



**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 29, 2024

SAT.	28	5:15 pm	Frances Pfeil
SUN.	29	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Thelma Lee Joseph & Maryann Wolek & Deceased Family Members
MON.	30	8:30	Emily Pisano
TUES.	31	8:30 5:15 p	Joan Reed Holy Day of Obligation Vigil
WED.	1	8:30 12:00	The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God No evening Mass
THUR	2	8:30	Mary Ann Pastore
FRI.	3	8:30	Duong Di Nguyen
SAT.	4	8:00 5:15 pm	John Iacobacci Jane Arbasak
SUN	5	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Victor & Frances Kost Jane Malloy Glass

***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, Carmine Martino, Patricia Markelewicz, Dominic Matteo, Trudy & Dick Neff, Frances Orlicki, Bill Pinto, Maria Prince, Christine Seymour, & Sierra, David Sparacino, Sr. Mary Thaddeus, Sr. Joseph Helen, IHM Wayne Whitehouse,



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

The Sanctuary Light in our **Sacred Heart Chapel** for the week of December 30 to January 5.



is in loving memory of
Pat, Dorothy & Rose Salvatore &
All Deceased Family Members
requested by
The Salvatore Family.

Sunday Offering Week of December 15, 2024

Envelopes	\$ 5,671.00
Loose	1,402.00
Parish Giving (E-Giving)	<u>1,365.00</u>
	\$ 14,146.00

of envelopes – 350
Average - \$16.20

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

Thank you for your continued generosity.

ROSES

The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving member of
Joan Cybularz
requested by
Chet & Sharon Cybularz & Family



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

Pastor's Page

The solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is a reminder that Christmas is a family feast, and that Jesus was born and raised in a family like us.

Perhaps the greatest threat facing families today is the fact that we don't spend enough time together. We are so busy working, or socializing, watching TV or spending time on the smart phone that we have less and less time for each other. That style can take a big toll on the family.

There is a story about a young lawyer who lived quite a distance from her elderly father. Months had passed since they had been together and when her father called to ask when she might visit, the daughter detailed a list of reasons that prevented her from taking the time to see him. She had court schedule, meetings, new clients, research, etc., etc. At the end of her recitation, the father asked, "When I die, do you intend to come to my funeral?" The daughter's response was immediate, "Dad, I can't believe you'd ask that! Of course, I'll come!" To which the father replied, "Good. Forget the funeral and come; I need you more now than I will then."

The Gospel invites us to focus our attention on how Mary and Joseph faithfully accept their vocation as parents, and on their total submission to God's will. The spirit in which Mary and Joseph lived their parental vocation, is an example to be imitated by parents. The Holy Family is put before us as a model because Mary and Joseph went through many of the trials and obstacles. Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem for the census when Mary was with child. The Holy Family had to flee to Egypt in order to escape from the threat over the life of Jesus by Herod. Mary and Joseph were troubled when they lost their 12 year old boy only to find him in the temple busy with his Father's business. We can also imagine that Mary and Jesus suffered bereavement after Joseph's death.

One may say that Mary and Joseph lived a family spirituality centered on Jesus: they learned to look at Jesus with eyes of faith; to listen to him with attention, and to meditate on the unfolding mystery of the Son of God in their midst. But above all, they loved each other.

Just as the Holy Family survived its crises through love for each other and faith in God, let us pray for our families that they too may follow that example of love and faith in God. The message we take home is two fold:

The example of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph challenges us to find ways of coming together and centering our life on Christ.

We are invited to pray for our own families and those of our relatives and friends, so that, by God's grace, they may overcome the trials and sufferings that face family life today, and experience the presence of Christ in their family life. As we honor the Holy Family today we should also give prayerful thought to the importance of family and the future of the family in our country. The family is in need of all the prayerful support we can provide.

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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

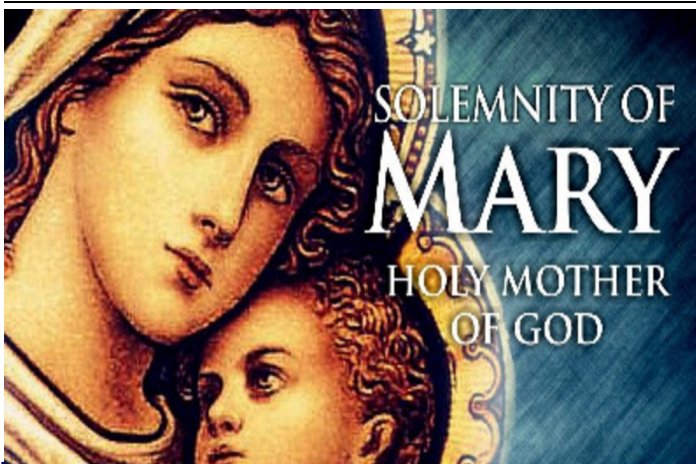
Mary Dougherty
David A. Smith



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

- 1) Isaiah 60: 1-6 (20ABC)
- 2) Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
- 3) Matthew 2:1-12





MASSES

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
 Tuesday, December 31, 2024
 Vigil 5:15 PM
 Wednesday, January 1, 2025
 8:30 AM & 12 PM

There is no evening Mass on January 1st.

FYI

Adoration will be on Tuesday, December 31st.
 Benediction will follow at 6:30 pm in the
 Chapel.

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

“Half an hour’s meditation each day is
 essential, except when you are busy.
 Then a full hour is needed.”

— St. Francis de Sales

Parish Giving
 simple. secure. convenient.

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.



The Archdiocesan Mass on WPVI-Channel 6 celebrated its 50th
 Anniversary in 2024.

A special Mass with Auxiliary Bishop Christopher Cook will be
 aired on Sunday Morning December 29th at 5:30 am.

Has Our Blessed Virgin Mary been a comfort in your life?

Might you have a feeling that Our Mother Mary has blessed you
 abundantly and you are looking for a way to thank her? Consider
 thanking her by being one of her helpers in the Parish. The Legion of
 Mary serves our Blessed Mary and the Parish through prayer and
 works of mercy. You are invited to join in this grace filled service to
 Our Lady at IHM...to Jesus through Mary!

Find out more by visiting a meeting. The Rosary starts the Legion
 meeting at 6:30 PM each Wednesday in Father Sullivan Hall. Please
 call or text Frank at 215 356 3441 for any meeting changes due to
 weather.



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.

CHURCH KNEELER RESTORATION PROJECT

The Church Kneeler project is coming to and end.

We will continue to accept donations for the **Church Kneeler Restoration Project** until December 31st. Forms and envelopes are at all the entrances of the Church and Chapel.

We will be starting to order the plaque in the new year.

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

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.

We would like to start this in the new year!

The IHM Scrip program is a wonderful way to offset your tuition payments!! 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@iheartmarv.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@iheartmarv.org with any questions about our Scrip program.



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. Rita Morado - *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 January 8.*

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.