

**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

Msgr. Joseph P. McGeown, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. André Antao, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Joseph W. Bongard, in Residence

Deacon Salvatore R. Bianco

Deacon George W. Kletzel



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS: IN CHURCH

SATURDAY 5:15PM VIGIL

SUNDAY: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30AM

WEEKDAYS: IN SACRED HEART CHAPEL

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY 6:30AM

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 8:30AM

SATURDAY 8:00AM

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

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION IN CHURCH

5:15PM VIGIL MASS

8:30AM, 12:00PM & 7:30PM

1ST FRIDAY: IN SACRED HEART CHAPEL

8:30AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN CHURCH

SATURDAY 4:00—5:00PM

TUESDAY

SOLEMN EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT AFTER 8:30AM MASS

UNTIL 6:30PM

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

TUESDAY EVENING AT 6:30PM

BENEDICTION FOLLOWS NOVENA PRAYERS

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM - The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:30PM
Next dates: **TODAY, January 7th & 21st**

PRE-JORDAN - instruction/sacramental preparation for parents is held in the Sacred Heart Chapel every other month – January, March, May, July, September and November. Parents of children to be baptized should contact Denise Schmidt 215-483-1000 between the hours of 9AM to 4PM to register. The next date for Pre-Jordan class is **January 17th at 7PM in the Sacred Heart Chapel. Pre-Jordan sacramental preparation is required for each child to be baptized at IHM.**

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.

IHM offers a one day **Pre-Cana** Seminar that assists couples in preparation for their upcoming marriage. The Pre-Cana is conducted twice a year (Spring and Fall). The **Spring** date is **to be determined**. Please call Denise Schmidt, parish secretary at 215-483-1000 to register for Pre-Cana.

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 17, 2017

Vigil	16	5:15PM	Eileen and James Locke
SUN.	17	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Shirley Lombardo Corinne Ritter
MON.	18	8:30	DiCesare Family
TUES.	19	6:30 8:30	Harry Rosinski Anna Kusniesz
WED.	20	6:30 8:30	Dionesia Salvador Felix Tomassi
THUR	21	6:30 8:30	Dionesia Salvador Mary Barr - 20 th Anniversary
FRI.	22	8:30	Edward DiCesare
SAT.	23	8:00 5:15	Rose and Peter Caruso, Sr. Frances Pfeil
SUN.	24	7:30 9:30 11:30 4:00PM 7:00PM	IHM Parishioners Armand DeSimone Pat, Dorothy & Rose Salvatore & All Deceased Family Members Children's Christmas Vigil Mass Christmas Vigil

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

- 1) 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 (11B)
- 2) Romans 16:25-27
- 3) Luke 1:26-38



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR DECEASED BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Patricia Kost, Marie Kelly



ROSES



The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving memory of Ralph and Lena Galdo and Sons requested by Richard Galdo.

The rose placed in the **Chapel** is in loving memory of Harry Rosinski requested by his wife Patty.

The Sanctuary Light in our Sacred Heart Chapel for the week of December 18th to December 24th is in loving memory of Thomas Hunt-25th Anniversary, requested by Rosemary Kurtz.



PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

Anthony Albera, Anna Barras, Helen J. Boron, Jean Basile, John Bevenour, Joyce Bielawski, Wayne Bielawski, Bill Blum, Gerri Blum, Roberta Bracey, Theresa Branca-Herbst, Catherine Bryan, Edith Cifelli, Eleanor Calabrese-Avallone, Mary Campbell, Rita Casciato, Lisa Castellante, Caitlyn Clark, John Colantonio, Brooke Conklin, Baby Kevin Crane, Anne Cunningham, Joseph Cylc, Mary D'Angelo, Jack Deegan, Robert Denshuick, Baby James Dent, Baby Augie DeStefano, Baby Olivia DeStefano, Kim Dichiaro, John Diehl, Roseann DiLullo, Marie Dunne, Sue Fafara, Marianne Felker, Nancy Finn, Janet Fioravante, Larry Flannigan, Joe Flemming, Kathleen Gavaghan, Tom Halpin, Louise Hannings, Robert Hannon, Corrine Hare, Jean Hodge, Fay Holder, Dennis Hudecki, Baby Jessica Jara, Linda Jara, Kellen Jeffrey, Lewis Kershaw, Deacon George Kletzel, Alberta Klusek, Josephine Konopka, Victor Kost, Olga Kostic, Hedy Latimor, Marianne Leahy, Ed Lenox, Theresa Lenters, Mackenzie Lilly, Kendra Lutz, Carolyn Mako, Catherine Manzo, Rosemary Martella, Keelin McEleney, Patricia McGinty, Stephen McKeever, Roberta McLaughlin, Matthew McNamee, Maureen McGill Miccoli, Geri Miller, Terry Morrissey, Katherine Murphy, Teresa Nagele, Terry Nosek, Rev. Paul Obrimski, Baby Samantha O'Donnell, Anne Louise Owens, Rose Pastella, Vera Pepe, James Vincent Penkowski, Lynn Pester, Joe Ponzio, George Price, Thomas Przybek, Gloria Pytlar, Lou Rambo, Baby Harper Ann Renshaw, John Reynolds, Barbara Rogers, Stephanie Russo, Rosa Maria Santos, John Scharff, Mairead Scharff, William Scheibenhoffer, Benny Shiril, George Siefert, Baby Mason Simmons, Jack Singer, Veronica Sirianni, Madison Solis, Jason Stock, Theresa Stockmal, Joe Sweeney, Annette Terreri, Sister Mary Thaddeus, C.S.S.F., Christine Triola, Rose Triola, Johnny Van Kemp, Antoinette Viola, Christine Wack, Connor Walker, Rita Walsh, Carol Wans, Jim Weber, Charlie Whittaker, Elizabeth Wildemore, David Woczyna, Zeke Wright, Marie Yocco.

Weekend Clergy Schedule for December 23/24/25

Saturday, December 23rd

4:00PM Confessions: Fr. Casey/Fr. André/Fr. Jordan
5:15PM Vigil Mass: Fr. Jordan

Sunday, December 24th

7:30AM: Fr. Bongard
9:30AM: Fr. Casey/Deacon Sam
11:30AM: Fr. André/Deacon Sam

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve Liturgy

4:00PM: Fr. Casey/Deacon Sam (Children's Mass)
7:00PM: Fr. Bongard

Monday, December 25th Christmas Day Liturgy

7:30AM: Fr. Casey
9:30AM: Fr. André
11:30PM: Fr. André/Deacon Sam

Current Events and Information at IHM

ATTENTION Immaculate Heart of Mary Community

For the month of December, we will be collecting items to help communities of Puerto Rico who have been affected by the most recent natural disasters. To participate in this drive, please donate the following to FSH:

- Coloring Supplies (crayons, pencils, markers)
- Card Games
- Coloring Books
- Activity Books
- Reading Books
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Soap
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray

*NO electronics, board games or games that include pieces



The Advent Tree

*We are continuing the charitable tradition of The Advent Tree, donating to several organizations. The main tree will be located at the entrance to the Church and two smaller trees at The Blessed Mother and St. Joseph side entrances. Please attach the tag to your gift and return **NO LATER** than December 21st. **NOTE: After the 17th please bring all gifts to the Rectory.***

Thank you for your generous support of the poor in our surrounding communities!

Note: We are given a list as to what is printed on each tag. Do the best you can with your purchases. Gift card amounts are at your discretion. If the item listed on your tag is unclear to you, please enclose a gift receipt with your item. Thank you!

H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People in Emergencies)

To obtain a ride to the doctors or to Masses from H.O.P.E. just call the H.O.P.E. members listed below:

Virginia Mangol 215-487-2516 (Masses)

Beth Donnelly 267-228-2905 (Doctors)

(appointments in the Manayunk, Roxborough, and Andorra areas only)



Each Tuesday the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for our adoration in our Sacred Heart Chapel, from 9:00am to 6:30pm. Benediction and Novena follows.

Immaculate Heart of Mary School is now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year! We are accepting students in Grades Pre-K 3 (must be 3 years old by September 1, 2018) through Grade 6. School tours are available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays by appointment. Please contact Traci Kovach in the Tuition Office at 215.483.1103 for application information and more details. Come see the exciting opportunities available at IHM School!



The Society of St. Vincent DePaul at IHM

IHM's SVDP Society assists people in need in Andorra/ Roxborough/Manayunk and nearby Philadelphia neighborhoods. Our funding comes primarily from the IHM poor box so please continue to be generous. If you'd like to join us in this rewarding volunteer work, come to a meeting in the Father Sullivan Hall (former teacher's lounge)

Our upcoming meetings are:
January 8th & 22nd,
February 5th & 19th

TRANSITION NETWORK ARE YOU UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED?

Come and join our network group. It has been running for 8 years, offers free advice for job search and resumes and is led by a HR professional with 25 years of experience. We will meet in

**Father Sullivan Hall
on Wednesday December 27th, at 7pm**

To register call Denise Schmidt @ 215-483-1000 or visit our website: www.transitionnetwork.webs.com

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE is in great need of casseroles. They pick up the last Wednesday of the month. Next month it will be **December 27th**. If you are able to make a casserole please pick up a pan in the rectory. Please make sure to label the casserole pan with the date it was made and the name of the casserole.

Additional Parish Information

Sunday Offering December 10, 2017

Envelopes	\$10,042.00
Loose	\$ 819.25
	\$10,861.25

#envelopes 551
Average \$18.23
Poor Box \$325.26
Immaculate Conception \$3,085.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Upcoming School Events

Tuesday, December 19th – PreK-3, PreK-4 & K
Christmas Show, 9AM, Father Sullivan Hall

Christmas break begins Thursday,
December 21st at noon and the students
return to school Thursday, January 4th

Memorial Plaque in the Sacred Heart Chapel

To the Donors: Over the next few weeks, please check the spelling of the names you had memorialized on the plaque. It has come to our attention that there is a misspelled name. We apologize for the error and will correct it, but want to make sure there are no other errors. Please call the Rectory and ask for Denise Calabrese. Thank you!

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.



NEXT BAPTISMAL DATES

TODAY
January 7th & 21st

CHRISTMAS EVE HOSPITALITY

Come join us for hot chocolate and cake following the 7:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass in FSH. *It is such a wonderful time of the year* to come together to meet & greet and to share love & joy with old friends and new ones. Let us enjoy the joyful spirit of Christmas as the IHM family.



JOB OPENINGS

Posted on page 6 of the
Church bulletin.



Pastor's Page

Today we celebrate *Gaudete Sunday*. The word *Gaudete* means rejoice in Latin. We rejoice this Sunday, knowing we are over half way through our advent period of preparation. Let us take a moment today to put all the Christmas planning and worries aside and reflect on the wonderful gift God has given us in Jesus Christ.

Some very important people in scripture give testimony today. We can count them among the "Voices of Advent".

The prophet Isaiah in the first reading tells us that he is sent by God to announce the joyful news of salvation to the people of Israel. He proclaims a message of salvation to a people in bondage. The familiar passage of Isaiah 6:1 is a clear reference to the Messiah, who is already present. "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord".

St. Paul testifies to the expectations he has of the Thessalonians as he wraps up his letter to them. This epistle is the earliest of Paul's writings, dating to the late 40's or early 50's. He is writing to a community of gentiles he has recently converted. Near the end of his letter he asks these believers to rejoice always and offers simple steps to remain faithful: pray without ceasing, don't quench the Spirit, retain what is good and avoid evil.

The Gospel from Saint John today speaks to us about Saint John the Baptist. 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. "

How important it is for each of us to recognize the true Redeemer, Jesus, as the Lord. As we come more and more to recognize Jesus in our lives, we see that all that happens comes from Him. We begin to recognize the gentle touch of his presence in our lives and are able to give thanks to Him and to rejoice in Him.

Today, as we celebrate this Third Sunday of Advent, we can ask this God who loves us to show us His presence in our lives, to show us Jesus at work within us, to make us aware of the Holy Spirit gently and yet firmly guiding our lives. May the Lord our God prepare our hearts!

Father Casey

No dispensation for this year's Christmas Mass on Monday

A newsletter issued in February by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship noted that a "two-for-one" Mass cannot occur in the very rare circumstances when two of the six holy days of obligation — the feast of the Immaculate Conception or Christmas — fall the day before or after Sunday.

"When consecutive obligations occur on Saturday-Sunday or Sunday-Monday, the faithful must attend Mass twice to fulfill two separate obligations," the committee said.

Read the full article from the USCCB at this website: <http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/newsletter/upload/newsletter-2017-02.pdf>

FREE LIBRARY

Generous parishioners have donated over 400 books covering a wide range of Faith related topics, many by well known authors. There are spiritual books, CD's, pamphlets and booklets, which were These resources are free. Any donation will be used to buy similar resources for the parish. The Center is located just off the Main Lobby in the IHM Free Lending Library. We need to know our Faith before we can share it.

IHM Evangelization Ministry

PARISH JOB OPENING

Saint Genevieve Parish is seeking to hire a part time rectory cook to grocery shop and prepare dinners for our priests 3-4 nights per week, days and hours flexible.

Approximately 12-15 hrs. weekly. Availability to serve an occasional rectory staff lunch and cook special occasion dinners a plus. Experienced men or women interested in working in a friendly parish team environment should send resume with introductory letter to Fr. Mulligan at rectory@stgensparish.com.

Please visit our Parish website www.ihmphila.org to read about news and events that may not fit in the bulletin and to learn about the newly formed Ministries and consider joining us sharing your time and talent with our parishioners! (under the "Ministries" tab). **Deadline for Church Bulletin Articles - no later than NOON on the Wednesday before the following Sunday's bulletin.**

HIGH SCHOOL JOB OPENING

Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School, an independent, all-girls Catholic college preparatory school sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, has an opening for a short-term substitute position in the history department from April 9 until June 9, 2017. Courses to be taught are AP US History, Honors Topics in US History, Topics in US History, and Modern World History. Qualified applicants with teaching experience and a degree in history are asked to submit their resumes and PA clearances to Anne Casavecchia at acasavecchia@gmahs.org by January 13, 2018.

PARISH STAFF

Rochelle A. Grasso - Principal of IHM School
Emily Miller - Business Manager
Denise Schmidt - Parish Secretary
Traci Kovach - Tuition Officer
Linda Pfefferle - Director of Music
Mary Anne Kostic-King - Director of Religious Education
Richard Strickland - Maintenance Supervisor
Denise Calabrese - Director of Advancement/Communications

IHM CHURCH MINISTRIES & GROUPS**LITURGICAL**

Altar Servers: Rev. Edward J. Casey
Ministry of the Word (Lectors): Sydney J. MacLeod, Jr., sidneyj@macleod.com
Ministry of the Eucharist: Frank Klusek, frank.k@verizon.net
Ministry of the Eucharist Outreach: Chuck Fuges, 215-482-1397
Music Ministry: Rehearsals—Thursdays at 7:00 pm in Church. Contact Linda Pfefferle (215-704-4652)
Greeter-Ushers: Judy Maloney, jewel37206@aol.com
Collection-Ushers: Peter Caruso, pjcaruso45@yahoo.com

SOCIAL OUTREACH

CYO: High School and Grade School meetings as announced
Boy Scouts: John Macoretta, Scoutmaster (215-680-1049); email: scouttroop474@yahoo.com
Golden Age Club: Meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays, in FSH at 11 A.M. President, Laura Kusniesz at 215-483-9243
H.O.P.E. Program: see schedule in the weekly bulletin. For more info call Rosemarie Oakes (215-483-4860)
Gardening Angels: helps to maintain the Church grounds. Rosemary Kurtz at rosemarykurtz@aol.com or 215-487-0744
Transition Network: meets monthly in parish center to help unemployed and underemployed: www.TransitionNetwork.webs.com
St. John's Hospice Casserole Day: collected on the last Wednesday of each month

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Home & School Association: Dominica Iacovelli (President) homeandschool@iheartmary.org
Tuition Office: contact Traci Kovach 215-483-1000 Hours are Tuesday & Wednesday 9am to 2pm or email: tuition@iheartmary.org
SCRIP: S & C—Trish Campbell (267-766-3571) Supermarket Script - Susan Lojewski (267-549-2746)

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 6 - Tues. evening 6:30-8:00pm - school year only.
Mary Anne Kostic-King, D.R.E. 215-483-4266
R.C.I.A.: Chuck Harvey
Safe Environment: promotes the safety and welfare of our children Denise Schmidt 215-483-1000
Parish Bereavement Ministry: Virginia Farabelli, Virginia.Farabelli@phly.com
Parish Hospitality Ministry: Judy Maloney, jewel37206@aol.com
Parish Memorial Fund: a lasting & spiritual remembrance of a loved one. Monthly Memorial Mass is celebrated for all enrolled in the Fund.
Parish Nurse Program: Mary Lou Dinda (215-482-0865)
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 action for Jesus through Mary. Meets Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. Call Wendi Wagoner 267-334-8340 or Frank Klusek 215-482-3020
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: contact Mike Shiel 215-487-7296
Respect Life Committee: promotes the sanctity of life, at every stage, through love, prayer and supportive programs & activities. Ann Marie Beaver (215-483-8204)
Charismatic Prayer Group: Meets Thursday afternoons at 3:00 pm in the Parish Center. Gloria Domino (610-539-3455)
Christian Meditation Group: Meets Saturdays 9-10AM in the Chapel. Tom Cubbin, 215-483-4829 or tntcubbin@gmail.com