

But let your communication be, Yes,
yes; No, no: for whatever is more
than these comes of evil.

Matthew 5:37



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 February 12, 2023

SAT.	11	5:15 pm	Joan A. Reed
SUN.	12	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Florence & Michael Iacobacci Stephanie Monastery
MON.	13	8:30	Jack Waldeck
TUES.	14	8:30	Rudolph Di Pasquale
WED.	15	8:30	Lam Nguyen
THURS.	16	8:30	Hugo Di John
FRI.	17	8:30	Baby Anna Maksyn
SAT.	18	8:00 5:15 pm	Angelo Sperduto Josephine & Joseph Stockmal
SUN	19	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Emily D. Mc Elroy Doris E. Fernandes

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

The Sanctuary Light in our **Sacred Heart Chapel**
for the week of February 13 to February 19

is in loving memory of
Jack Waldeck
requested by
Mary and the girls.



ROSES

The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving memory of
Rose Di Benedetto
requested by
Janice Di Benedetto.



The rose placed in the **Chapel** is in loving memory of
David Morris
requested by
his daughter, Kimberly Ferraro.



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, Lee Aponte, Mary Bartsch, Anne Basara, 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, Madeline DiPasquale, Janet Bollinger Doherty, Beth Donnelly, Joseph Donnelly, Marie Dunne, Barbara Dziedzic, Francis "Joe" Elliott, Joe Evers, Bruce Fairchild, Rosemary Fatovic, Peg Fierko, David Fleetwood, Carol Foley, Bill & Dorothy Foster, Kathy Foster, Sydney Franzmann, Barbara Freiling, Dr. Angeline M. Gampico, Helen Golbeski, Kelly Gruninger, Flora Hart, Anne Headly, Brenden Heyer, Don Holt, Sheilah Janes, Frances Jefferys, Chris Kane, Deborah Kapp, Marek Kijek, 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, Cheryl Maresca, Elizabeth Matruka, Terry McCormick, Brian McGuire, Anne Marie Mc Keever, Felix & Louise McKeogh, Helen Magee, Lindsey Marzo, Steve Murphy, Elizabeth Matruak, Winifred Meall, Rachael Mellon, 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, Marie Renello, Harper Renshaw, John Reynolds, Casey Rigby, Joel Rivera, Tony Ruger, Domiciano Gallego-Ruiz, Anita Russell, Timothy Sager, Vince Savini, Donna Scharff, John Scharff, Mairead Scharff, Mary Ann Shaw, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Luke Simon, Cindy Synder-Earnhardt, 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, 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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR
BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Thomas Carroll



Pastor's Page

The teachings during this cycle of readings from Matthew's Gospel tell us that living the Christian life is more than just rules and regulations, more than just a series of do's and don'ts. Jesus calls us to a higher standard than this. If we focus only on the letter of the law we will probably do only what is absolutely necessary to get by. Our prayer this weekend can be for the grace and the courage and the will to go beyond the letter of the law. We can seek to follow Jesus with open hearts which will take us to places we can only imagine.

Sirach exhorts us in the first reading: "God has set before you fire and water...life and death, good and evil, whichever you choose will be given to you." Human freedom means we can choose good and avoid evil. God is not the source of human sin. Free will goes back to the beginning of the creation of man in Genesis. This is one of the gifts of our human nature. Good or evil cannot be forced on us. We are inclined to choose the good, because of God's grace we are part of his good creation. However, as humans we can make the wrong choices.

In the second reading, St. Paul talks about a wisdom that is higher than human wisdom. It is the sharing in the life of God. That wisdom, the insight of faith, can help us to make the right decisions in situations where we can choose a right path, a wrong path or at least a better of two choices path. This is when we pray that the Spirit will give us proper discernment in confusing situations.

In the Gospel we have the continuation of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapters 5-7. Jesus is speaking of his own authority: "You have heard it was said to your ancestors....but I say to you." In other words we need to pay particular attention. It is more than just laws or do's and don'ts. Jesus is calling us to a higher way of living. He tells us that unless our righteousness surpasses the scribes and the Pharisees we cannot enter the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus starts off with the 5th Commandment. Very simple. "Thou shalt not commit murder". Jesus upholds this law and then amplifies it in his commandment against anger. Left unresolved, anger can cause resentment and lead to the death of a relationship or even of a life itself. We can go all the way back to the Cain and Abel story in Genesis to see this. Jesus insists the reconciliation of a relationship is of the highest priority, even higher than one's relationship with God. (Go first and be reconciled....and then come and offer your gift. Matthew 5:24) The law is only the beginning of justice and mercy. Angry thoughts, insulting murmuring, abusive words. These are what Jesus is counseling us to control and avoid.

Let us listen carefully to Jesus instruction, as he invites us to live more deeply in the life of the Father he wants to share with us. It is not enough to simply observe every commandment outwardly. We need to change our interior disposition so we can internalize God's Law, which is ultimately Life in Christ. In Jesus is revealed a new wisdom, a new law, a new way of living.

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) Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 (79A)
- 2) 1 Corinthians 3:16-23
- 3) Matthew 5:38-48



Weekend Clergy Schedule February 19, 2023 (celebrants are subject to change)

Saturday, February 18, 2023
5:15pm - Fr. Quan

Sunday, February 19, 2023
7:30 a.m. – Fr. Quan
9:30 a.m. – Fr. Bongard
11:30 a.m. -- Fr. Casey

Sunday Offering Week of January 29, 2023

Envelopes \$ 10,775.00

Loose 1,395.00

\$ 12,170.00

of envelopes – 603

Average– 17.87

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!

The next pick up for St. John's Hospice is Wednesday, March 1 at 9 am.

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

FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

We will **NOT** be automatically mailing out the end of the year **2022 contribution statements** to our parishioner.

To request a contribution statement please call the Rectory Office at 215-483-1000.

IHM SACRAMENTAL NEWS

FIRST PENANCE will take place on **Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 6 p.m.**

FIRST PENANCE PRACTICE will take place on **Monday, February 13, 2023 from 9 am to Noon**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION will take place on **Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 10 am.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PRACTICE will take place on **Thursday, May 4, 2023 from 9 am to Noon**

RETREAT DAY for all the children making their First Communion will take place at the **SHRINE OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL** on **Thursday, April 27, 2023.** Departure from IHM School is at 8 am and the return to IHM School will be at 2:30 pm.

For more information, please call Mary Anne Kostic-King, Director of Religious Education at **215-483-4266** or email: **mking@iheartmary.org**



The next meetings for the Golden Age Club will be February 13th and the 27th.

Come and join us for friendship, fun and laughter.

The 15 Week Club—The IHM 15 Week Club is the only major fundraising event of the fiscal year. We urge each parishioner to buy or sell the two tickets to help defray IHM School expenses. **Just fill out the SMALL portion of the ticket and return it to the Rectory (either by mail, in the collection basket or bring it to the Rectory Office in person)** along with the \$40 for each ticket. Thank you for your continued support of our school.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL!!

The first drawing was delayed a week and will now be February 13.



IHM GOLDEN AGE CLUB

On **Wednesday, March 22, 2023** the Golden Age Club will be hosting a bus trip to **Wind Creek Casino.**

Cost is \$38.00 in full No Refund

Receive \$25.00 in Slot Play

Outlet stores for shopping in the building

Board Bus at 9:15 am

Depart IHM Church parking lot at 9:30 am

Arrive at Wind Creek at 11:30 am

Leave Wind Creek at 4:30 pm

ARRIVE AT IHM 6:30 pm (5 hour stay)

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

IHM GOLDEN AGE CLUB

Please include telephone number and a separate check for each trip.

SEND CHECK TO:

Laura Kusniesz

7255 Shalkop Street, Philadelphia, PA 19128

215-483-9243

DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT IN FULL IS

FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Please be mindful when parking in the Church parking lot that school is in session and the children use the parking lot at recess. Please park away from the school. Thank you.

Lent begins on February 22 and the Operation Rice Bowl Collection begins.

Please participate in Operation Rice Bowl if you are able.

Rice Bowls are available at all the doorways of the Church and Chapel.

Thank You!



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

The next meetings of the
St. Vincent dePaul Society
will be held in Fr. Sullivan Hall
Monday, February 27,
& March 20.
from 7-8:30 pm.

Please join us for this rewarding volunteer work.



**CYO DONUT DAY IS
HERE!**

The IHM CYO will be
hosting a Donut Day after
the 9:30 Mass today in
Fr. Sullivan Hall.

All are welcome to come!

*Welcome to the newest members
of our IHM Parish!*

Patrick Maguire

Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia presents a
CONCERT IN HONOR OF FRYDERYK CHOPIN
on the anniversary of his 213th birthday!

Featuring: Pianist, William Yang

Date: Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 2:30 pm

Location: Settlement Music School, 6128 German-
town Ave., Philadelphia, PA

A light reception will follow the performance.

Tickets are \$30 per person; \$20 for students

Reservations may be made through the Concert

Chairperson: Debbie Majka 215-627-1391 or email
dziecko2@comcast.net or regular mail.

Checks are payable to: Polish Heritage Society of
Philadelphia and mailed to Debbie Majka 812 Lom-
bard Street #12; Philadelphia, PA 19147. You may
also use PayPal for payment. Send the amount to
"Debbie Majka" account.



Upcoming Admissions Events at Roman Catholic

**ENTRANCE EXAM
(CLASS OF 2027)**

**FEBRUARY
25TH**

**7TH GRADE
VISITATION DAY**

**MARCH
23RD**

**SPRING OPEN
HOUSE**

**MARCH
26TH**

**7TH GRADE
PRACTICE TEST**

**APRIL
1ST**

To register, please contact admissions@romancatholichs.com



and
the



**American
Red Cross**

WORKING TOGETHER

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a
blood drive on **Monday, March 13, 2023** in
Father Sullivan Hall. Time is from 2pm to
7pm.

For an appointment, please visit:
redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code:
IHM Parish or call 1-800-733-2767

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

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, pjcaruso45@yahoo.com

SOCIAL OUTREACH

CYO: High School and Grade School—Bill Hannigan
athleticdirector.ihm@gmail.com or kevintinneny@yahoo.com

Boy Scouts: John Macoretta, Scoutmaster (215-680-1049);
 email: scouttroop474@yahoo.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
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
Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006 or Pro Life Union 215-855-8150*