



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, & 7:30 pm (times may vary on certain Holy Days; please check inside pages or parish website)

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**

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

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 TBA.** 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 Date to be announced.

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, 2023

SAT.	16	5:15 pm	Helen & Thomas Wynne
SUN.	17	7:30	IHM Parishioners
		9:30	Darla Schweizer
		11:30	Robert Avington
MON.	18	8:30	Prachtel & Ormsby Families
TUES.	19	8:30	Anna Kusniesz
WED.	20	8:30	Maureen Moroney & Betty Clark
THUR	21	8:30	Dan & Helen Kelly
FRI.	22	8:30	John Miller
SAT.	23	8:00	Caroline Sloan-Maddox
		5:15 pm	Frances Pfeil
SUN	24	7:30	IHM Parishioners
		9:30	Josephine Spaeder
		11:30	All Deceased Members of the Salvatore, Schneider & Alfieri Families

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



The Sanctuary Light in our **Sacred Heart Chapel** for the week of December 18 to December 24 is in loving memory of
Happy Anniversary to Morgan & Shelby Romano
requested by
Kathy Romano

ROSES



The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving memory of
Tom Lyons
requested by
his wife, Pat Lyons.

The rose placed in the **Chapel** is in loving memory of
Tom Lyons
requested by his wife, Pat Lyons.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Josephine Johnston



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

Theresa Alosi, Lee Aponte, Mary Bartsch, Anne Basara, Josephine Bellace, Joyce & Wayne Bielawski, Nancy Bright, Daniel Brito, Bill Burrow, Bobby Busch, Dolores Buzby, Lynn Campbell, Mary Rose Campbell, Erin Caruso, Terry Carr, Marilyn Cellucci, Officer Andy Chan, Pete Cissone, Michael Clark, Ann Colantonio, Brooke Conklin, Ashley Cox, Helen Cyzio, Quint Cuffe, Earl Dandridge, David Daniels, Taylor Davis, Nancy Di John, Madeline DiPasquale, Janet Bollinger Doherty, Joseph Donnelly, Marie Dunne, Barbara Dziedzic, Francis "Joe" Elliott, Joe Evers, Bruce Fairchild, Mary Ellen Ferrell, Peg Fierko, David Fleetwood, Carole Foley, Bill & Dorothy Foster, Kathy Foster, Sydney Franzmann, Barbara Freiling, Dr. Angeline M. Gampico, Bernadette Giambuzzi, Helen Golbeski, James Goussy, Kelly Gruninger, Flora Hart, Anne Headly, Brenden Heyer, Fay Holder, Sheilah Janes, Frances Jefferys, Steve Jones, Chris Kane, Deborah Kapp, Luke Katona, Keith Kelly, Marek Kijek, Michael Kohute, Olga Kostic, Angela Kotowich, Mary Krier, Hannah Lambert, Flavia Langan, Langan Family, Edward Lanigan, Marianne Leahy, Agnes Leinheiser, Dorlene Long, Carol Ann Lott, Hadley Ludwig, Cheryl Maresca, Dominic Matteo, Elizabeth Matruka, Terry McCormick, Anne Marie Mc Keever, Felix & Louise McKeough, Helen Magee, Lindsey Marzo, Elizabeth Matruak, Winifred Meall, Monica Mellon, Eileen Michel, Mary Mudry, Janet Murphy, Dick & Trudy Neff, Tom Newell, Harry Pastella, Luisa Pellicone, Dave Pendleton, Bishop Joseph Pepe, Bill Pinto, Nicole Powlus, Maria Prince, Kathy Pro, Karen Pulcinella, John Quirus, Junie Rakosak, Harper Renshaw, Casey Rigby, Joel Rivera, Tony Ruger, Domiciano Gallego-Ruiz, Anita Russell, Donna Scharff, John Scharff, Mairead Scharff, Veronica Serianni, John Sevcik, Mary Ann Shaw, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Luke Simon, Mary Sokolski, David Sparacino, Jake Stefano, Ryann Stoffere, Baby Caleb St. George, Donna Stine, O.S.F., Stanley T., Felicia Teske, Paul Teske, Sister Mary Thaddeus, Edward Thomas, Molly Thompson, Betty Thummel, Christine Triola, Louise Vesci, Maddox Vielman, Helen Wade, Walter Wayne Whitehouse, Luke Winterbottom, Pam Wisdom, Brian Wurtzberger, Kim Wurtzberger, Mike Zacher, Anthony Zul.



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

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 first is Isaiah. He has a message of hope and joy, "a year of favor....as day of vindication. Next comes St. Paul with a message to the Thessalonians that we can take to heart as well, advising us how to live until Christ's return. Finally we hear from Jesus' messenger, John the Baptist who came to testify to the Messiah.

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! Rejoice, the Lord is near !

Father Casey

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



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.



Clergy Schedule for Sunday, December 24, 2023 (celebrants are subject to change)

Saturday, December 23, 2023

Vigil 5:15 pm - Fr. Quan

Sunday, December 24, 2023

7:30 am – Fr. Quan
9:30 am – Fr. Bransfield—(Deacon Sam Preaching)
11:30 Fr. Casey

IHM CHRISTMAS MASS MUSIC SCHEDULE**December 24, Christmas Eve**

4PM CHERUB CHOIR
7PM CAHILL FAMILY SINGERS

December 25, Christmas Day

7:30 LARRY & TRUMPET
9:30 ADULT CHOIR WITH INSTRUMENTS
11:30 TRUMPET & CANTOR



All Giving Tree Gifts must be returned by noon on Sunday, December 17.

If you have any questions, call Denise Schmidt
215-483-1000.

Thank you for participating and for your generosity.

The next meeting of the
St. Vincent de Paul Society
will be held in Fr. Sullivan Hall
January 8 & 29
from 7-8:30 pm.

Please join us for this rewarding volunteer work.

Sunday Offering Week of December 4, 2023

Envelopes \$ 12,273.00
Loose 1,023.00
\$ 13,296.00

of envelopes – 656
Average - 18.7

Immaculate Conception
\$2,860.00

Thank you & God Bless you for your generosity

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE
2023****SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
(Confession)**

****Thursday, December 21, 2023**

6:15 PM to 7:15 PM

Saturday, December 23, 2023

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

MASSES

Sunday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2023

Vigil 4:00 PM

Vigil 7:00 PM

Monday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2023

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

Monday, January 1, 2024

Solemnity of Mary (Not a Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass at 9:00 AM in Church

Confessions and all Masses are in the Church

****The booklet mailed stated that Confessions will be Wednesday the 20th but this has now been changed to Thursday the 21st. Saturday's date and times remains the same.**

**CHURCH RENOVATION PROJECT**

We hope you are enjoying the comfort of the new kneelers and thank those who have donated to help this renovation. **There is still time to donate to this project.** If you cannot be a full donor any contribution you can make will be appreciated.

Please take an information sheet which explains all the details of this project. Blue envelopes are on the tables for your convenience in submitting the Memorials.

If you have any questions, call the parish office. 215-483-1000.

Thank you

EWTN Special - American Mystic - The Rhoda Wise Story

This stigmatic and mystic from Canton, Ohio was known for her spiritual gifts and inexplicable healing miracles. But perhaps her greatest influence was on her local friend, Rita Rizzo, who became EWTN's Mother Angelica.

Watch NOW - FREE - with EWTN On Demand - <https://bit.ly/3XEn2iA>

Job Opening: Parish Business Manager, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Philadelphia

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in the Andorra section of Philadelphia has a full time opening for a Parish Business Manager. The Business Manager serves in a key management position in the parish and together with the Pastor and the School Principal forms the core leadership team of the parish. Proficiency and experience with QuickBooks is essential.

Essential Qualifications:

- Ability to work with staff and volunteers
- Computer literacy with proficiency in Microsoft Office and Quick Books

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Maintains the accuracy of all financial files and records and establishes a responsible cash flow management and record keeping system.
- Prepares, administers and reviews budget processes in collaboration with the Pastor, Finance Committee and the School Principal
- Monitor the collection, counting, recording and depositing of parish revenue
- Produces payroll for the parish and the school
- Liaison between the parish and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in all financial matters
- Reconcile all accounts in QuickBooks in a timely matter
- Accounting for all financial activity
- Monitors spending and reviews parish and school budgets
- Assists the Pastor with hiring of new staff members.
- Maintains employee files
- Attends Financial Council meetings
- Benefit coordinator
- Other duties as assigned.

Salary and Benefits Package information furnished upon request.

The Business Manager reports to the Pastor.

Interested persons should submit a cover letter and resume to emilytmiller@comcast.net

The next casserole pickup for
St. John's Hospice is on
Wednesday, January 3 at 9 am.

*God's blessings
to the newly baptized children
in the Catholic faith*

*Aiden Ciglar
Benjamin Ciglar
Zachary Repetsky*

THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PRESENTS *MESSIAH* ON WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 20TH & THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

<https://www.kimmelculturalcampus.org/events-and-tickets/2023-24/the-philadelphia-orchestra/verizon-hall/messiah/>

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL ANN-MARIE NACCHIO
AT AMNACCHIO@ALLIEDGLOBALMARKETING.COM.

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*
TBA *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, Musicfe5@gmail.com

Ushers: John Rudolph, Peter Caruso

Sacristans: Peter Caruso

SOCIAL OUTREACH

CYO: High School and Grade School—Bill Hannigan
athleticdirector.ihm@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

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
sscrip@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.