



## 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. Joseph W. Bongard in Residence*

*Rev. Sean P. Bransfield, in Residence*

*Deacon Salvatore R. Bianco*

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### WEEKENDS: IN CHURCH

Saturday 5:15 p.m. Vigil

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.

#### WEEKDAYS: IN SACRED HEART CHAPEL

Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m.

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

#### HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION IN CHURCH

5:15 pm Vigil Mass

8:30 am, Noon, & 7:30 p.m. (times may vary on certain Holy Days; please check inside pages or parish website)

#### HOLIDAYS: IN CHURCH

9:00 a.m. (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Thanksgiving Day)

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN CHURCH

Saturday 4-5 p.m.

#### TUESDAY

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

#### MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

TUESDAY EVENING AT 6:30 p.m.

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 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.

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). **There is no Pre-Cana Seminar planned at this time.** Please call Denise Schmidt, parish secretary at 215-483-1000 for further information.

**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 18, 2022

<b>SAT.</b>	<b>17</b>	5:15 p.m.	Frances Pfeil
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>18</b>	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Robert Avington Catherine Votto
<b>MON.</b>	<b>19</b>	8:30	Anna Kusniesz
<b>TUES.</b>	<b>20</b>	8:30	Rev. Cornelius Breslin
<b>WED.</b>	<b>21</b>	8:30	Dan & Helen Kelly
<b>THURS.</b>	<b>22</b>	8:30	John Miller
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>23</b>	8:30	Jean Mc Elhinney
<b>SAT.</b>	<b>24</b>	8:00  4:00 pm 7:00pm	Deceased Members of the Salvatore, Schneider & Alfieri Families <b>Christmas Eve</b> No Intentions No Intentions
<b>SUN</b>	<b>25</b>	7:30 9:30 11:30	<b>Christmas Day</b> No Intentions No Intentions

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

### ROSES

The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving memory of  
John Rudolph, Sr. & Rose Rudolph  
requested by  
John Rudolph, Jr.



The rose placed in the **Chapel** is in loving memory of  
John Rudolph, Sr. & Rose Rudolph  
requested by  
John Rudolph, Jr.

**PLEASE HELP TO KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN**  
Before leaving Church please check your pew and  
remove any personal items and bulletins.

**Thank you!!**

The Sanctuary Light in our **Sacred Heart Chapel**  
for the week of December 19 to December 25  
is in loving memory of  
Joseph & Jennie Gampico  
requested by their daughter,  
Dr. Angeline M. Gampico.



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

Theresa Alosi, Louis Andreola, Lance Bonnet, Mary Bartsch, Anne Basara, Joan Becker, Josephine Bellace, Wayne Bielawski, Nancy Bright, Daniel Brito, Bill Burrow, Bobby Busch, Dolores Buzby, Lynn Campbell, Mary Rose Campbell, Erin Caruso, Terry Carr, Officer Andy Chan, Pete Cissone, Michael Clark, Brooke Conklin, Quint Cuffe, Earl Dandridge, Taylor Davis, Marano Donald D'Angelo, Nancy Di John, Marianne Di Mucci, Madeline DiPasquale, Janet Bollinger Doherty, Beth Donnelly, Joseph Donnelly, Francis "Joe" Elliott, Joe Evers, Bruce Fairchild, Peg Fierko, David Fleetwood, Bill & Dorothy Foster, Kathy Foster, Sydney Franzmann, Barbara Freiling, Dr. Angeline M. Gampico, Helen Golbeski, Kelly Gruninger, Flora Hart, Bernadette Harwick, Anne Headly, Brenden Heyer, Don Holt, Sheilah Janes, Frances Jefferys, Chris Kane, Marianne Klusek, Olga Kostic, Angela Kotowich, Mary Krier, Hannah Lambert, Flavia Langan, Langan Family, Dolores Lanigan, Edward Lanigan, Marianne Leahy, Agnes Leinheiser, Dorlene Long, Carol Ann Lott, Hadley Ludwig, Charles Mansor, Cheryl Maresca, Elizabeth Matruka, Terry McCormick, Brian McGuire, Anne Marie Mc Keever, Felix & Louise McKeogh, Helen Magee, Lindaey Marzo, Elizabeth Matruak, Winifred Meall, Rachael Mellon, Scott Melina, Charlie Melough, Eileen Michel, Brian Morris, Mary Mudry, Janet Murphy, Dick & Trudy Neff, Marvin Parnes, Harry Pastella, Luisa Pellicone, Dave Pendleton, Bishop Joseph Pepe, Bill Pinto, Nicole Powlus, Kathy Pro, Tom Przybek, Karen Pulcinella, John Quirus, Clara Ragni, Junie Rakosak, Harper Renshaw, John Reynolds, Joel Rivera, Tony Ruger, Domiciano Gallego-Ruiz, Anita Russell, Timothy Sager, Jane Sargus, Donna Scharff, John Scharff, Mairead Scharff, Mary Ann Shaw, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Luke Simon, Jake Stefano, Baby Caleb St. George, Donna Stine, O.S.F., Felicia Teske, Paul Teske, Edward Thomas, Molly Thompson, Christine Triola, Louise Vesci, Maddox Vielman, Helen Wade, Walter Wayne Whitehouse, 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 1<sup>st</sup> responders.*

## Pastor's Page

The four candles on the Advent Wreath are burning brightly. The light attracts us. Today the readings turn to the immediate preparations for the birth of our Lord. We too should be finalizing our preparations for his birth into our hearts once again.

Today's scripture is about signs: God's sign to Ahaz and the angel's appearance to Joseph. Just as in the readings of the second Sunday of Advent, the setting is Jerusalem in the 700's BC during the reign of King Ahaz. God's chosen people are in deep trouble with other nations mainly through the mismanagement of the King. He rejects an offer of a 'sign' which in the Bible is usually some event assuring human beings of divine intervention. The purpose of the reading is that when we are in trouble, going through semi-darkness in our human situations. God is willing to step in, if in faith we allow him to do so.

St. Paul tells us in the second reading in his letter to the Romans, it is through an obedient faith, in the Lord Jesus, "for the sake of his name" that we will be saved. As our responsorial psalm says today, "Let the Lord enter, he is the king of glory". In the Lord Jesus, God is Immanuel -God is with us.

Matthew's Gospel tells us the story of Jesus birth. It follows the genealogy in the first verses of Matthew. Its primary purpose is showing Jesus' right to a place in the messianic genealogy through Joseph. The climax of the story is Joseph's resolve to make Jesus a Davidic child by assuming the legal obligations of paternity. There is a tension between continuity with the Jewish tradition (legal paternity through Joseph) and the sharp break with tradition (the miraculous conception of Jesus).

Engagement or betrothal in Jewish society of Jesus' time involved a much stronger commitment than it does in modern Western society. The description of Joseph's embarrassment and his plans of verses 18-19 are suspicions of Mary that could have been raped or seduced. As a devout observer of the Old Testament Law, Joseph could not take Mary as his wife (see Deuteronomy 22:23-27) Not wishing to subject Mary to a shameful trial as one found in adultery, he decided to forego the public procedure and decided to divorce her quietly.

Joseph's plans are interrupted by the appearance of a messenger from God in a dream. The dream allayed Joseph's fears. The angel's message assumes the virginal conception of Jesus by the Holy Spirit and concentrates on the name of the Messiah. It will be Jesus because he will save his people from their sins. This is significant since it is usually the father's right to name the child. Joseph acts in faith and acts in accordance with the divine communication and takes Mary to be his wife. The purpose of the infancy narrative in Matthew serves to situate Jesus firmly within God's people and to call attention to his extraordinary status.

Joseph's heart, his righteousness, enables him to cooperate daringly and decisively in God's saving plan. Let us meditate on how we can open our hearts also to cooperate with God's grace in our lives.

Father Casey



**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.**

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

- 1) Isaiah 52:7-10
- 2) Hebrews 1:1-6
- 3) John 1:1-19 or 1:1-5, 9-14



**Weekend Clergy Schedule December 25, 2022**  
**(celebrants are subject to change)**

**Saturday, December 24, 2022**

4:00 pm - Fr. Casey  
 7:00 pm - Fr. Quan

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Bransfield  
 9:30 a.m. – Fr. Bongard  
 11:30 a.m. - Fr. Quan

The next meetings of the  
 St. Vincent dePaul Society  
 will be held in Fr. Sullivan Hall  
**Tuesday, January 3**  
**from 7-8:30 pm.**

Please join us for this rewarding volunteer work.

**The next pick up for  
 St. John's Hospice is  
 Wednesday, January 4 at 9 am.**

Just a reminder that all casseroles should be cooked, then frozen and should only need to be reheated.



**"Called to Service"**

A mini-documentary on the Permanent Deacons of Philadelphia

If you want to know more about the diaconate, or if you think you may have a vocation, please consider watching this well done film on the diaconate. <https://vimeo.com/753050230>.

**Don't hesitate to ask Deacon Sam if you have any questions.**

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

*Dan Ferry, Dennis Garvey,  
 Denise McLaughlin-Smith,  
 Gary Johnston,  
 Robert Caruso,  
 Matthew Mazza*



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

*Cole Edward Palko*

**The IHM Scrip program** is a wonderful way to offset your tuition payments!! Scrip is now open to accumulate Scrip Credits for the 22/23 school Year! Buy gift cards from your favorite stores to earn tuition credits for your favorite purchases. Even if you do not have children that attend or will attend IHM, our Scrip Program can donate your rebate to a deserving IHM family or to our IHM Tuition Assistance Fund!

**ShopWithScrip** has launched a new app for families to order gift cards. This app is for families to use and place orders directly from your phone. The gift cards can also be paid for electronically and shipped to your home for a fee. Even with the app, you can still place physical gift card orders, but this app will allow you to use and order eGift cards as well.

**How it works:** Your family buys gift cards at face value. Your family earns a percentage on each gift card you buy. Your family uses gift cards at full value for your everyday purchases!

**How to get started:** Orders can be placed on the Raise Right app, or via email at [scscrip@iheartmary.org](mailto:scscrip@iheartmary.org). **The deadline for orders is every Sunday at 8 pm. Pick up your gift cards on Thursday evenings between 7:00 and 8:00 pm in Father Sullivan Hall. All orders over \$1500 will need to be prepaid in advance.**

Please reach out to [scscrip@iheartmary.org](mailto:scscrip@iheartmary.org) with any questions about our Scrip program.

*Let there be peace on  
 earth and let it begin with  
 me.*







## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2022

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (Confession)

**Tuesday, December 20, 2022**  
**6:15 PM to 7:15 PM**

### MASSSES

**Saturday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022**  
**4:00 PM**  
**7:00 PM**

**Sunday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2022**  
**7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM**

**Saturday, December 31, 2022**  
**Solemnity of Mary**  
**5:15 PM Vigil**

**Sunday, January 1, 2023**  
**Solemnity of Mary**  
**7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM**

**Saturday, January 7, 2023**  
**Epiphany of the Lord**  
**5:15 PM Vigil**

**Sunday, January 8, 2023**  
**Epiphany of the Lord**  
**7:30, 9:30, 11:30**

**Confessions and all Masses are in the Church**



## THE GIVING TREE GIFT COLLECTION

**This is the last Sunday to participate in the Giving Tree.**

**All gifts must be returned to the Church no later than 12:30 on Sunday, December 18.**

Any questions call Denise Schmidt in the Rectory Office.

Thank you for participating and for your generosity.

## ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS

Once again our sick list has unfortunately grown very large. Please check the names on the list and see if prayers have been answered and your loved one may be removed as they have been healed.

If your loved one can be removed please call Denise Schmidt in the rectory office at 215-483-1000.

Thank you!

## Sunday Offering Week of December 4, 2022

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>\$11,861.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b><u>446.00</u></b>
	<b>\$12,307.00</b>

**# of envelopes – 606**  
**Average– 19.58**

***Thank you & God Bless you for your generosity***

Please help our counters by filling out the amount on your Church envelope and please write clearly. This helps to speed up the process.

*Thank you so much!*

## 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. Larry Concio** - *Maintenance Supervisor*  
**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](mailto:sidneyj@macleod.com)

**Ministry of the Eucharist**: Mary Ann Kostic-King, [mking@iheartmary.org](mailto: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](mailto:Musicfe5@gmail.com)

**Ushers**: John Rudolph, Peter Caruso

**Sacristans**: Peter Caruso, [pjcaruso45@yahoo.com](mailto:pjcaruso45@yahoo.com)

### SOCIAL OUTREACH

**CYO**: High School and Grade School—Bill Hannigan  
[athleticdirector.ihm@gmail.com](mailto:athleticdirector.ihm@gmail.com) or [kevintinneny@yahoo.com](mailto:kevintinneny@yahoo.com)

**Boy Scouts**: John Macoretta, Scoutmaster (215-680-1049);  
 email: [scouttroop474@yahoo.com](mailto:scouttroop474@yahoo.com)

**Golden Age Club**: Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:tuition@iheartmary.org)

**SCRIP**: S&C and Supermarket Scrip—Traci Kovach  
[scscrip@iheartmary.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 @ 7pm in the K of C Room in FSH. contact Joe Flemming (215-964-2624) or [josephflemming0@gmail.com](mailto: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  
**Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006 or Pro Life Union 215-855-8150***