *promotes the sanctity of life, at every stage, through love, prayer and supportive programs & activities. Ann Marie Beaver (215-483-8204)*

If you need help or have a question call 215-850-9740.