

This is my beloved Son,  
in whom I am well pleased.

**MATTHEW 3:17**

**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, March 10 at 7 pm in the Chapel.** 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 is May 16, 2026. Details on page 4.**

**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**

<u>MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF</u> <u>March 1, 2026</u>			
SAT.	28	5:15 pm	Josephine & Joseph Stockmal
SUN.	1	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners William & Priscilla King Alfredo Lopez
MON.	2	8:30	Memorial Fund
TUES.	3	8:30	Florence Horan
WED.	4	8:30	Vera Pepe
THURS.	5	8:30 11:00	John Pirritano Officer James E. Griffin, Jr.
FRI.	6	8:30	Mary Krier
SAT.	7	8:00 5:15 pm	Philip & Carol Di Williams Frances & Richard Kauffman
SUN.	8	7:30 9:30 11:30	IHM Parishioners Maria Ferrero Deacon George W. Kletzel, Jr. 8th Anniversary


**\*Please note not all Masses 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, Marguerite Bambani & Margaret, Jeannie Barr, Maureen Barr, Patricia Benene, Joyce Bielawski, Wayne Bielawski, Anita Bilotti, Cindi & Lance Bownet, Dolores Buzby, Lois Cartwright, Michael & Kay Christner, Brooke Conklin, Ron Clute, Walter Crate, John Croley, Helen Cyzio, Miquelina De Jesus, Joe Di Lullo, Sandy Di Mucci, Maria Downey, Marie Dunne, , Francis "Joe" Elliott, Mark Fee, Fr. Michael Kelly, Annette Freed, Linda Galleo, Heather Getley, Steven Getley, Bernadette Giambuzzi, Daniel Golasa, Lora L. Golasa, James Goussy, Joseph Henkel, Regina Joka, Florence Kesserling, Beverly King, Mary Jo & Paul King, Olga Kostic, Marianne Leahy, Colleen Long, Earl & Dorlene Long, Nicole Lo Stracco, Eugene Magee, Michael Magee, Dominic Matteo, Valerie Mc Carthy, Diane Mc Guire, Anne Marie Mc Keever, Mary Mudry, Mumford Family, Msgr. Philip C. Ricci, Trudy & Dick Neff, Frances Orlicki, Jessica Paterson, Holly Pelligrini, Ruthanne Pelligrini, Bill Pinto, Nicole Powlus, Karen Pulcinella, Elena Rocca, Baby Paige Elizabeth Sablich, Jane Rowe, Laura Salvatore, Anne Sargus-Varian, Sierra, John & Maired Scharff, Matthew Simmons, David Sparacino, Vivian Swiggard, Sr. Mary Thaddeus, Carolyn Walter, Daniel Welsh, Ellen Wentzel, Lena Weredene, Jerry Williams

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



 The Sanctuary Light in our **Sacred Heart Chapel** for this week is in loving memory of Sue Cooney.

**ROSES**  
The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving memory of Steve Murphy.

 The rose placed in the **Chapel** is in loving memory of Joan A. Reed requested by her Vestry Circle Friends.

Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.

**Clergy Schedule**  
**(celebrants are subject to change)**

**Saturday, March 7, 2026**  
**Vigil 5:15 pm - Fr. Casey**

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**  
**7:30 am Fr. Casey**  
**9:30 am Fr. Sean**  
**11:30 am Fr. Quan**

## Pastor's Page

The Scripture readings during the Sundays of Lent generally take an event from one of the synoptic gospels. Last Sunday we heard Matthew's version of the Temptation in the Desert at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. The Second Sunday of Lent in the year A cycle of readings describes the Transfiguration. One suggestion to gain a deeper understanding of these two events, and to give some good Lenten reading, is to read in succession the Temptation Story and the Transfiguration in each of the synoptic gospels. Do it in chronological order: Read Mark's story, then Luke's, then Matthew's.

As prelude, in the Old Testament reading today, we hear the beginning of the Abraham saga, starting in Chapter 12 of Genesis. When we think of Genesis, we think of the creation stories, the fall of Adam and Eve, the Cain and Abel tragedy, the Flood and the Tower of Babel. This is only a small part of Genesis, albeit a major teaching. The first 11 chapters of Genesis are what can be described as Israel's pre-history. In chapter 12 we now move to the call of Abraham, of Isaac, of Jacob and finally to Joseph and the tribes as they migrated to Egypt. I would also recommend Genesis 12-50 for your Lenten spiritual reading and meditation

In Genesis we learn of God's relationship with the world. Through the sacred writers and inspiration, God reveals himself to us. We learn of God as creator, as judge, as redeemer. We have met a God who accepts the weakness of humanity and continues to love, a God who guides and directs, a God who is able to bring good out of evil. And as the word Genesis denotes and connotes it is only the beginning of the story.

As we will see in Genesis 12, there is little preparation given for the call of Abram. "Go to a land that I will show you" is the first introduction of God to Abram. The choice of Abraham remains a mystery in the Yahwist source story, resting solely on God's initiative. What God offers to Abram will prove to be a sign of divine favor and a source of happiness to Abram himself. To be a great nation, Abram will need descendants and land. This is going to be easier said than done. God challenged Abram to "go forth" from a comfortable past, trusting in the future God promised.

Just as God's promise to Abram indicated greatness to come, so too was Jesus glory prefigured in his transfiguration. As St. Paul says, Christ Jesus "destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel" The Transfiguration of the Lord gives us a glimpse of the glory of the Resurrection.

Peter, James and John, like Abram are being called to something beyond their comfort zone, in fact they are afraid at what they are witnessing. They are being "called forth" from any preconceived notions of a glorious earthly Messiahship, and their share of that glory, to a new vision of Jesus mission and theirs. The Transfiguration reveals Jesus as fulfilling the Law (in the person of Moses) and the Prophets (in the person of Elijah). As they will later find out, no flaming chariot is going to deliver Jesus from suffering. They witness a glimpse of glory but will soon witness Jesus abject agony. The Father tells them to "listen"!

Let us go forth this week with Jesus on the road to Calvary. Let us "Listen...to my beloved son" and let us "Rise and do not be afraid"

*Father Casey*

**THE IHM PARISH & SCHOOL COMMUNITY** will honor the 50th Anniversary of fallen Officer James E. Griffin, Jr. at the 11 am Mass on Thursday, March 5 at 11 am. (March 4th & March 5 8:30 am Masses will be in the Chapel)

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY


- 1) Exodus 17:3-7 (28A)
- 2) Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
- 3) John 4:5-42



**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.**





**Due to a scheduling conflict the March 4th Mass to honor our Police Officers and Firefighters has been postponed.**

**A new date will be announced as soon as possible.**



PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The Catholic Parishes of East Falls, Manayunk, Roxborough and Andorra will present the Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation Program for engaged couples on **SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026** in Father Sullivan Hall.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 819 E. Cathedral Road. The day begins with registration at 9:30 AM and concludes with attendance at the 5:15 PM Vigil Mass. Continental breakfast and lunch are provided. Certificates are distributed after Mass. Cost is \$100.00 per couple, payable in advance.

To register, please call:  
Holy Family Rectory, 215-482-0450, Monday through Friday between 9 AM and 3 PM.

The next pickup for St. John's Hospice casserole program is on  
Wednesday, March 4th at 9 am.

**Sunday Offering Week of February 15, 2026**

Envelopes	\$ 7,280.00
Loose	1,030.00
Parish Giving (E-Giving)	<u>2,981.00</u>
	<b>\$11,291.00</b>
# of envelopes—436 Average—\$16.70	

To make a secure contribution on-line please visit [ihmphila.org](http://ihmphila.org) and click on the Parish Giving Logo.

*Thank you for your continued generosity.*

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH DINNER**

The Knights of Columbus is serving a fish dinner on the following Fridays during Lent.

Feb. 27, March 6,13,20,27, & April 3.

Pick up only from 3PM to 6PM (or until sold out)

Dinner consists of Baked & Breaded Fish Filets (with a lemon wedge). Side dishes are: coleslaw, homemade mac & cheese, a roll and your choice of soda or water.

Cost is \$23.00  
Family Deal (4 platters) \$80.00

Call/text to order 267-298-8885 by Wednesday prior  
**CASH PAYMENT ONLY**

**PART-TIME MAINTENANCE POSITION AVAILABLE AT IHM**

Our maintenance department has a permanent part-time position available.  
Hours are Monday - Friday 12:00 pm to 3:30 pm.  
For more information and details call the IHM Parish Office at 215-483-1000.

**15 WEEK CLUB  
Week # 2**

William Emper	\$300.00
John Casey	\$100.00
Geraldine Spilker	\$100.00
Joan Clemson	\$ 50.00
Keith & Erin Samarco	\$ 50.00
Lauren Mc Nichols	\$ 50.00
Ann Grebolski	\$ 50.00

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**Thank You to Our Parishioners for Your Support of  
The IHM Conference of The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**

Our hearts are full of thanks to all of you for your ever-constant and generous support of our mission to provide assistance to those in need in our neighborhood. We are also indebted to Father Casey, the excellent church and office staff, and the Knights of Columbus organization for their continuing aid and encouragement.

Through your regular contributions to the Poor Box, the annual SVdP church envelope, and the Household & Clothing Drives with The Thrifty Irishman, along with extraordinary donations from individual parishioners, we were able in 2025 to pay bills totaling nearly \$31,000 to help our neighbors in need. Our assistance is given only with regard to legitimate need which is determined through a home visit. All members are volunteers so every donation is used in full to aid someone.

This past year we spent time with 14 families and 15 individuals who requested help. We offered understanding and encouragement, referred them to relevant non-profit and service groups, and assisted them financially when necessary. Your donations paid bills for utilities, home and car repairs, medical services, food, clothing, furniture, rent, SEPTA passes and more. Often this support helps our neighbors get through an unexpected emergency and back on their feet. We also delivered about \$2,500 in gift cards (primarily for food), donated by you on the Christmas Giving Tree and by the Knights of Columbus.

With your support we have been privileged to bring Christ's caring love to people of all faiths in our area. We always let them know that the generosity they experience from us is due to the loving kindness of the parishioners of IHM.

If you would like to learn more about this organization or are interested in joining us, in this rewarding work, please call the Rectory and ask for the SVdP HelpLine. There you can leave your name and phone number, and someone will return your call to share information.

**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Immaculate Heart of Mary Conference.**

Margie Iacobacci, Mike and Rose Novak, Phil and Martha Raively, Mark Heil, Mary Lou Dinda, Barbara Sheehan, Matt Butterly, Maria Campbell, Chet and Sharon Cybularz.

## PARISH SACRAMENTAL DATES

### First Penance

Tuesday, 3/10/26 @ 6:00 p.m. in Church

### First Holy Communion Retreat

Shrine of the Miraculous Medal

Wednesday, April 15 (8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

### First Holy Communion Practice

Wednesday 4/29/26

(8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

in Church and Father Sullivan Hall

### \* First Holy Communion

Sunday, 5/3/26 @11:30 a.m. Mass

\* Please note the change from the first Saturday in May to the first Sunday in May for the Reception and Celebration of First Holy Communion. \*

The second collection this weekend February 28th & March 1st is for the Church in Latin America.

#### 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

**March 2 & 23, April 13, May 4**

*All are welcome to join us in this rewarding work.*

*To find out more about us come to a no pressure meeting and find out what we do.*

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE

PLEASE NOTE: We will NOT be sending out end of year 2025 contribution statements to our parishioners.

To request a contribution statement please call the IHM Parish Office at 215-483-1000 or email: ihmparish@comcast.net.

## 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.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL SCHOOL AND CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers of our IHM School and Church must meet all Safe Environment requirements mandated by the State of Pennsylvania and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This includes all school volunteers and parish volunteers i.e. Lectors, EM, Choir Members, etc.

A list of all requirements are on the school website: [iheartmary.org](http://iheartmary.org) Go to Resources then to Volunteer and all the links are posted there. These clearances are **FREE** for volunteers.

These requirements are **MANDATORY** and there will be no exceptions. These **MUST** be completed or you may not volunteer in our school for any trips, dances or in house activities or any parish ministries.

For the Protecting God's Children session go to [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org) then first time registrant then to list of sessions to find one that is convenient for you to attend. There are classes available through zoom.

For more information call Denise Schmidt in the Rectory Office 215-483-1000. Monday - Friday between the hours of 10 am to 2 pm.

Please note: All clearances are free for volunteers. The State of PA requires that these be updated every 5 years. The requirements of the Archdiocese only needs to be completed once.

### PARISH STAFF

**Mr. Patrick Foley** - *Principal of IHM School*

**Mrs. Rita Morados** - *Business Manager*

**Mrs. Denise Schmidt** - *Parish Secretary*

**Mrs. Traci Kovach** - *Director of Finance, Development & Admissions*

**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*

## IHM CHURCH MINISTRIES & GROUPS

### LITURGICAL

**Altar Servers:** *Rev. Edward J. Casey*

**Ministry of the Word (Lectors):** *Sidney J. MacLeod, Jr., [sidnevj@macleod.com](mailto:sidnevj@macleod.com)*

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

**Music Ministry:** *Rehearsals—Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. in Church. Contact: Linda Pfefferle, [Musicfef5@gmail.com](mailto:Musicfef5@gmail.com)*

**Ushers:** *John Rudolph, Peter Caruso*

**Sacristans:** *Peter Caruso, Bill King*

### SOCIAL OUTREACH

**CYO:** *High School and Grade School—Drew Hudecki [ihmcyo.athletic.director@gmail.com](mailto:ihmcyo.athletic.director@gmail.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 Next pick up is March 4, 2026 at 9 am.*

### SCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Home & School Association:** [homeandschool@iheartmary.org](mailto:homeandschool@iheartmary.org)

**Tuition Office:** *contact Traci Kovach (215-482-2029). Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 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 Anne 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. Maria Campbell (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 @ 7:00pm in the K of C Room in FSH. contact Dan McPeake @[dmcpc2939@verizon.net](mailto:dmcpc2939@verizon.net) or visit our website at <https://www.kofc4100.org>.*