IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

welcome

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Coordinator
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Call for information
or appointment

DECEMBER 27, 2020

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil - 4:00pm & Sunday - 8:30 & 11:00am
Weekday Schedule
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday at 9:00am
Adoration on Tuesday - 9:30 to 11:00am

Holy Day of Obligation
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Vigil Mass: December 31 at 4:00 PM
Holy Day: January 1 at 9:00 AM

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God!

Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!
©LPi

Faith Formation - For All Ages

Sharon C. Kowalski, Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Faith Formation: 2020-2021

Wishing all our Faith Formation Families many blessings, joy, and happiness during the Christmas holidays. Please check the bulletin for Mass times on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Remember, JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!!

January 10 will be our next in person session and will also be the date of the next pick up of materials for our young people who are doing the sessions online.

Please contact Sharon at skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org or 518-328-0427 for more information or questions.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW): Currently on hiatus.

Christmas Cards for Veterans ~ Because of the pandemic this year, we were unable to sponsor our annual Veteran's Breakfast. Mrs. Dunbar still wanted to do something special for our local veterans in Green Island and Watervliet. Faith Formation was glad to help. Many thanks to Mr. Passonno's class who prepared Christmas cards for over 150 of our veterans. God bless all involved for this outreach to our veterans who have given so much for all of us.

Scripture Sharing: "The Wild Goose" ~ **Please note: we will take a brief hiatus during the Christmas holidays and will resume Scripture in January. Have a wonderful Christmas and blessed New Year!!*

For all those interested, we meet on Thursdays from 2 to 3pm in the Parish Life Center. For more information, please contact

RCIA and Sacramental Preparation for Adults and Older Children ~ If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) or are curious about the process, contact Sharon at skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org or 518-328-0427.

Mary's Kitchen: Mondays, 3 to 5pm..*we're back* Mary's Kitchen is serving meals again!! For the present time, we can do TAKE OUT meals only. All are welcome. Why cook when we've done it for you?? Stop by between 3 to 5pm on Monday and pick up a meal all ready for you to take home: Soup, salad, sandwich, entrée and dessert!!

If anyone would like to prepare a dessert for the soup kitchen, it would be most appreciated.

Email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org or call 518-328-0427 for more information.

In Memoriam ~ 2021

In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family 10/24/21	In memory of our beloved son Michael D Kowalski requested by Michael and Sharon Kowalski 3/21/21	In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family 3/7/21
In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family 2/21/21	In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family 2/21/21	In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson 2/7/21
In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family 1/17/21	In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope 1/17/21	In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan 1/10/21
		In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family 1/10/21

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration of the Week

While families come in all shapes and sizes and no two are the same, they all need a common focus and grounding. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with a proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. In additional to all of these things, the axis of every family has to be centered on faith. It is here that we can learn about the virtues and discover the windows to God Himself in His gifts of faith, hope, and love. We can learn, modeling our experience after the Holy Family, how to use these as anchors in our lives so that we can live out the other virtues with greater integrity. Because our human families struggle with weakness and sin, we have to come back to the Holy Family often for inspiration and guidance. In the bond of love that they shared, they clung to the anchor of God Himself and endured challenges far greater than many we will ever face. ©LPi

REFLECTIONS

First Reading:
The story of Abram and Sarah and their struggle to have a family centers on Abram's faith in the Lord. When have you needed to rely on faith when it comes to your family?

Second Reading:
The author of Hebrews holds up Abraham as a model for the faith. When have you had to unconditionally trust in the Lord?

Gospel:
Only Luke records the presentation in the Temple of the baby Jesus. Simeon reveals to Mary and Joseph insights into Jesus and his destiny. How do you imagine Mary and Joseph understood Simeon's words?
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IHM Prayer Ministry

We believe as faith-filled people, prayer matters and offers hope. The Prayer Tree Ministry is made up of a group of people who pray for others. If you would like prayers said for a family member, relative, or friend contact Brenda Persons at 518-271-6184.

Anyone wishing to have the Christmas Flower Memorial listing, please contact Judy at 518 273-6020 , leave a message and we will be happy to send one out to you.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Dec 26
4pm—Marie Delisle, req by Peg Fisk
Thomasina DiFabio, req by Rosary Society
Mario DiBiase, req by Frederick Hudy

Sun., Dec 27
8:30am—Kay Ellen Lord, req by St Luke's Nurses
Thomas "Jake" Connery, req by Brenda Persons
Living & deceased members of IHM

11:00am—Dec'd mem of Stebbins/Hynes family, req by Kathy Stebbins
Helen Kuentzel
Jacqueline Martin } **req by Mr & Mrs Michael Carroll**

Tues., Dec 29
NO MASS

Wed., Dec 30
NO MASS

Thurs., Dec 31
5:30 pm—VIGIL MASS - MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
The Bulger Family, Estate

Fri., Jan 1, 2021
9:00 am—SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
Paul Marziani (B'day), req by the family
Helen Werner (B'day), req by daughters, Judy,Sue & Kathy

Sat., Jan 2
4:00pm—Helen Kuentzel, req by Frederick Hudy

Sun., Jan 3
8:30am—Father Peter Young, req by Fred & Margaret Gonsowski

11:00am—Helen Cody & Genevive Neary (B'days), req by Maureen McMahon

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