



Matthew
18:21-35

FORGIVENESS

**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, & 7:30 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**

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 Monday, September 18 @ 7pm 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 will be offered on **Saturday, December 9**. See page 4 of the bulletin 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 September 17, 2023

SAT.	16	5:15 pm	Vincent & Anna Manzo
SUN.	17	7:30	IHM Parishioners
		9:30	All Deceased Members of Jim & Sharon Schepise
		11:30	Richard Urbanski
MON.	18	8:30	Norman Reilly
TUES.	19	8:30	*Happy 76th Birthday Tita Lopez
WED.	20	8:30	Dolores & John Cafagna
THURS.	21	8:30	Prachtel & Ormsby Families
FRI.	22	8:30	Jack Veasey
SAT.	23	8:00	Eric Shaffer
		5:15 pm	Victor R. Kost & Patricia Kost
SUN	17	7:30	IHM Parishioners
		9:30	John "Jack" Wilson
		11:30	Lisa Castellante

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

The Sanctuary Light in our **Sacred Heart Chapel**
for the week of September 18 to September 24
is for the
Friends of Mary "D"
requested by Teresa.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Michael "Mike" Vassallo



ROSES

The rose placed in the **Church** is in loving memory of
Marie Seltzer
requested by
Chet & Sharon Cybularz & Family.



The rose placed in the **Chapel** is in loving memory of
Walter & Dorothy Lesniewski
requested by Helen Cyzio.



*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, 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, Quint Cuffe, Earl Dandridge, David Daniels,
Taylor Davis, Marano Donald D'Angelo, Nancy Di John,
Madeline DiPasquale, Janet Bollinger Doherty, Joseph
Donnelly, Marie Dunne, Barbara Dziedzic, Francis "Joe"
Elliott, Joe Evers, Bruce Fairchild, Peg Fierko, David
Fleetwood, Carol Foley, Bill & Dorothy Foster, Kathy Foster,
Sydney Franzmann, Barbara Freiling, Dr. Angeline M.
Gampico, Bernadette Giambuzzi, Helen Golbeski, 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,
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, Marvin Parnes,
Harry Pastella, Luisa Pellicone, Dave Pendleton, Bishop Joseph
Pepe, Bill Pinto, Nicole Powlus, Maria Prince, Kathy Pro, Tom
Przybek, Karen Pulcinella, John Quirus, Junie Rakosak, Marie
Renello, Harper Renshaw, Casey Rigby, Joel Rivera, Tony
Ruger, Domiciano Gallego-Ruiz, Anita Russell, Jean Sargus,
Susan Savini, 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, 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

Our Old Testament reading today comes from the Book of Sirach. Specifically it is also called “the Wisdom of Sirach” with the author being Jesus ben (son of) Sira, meaning Son of Sira. We know really nothing about him other than what we can deduce from the book. He ran a school for scriptural study and Jewish wisdom in Alexandria Egypt which was then under the Greek Empire until 63 BC. He wanted to instruct his fellow Jews who were confused by the philosophical questions of the Greeks. He wrote that all wisdom comes from God – not Greek thought! Sirach says that wisdom came forth from the mouth of God to make her dwelling with God’s people. He is reminding the Jews of the day, and us, that God’s wisdom is far above the wisdom of the world. Scholars have determined it was written around the year 180 BC, quite late in the Old Testament period.

The Book of Sirach forms part of the “deuterocanonical” books, also referred to as the apocrypha. The designation means that from earliest times Jewish scholars did not include it among the books of Scripture. They would use it however in worship and study. It did not take its place among the sacred books in the Jewish canon. The Catholic Church eventually placed it in the canon of scripture which was a whole other process. Sirach is part of what we see as the Wisdom Literature of the old testament: Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom, Sirach, Song of Songs and the Psalms. It is noteworthy that there are seven books of Wisdom literature in the Catholic Canon of the Old Testament and the number seven is symbolic of perfection.

Forgiveness can be both the easiest and the most difficult thing a person is asked to give. Daily life is filled with moments in which we ask for forgiveness. Often a simple pardon is given without much thought. But this may not always be the case since some moments are not so easily forgotten. The teaching today in this passage is that we cannot nourish anger and expect our own sins to be forgiven. Sirach tells us that wrath and anger are hateful things. He reminds us of the damaging effects that anger and vengeance can bring to our soul. Sirach asks us to renounce vengeance and “set enmity aside” 28:6

St. Paul in the continuing passages from the letter to the Romans reminds us that ultimately, we are not autonomous. Both in life and death we are the Lord’s

In the passage from Matthew today, Jesus tells this story after Peter proposes an extravagant level of forgiveness the biblical number of perfection, “seven times”. Jesus however recalculates this, changing the seven to seventy seven times. In some older translations we hear it as seventy times seven times. This indicates infinity and challenges us to surpass even perfection with a forgiveness as wildly boundless as God’s forgiveness toward us. Jesus made forgiveness a non-negotiable requirement of the life of faith. In other words,

Don’t set limits.

Don’t keep score. Keep forgiving!

Father Casey

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

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Vigil 5:15 pm - Fr. Quan

Sunday, September 24, 2023

7:30 am – Fr. Bransfield

9:30 am – Fr. Quan

11:30 am – Fr. Bransfield

Sunday Offering Week of September 3, 2023

Envelopes \$ 12,028.00

Loose 684.00

\$ 12,712.99

of envelopes – 645

Average - 18.65

Black & Indian Missions \$1,723.00

Thank you & God Bless you for your generosity

Please help our counters (they graciously volunteer their time) by filling out the amount on your Church envelope and please write clearly. This helps to speed up the process.

Thank you so much!

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

- 1) Isaiah 55:6-9 (133A)
- 2) Philippians 1:20c-24-27a
- 3) Matthew 20:1-16a



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.





**The Knights of Columbus are hosting a
RED CROSS FALL BLOOD DRIVE on:**

Monday, October 9, 2023 (Columbus Day)

2 pm to 7 pm

in

Father Sullivan Hall

Appointments are preferred. To schedule an appointment visit:

redcrossblood.org

Enter code: IHM Parish

or call 1-800-733-2767

**Please come out and support this very
important event!!**

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

The Catholic Parishes of Manayunk, East Falls and Andorra will present the Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation Program for engaged couples on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023

in Father Sullivan Hall,

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish,
819 E. Cathedral Road.

The day begins with registration at 9:00 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.

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

CHURCH KNEELER RENOVATION PROJECT

We hope you are enjoying the comfort of the new kneelers and thank those who have donated to help this renovation.

We are still in need of donors for this project. If you cannot be a full donor you can always make a contribution to fund this project. Any help will be greatly appreciated. In order to have a name added to the plaque a full donation is needed.

At all the doorways of our Church there is an information sheet that has details on the Memorials that will be used to fund this very important initiative.

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

MERION MERCY ACADEMY

We welcome parish families to join us at the Merion Mercy Academy Open House on Sunday, October 15, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mass will be celebrated in the Convent Chapel at 11:00 a.m. and the Open House will run 12 p.m.- 3 p.m.

The Scholarship and Entrance Exam (HSPT) for 8th graders will be offered on two dates: Saturday, October 21 or Saturday, October 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A parent school tour will be offered on test dates. You may also sign your daughter up for a visit day beginning in October. www.merion-mercy.com

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION NOVEMBER 5, 2023 @ 11:30 am Mass

Applications for your child to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at IHM Parish are still being accepted. If your child is a student at IHM or a parishioner that attends another school and you have not yet registered and/or received your information/study packet, please do so immediately by contacting, Mary Anne Kostic-King, DRE (215) 483-4266 or email: mking@iheartmary.org

All paperwork including a sponsor form should be turned in ASAP.

Save the dates!

Upcoming Events sponsored by the Legion of Mary

1. **September 23** -Evangelization Day at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Hilltown, PA – Volunteer to visit homes with a partner to offer the Good News.
2. **October 14 at 12 pm** – You are invited to attend and pray at the outdoor Fatima Rosary in front of IHM Church.
3. **October 21** - Evangelization Day at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Doylestown, PA – Volunteer to visit homes with a partner to offer the Good News.
4. **October 27 – 29** –Attend a weekend retreat at Malvern Retreat House – Open to Active and Auxiliary (praying) members of the Legion.
5. **November 11 -12** – You are invited to visit the historical display of Eucharistic Miracles throughout the world (by Blessed Carlos Acutis) in Father Sullivan Hall.

More information will be upcoming or visit the Legion website www.philadelphiasenatus.org

For more information contact: Frank [215 356 3441](tel:2153563441)



JOIN US FOR A
BEEF & BEER
IHM CYO FUNDRAISER

**SAT
23
SEPT**

**7PM-
10PM**

IHM FATHER SULLIVAN HALL

FOOD - MUSIC - 50/50 - RAFFLES

\$25 per person
Money raised will go toward improvements to the gym bathrooms

Contact Mary Vukas at vuka519@comcast.net Venmo @M-Vukas or Cash

Roman Catholic High School Announces Fall 2023 Events!

Calling all Alumni! Join us on October 29 for our annual Alumni Homecoming at Broad and Vine. Doors open at 9 with mass beginning at 10. A lunch buffet and Eagles watch party will follow. Register today by clicking the Homecoming 2023 tab

Calling all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and families our 2023 Open House is Sunday, October 8th! Come out and explore what our campus and curriculum has to offer to the next generation of Cahillites! Registration can be completed on our website under Admissions > Important Dates. We hope to see you there!

**Koller Funeral Home
Bereavement Support Group**

Fall Schedule begins Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 6:30 PM to 7:45 PM. Subsequent sessions on October 5, October 19, November 2, November 16, November 30 from 6:30 PM to 7:45 PM. All sessions held at Koller Funeral Home, 6835 Ridge Ave.

This is offered to the community by the Koller Funeral home at no charge. Registration is required 215-482-5200 or email at kollerbereavement@gmail.com

FLYERS ARE AT ALL THE DOORWAYS OF THE CHURCH
CHAPEL

The next meeting of the
St. Vincent de Paul Society
will be held in Fr. Sullivan Hall
September 18
from 7-8:30 pm.
Please join us for this rewarding volunteer work.

**VENDORS WANTED**

On Saturday, September 30, 2023 IHM Home and School will be holding our second annual Fall Festival. This event will take place in the IHM Parking Lot from 11 am to 3 pm. Based on some feedback from last year's event, we are looking to have vendors this year. If you are unfamiliar with this event, we will have bounce houses, pony rides, face painting, food trucks, a DJ, games and more.

There will be no charge for vendor spaces at this event. You will need to provide your own table.
You will also be responsible for your own tent/canopy if you feel it is necessary.

If you are interested in this event, please contact:
homeandschool@iheartmary.org.

Link for Google Sign Up Form: <https://forms.gle/7MQ4DAzUMv971uwQ6>

If you plan on volunteering for this event be sure you have clearances up to date in the parish office.

If you need help obtaining clearances contact Denise Schmidt, Safe Environment Coordinator: deniseschmidt@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.

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 - *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, pjcaruso45@yahoo.com

SOCIAL OUTREACH

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

Boy Scouts: 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 215-850-9740.