

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

September 11th, 2016 ~ Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Basil the Great Church
Dushore, PA



St. John Neumann Shrine
Sugar Ridge, PA



St. Francis of Assisi Church
Mildred, PA



St. Francis of Assisi Chapel
Eagles Mere, PA



P O Box 307, Dushore, PA 18614
Parish Office - 1 St. Francis Drive, Mildred, PA 18632
(570) 928-8865 Fax (570) 928-7972
Email - ihmparish@frontier.com
Website - ihmdushore.com

Our Pastoral Staff

Parish Administrator - Reverend Richard Rojas
Director of Religious Education - Mrs. Kathleen Clark
Administrative Assistant - Ms. Diane Fowler
Director of Liturgical Music - Mrs. Deborah Rojas

Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:00 PM St. Basil's Church, Dushore

Sunday

7:30 AM St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mildred

9:30 AM St. Basil's Church, Dushore

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays - 3:15 – 3:45 PM St. Basil's Church, Dushore
Sundays - 6:45 – 7:00 AM St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mildred
Or by appointment

A Welcoming Community: You enter this Church ... not as stranger, but as a guest of God. He is your heavenly Father. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips into His presence, offering Him your love and service. Be grateful to the strong and loyal ones who, in the name of Jesus Christ, built this place of worship, and to all who have beautified it and hallowed it with their prayers and praise. Ask His blessing on those who love His house of faith as the inspiration of their labor, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, and may that blessing rest on you, both in your going out and your coming in.

Parish Registration: You must be a registered member of The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish to receive Baptism, Confirmation, First Penance, First Holy Communion, Marriage and to receive sponsor letters from the pastor.

New Members: Please stop by or call the parish office and register. (If you are leaving the parish, please notify the office before you leave). Thank you.

Change of Address: Please notify the parish office as soon as possible if you have had a change of address.

Inactive Catholics: As a welcoming parish, we ask every parishioner to ask God to put in your heart people whose hearts we need to reach out and touch with God's love. "Before you talk to men about God, you talk to God about men." Please, call, write, leave in an envelope in the collection the name, address and phone number of the person. Father would be delighted to meet with them.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process to bring non-Catholics into the faith. Anyone seeking information or interested in becoming a part of this community of faith can call the parish office.

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptisms are scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month following the 9:30 AM Mass. In order to understand and better appreciate this special sacrament, parents are required to attend the Pre-Baptismal Program, which is held on the last Saturday of each month at 7:00 PM in St. Basil's Rectory. Please contact the rectory to schedule your child's baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage: Couples contemplating marriage should notify the rectory at least six months prior to the date to allow necessary time for proper preparation.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night.

Visitation of the Sick: Please call the parish for visitation of the sick at home, in the hospital, or health care facility.

Parish Mission Statement: We, the Catholic faithful of The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, in union with our Holy Father, the Pope, and our Bishop, are called through Baptism to share in the ministry which Jesus Christ has entrusted to the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. As priest and lay faithful in a rural area, we utilize our energy to serve the spiritual needs of the Kingdom of God to promote a culture of life, justice, and peace to this generation and the generations that follow us.

Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, Heavenly beauty and splendor of the Father, you are the most valued Heavenly treasure.

New Eve, immaculate in soul, spirit and body, created of the godly seed by the Spirit of God, you are the spiritual Mother of mankind.

Pure Virgin, full of grace then and now, your whole being was raised Heavenly in full glory, to be elevated above all the hosts within the Kingdom of God.

O Heavenly Mother, Queen of Heaven and earth, I recognize the glory of your highest title, the Immaculate Heart of Mary!

Loving Mother, dispenser of endless blessings, you who continually intercede on our behalf, please present my need before your loving Son, Jesus.

(Mention your request)

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, I know that you are now presenting my need before Jesus, for you have never turned away those in dire need.

Mother dearest, I await your favorable answer, submitting myself to the Divine will of the Lord, for all glories are His for ever and ever. Amen.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rejoice!

What I lost...
is now found.

Sunday, September 11th, 2016

Sunday Readings

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

God became very angry with the Israelites for worshipping a molten calf and making sacrifices to it. The people had so quickly violated his commandments that he planned to destroy them. But Moses pleaded with God for mercy and God relented.

Responsorial Psalm: 51

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Paul considered himself a former blasphemer and persecutor and expressed his gratitude for the mercy Jesus showed him. Paul felt that he was a perfect example of Jesus's patience toward sinners and his desire to reconcile them with God.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-32

The Pharisees grew angry because of Jesus's compassion toward sinners. In response, Jesus tells of a son who squandered his inheritance, then returned to his father and asked to be treated as a hired hand. The father rejoiced, angering his older and more obedient son. The father explained that everything he owned belonged to his older son; but he had to rejoice for the son who was lost and had been found.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Prodigal Us

Who would be dumb enough to adore something they constructed with their own hands! Do you cook dinner and then adore it?

But in the First Reading we find God becoming quite upset because the people adored cheap products as their God.

In Sunday's readings we find examples. For instance, while Moses was away the people built a golden calf and made it their creator. It is ridiculous, isn't it?

Yes. God was longing for a different relationship with his people. His invitation could be summed up as follows (though not in exactly these words): People, what about a two-way covenant of love? "I will be your God and you will be my people. I will love you more than you can ask or imagine." Won't you just love me in return? Wonderful offer! So simple.

Therefore they refuse. They run off to their paltry desires.

What would a parent do toward a seriously disobedient child? God does likewise. He shouts, "Let them alone, then, that my wrath may blaze up against them to consume them." (First Reading)

This reaction is quite serious, coming from the spurned ruler of heaven and earth! Not to be taken lightly.

Moses acts as a family friend. He says, "Why, O Lord, should your wrath blaze up against your own people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with such great power and with so strong a hand? ... Let your blazing wrath die down; relent in punishing your people." God agrees. Moses is advising, calm down. These people are like children. Give them some time.

But is this good advice? These "children" are actually worshipping false gods! Can such childish behavior be good for them and for the world?

Maybe you and I do the equivalent today, worshipping all the man-made items that demand our time. Have you ever run away from God in order that you can have whatever arouses your attractions?

The prodigal son in the Gospel is a great example of this kind of false worship. He left the "shackles" of home life and the too obvious devotion of his father to him. He chose a life of dissipation, which he sees as "freedom." Maybe you and I have an equivalent in our many houses, refrigerators, cars, magazines, clothes, etc., which we cling to!

It doesn't work. The defeated son crawls back home. We would have expected his father to say, "Oh sure, now you turn up, thinking everything will be just like it used to be. Well think again, pal." But instead the father actually runs, literally runs, to meet his son. He embraces him and prepares a feast of welcome.

Did the young man get what he deserved? No. He got what his father offered him. Forgiveness.

Here is the point. God does not want to keep us from the things we are attracted to. He wants us to value them in due proportion. Love God above all things. Then you can love everyone and everything else as they deserve.

We all fail in this, like the prodigal and like the ancient Israelites did. So Jesus pleads for us, even as Moses did for them. God puts his arms around us saying, "Welcome, welcome, welcome. You came back! We can love one another again, can't we?"

We promise again to do our best.

Weekly Liturgical Celebrations

Saturday, September 10

3:15 - 3:45 PM Dushore Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:00 PM Dushore *Bernadette & Nathan Weaver* by Pat Klein
& Lyndean Stoddard

Sunday, September 11

6:45 - 7:00 AM Mildred Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:30 AM Mildred *Wayne Pedro* by Alberta Pastusic &
daughters
9:30 AM Dushore *Mass for the People*

Monday, September 12

9:00 AM Dushore *Edward & Frances Burke Kelly* by Edward
M. Kelly

Tuesday, September 13

9:00 AM Mildred *Joseph Cullen* by Joe, Cathy, Pattie, Dick, &
John Amb

Thursday, September 15

9:00 AM Mildred *John Cosgrove* by Maureen Cosgrove
10:30 AM Darway *Bernice Yonkin* by John & Dawn Lambert

Friday, September 16

9:00 AM Dushore *Mary Eleanor McMahon* by Hayes & Kat
Clark

Saturday, September 17

3:15 - 3:45 PM Dushore Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:00 PM Dushore *Bernadette & Nathan Weaver* by Susie &
Paul Mingmongkol

Sunday, September 18

6:45 - 7:00 AM Mildred Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:30 AM Mildred *Mass for the People*
9:30 AM Dushore *Mr. & Mrs. Martin Richlin* by Sylvia Richlin

DAILY READINGS

Monday ~ *The Most Holy Name of Mary*

I Cor 11:17-26,33; Ps 40; Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday ~ *Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*

I Cor 12:12-14,27-31a; Ps 100; Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday ~ *THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS*

Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Thursday ~ *Our Lady of Sorrows*

I Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118; Jn 19:25-27

Friday ~ *Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs*

I Cor 15:12-10; Ps 17; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday ~ *Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*

I Cor 15:35-37,42-49; Ps 56; Lk 8:4-15

Sunday ~ *TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

Am 8:4-7; Ps 113; I Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

From a sermon by Saint Bernard, abbot

His mother stood by the cross

The martyrdom of the Virgin is set forth both in the prophecy of Simeon and in the actual story of our Lord's passion. The holy old man said of the infant Jesus: *He has been established as a sign which will be contradicted.* He went on to say to Mary: *And your own heart will be pierced by a sword.*

Truly, O blessed Mother, a sword has pierced your heart. For only by passing through your heart could the sword enter the flesh of your Son. Indeed, after your Jesus – who belongs to everyone, but is especially yours – gave up his life, the cruel spear, which was not withheld from his lifeless body, tore open his side. Clearly it did not touch his soul and could not harm him, but it did pierce your heart. For surely his soul was no longer there, but yours could not be torn away. Thus the violence of sorrow has cut through your heart, and we rightly call you more than martyr, since the effect of compassion in you have gone beyond the endurance of physical suffering.

Or were those words: *Woman, behold your Son*, not more than a sword to you, truly piercing your heart, cutting through to the division between soul and spirit? What an exchange! John is given to you in place of Jesus, the servant in place of the Lord, the disciple in place of the master; the son of Zebedee replaces the Son of God, a mere man replaces God himself. How could these words not pierce your most loving heart, when the mere remembrance of them breaks ours, hearts of stone and iron though they are!

Do not be surprised, brothers, that Mary is said to be a martyr in spirit. Let him be surprised who does not remember the words of Paul, that one of the greatest crimes of the Gentiles was that they were without love. That was far from the heart of Mary; let it be far from her servants.

Perhaps someone will say: "Had she not known before that he would die?" Undoubtedly. "Did she not expect him to rise again at once?" Surely. "And still she grieved over her crucified Son?" Intensely. Who are you and what is the source of your wisdom that you are more surprised at the compassion of Mary than at the passion of Mary's Son? For if he could die in body, could she not die with him in spirit? He died in body through a love greater than anyone had known. She died in spirit through a love unlike any other since his.

The Sanctuary Candles in St. Basil's and St. Francis of Assisi Churches are burning in loving memory of Bernadette & Nathan Weaver by the family

Our Weekly Parish Offertory Collection
The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

September 4th & 5th, 2016

\$6,525.25

Care & Education of Priests

\$1,135.80

Our estimated budget figures show that our parish offertory collection needs to be at or above \$5,300.00 each week to meet all of our financial obligations. We will be publishing in the bulletin where we stand financially so you can see when help is needed.

Budget goal \$5,300.00
Offertory this week..... 6,525.25
Over goal \$ 1,225.25

September Second Collections

September 10th & 11th ~ Building & Maintenance
September 17th & 18th ~ Special Collection for Louisiana flooding victims
September 24th & 25th ~ Heat & Eat Fund

Thank you for your generosity!

Word of Life: "Heal ...; the pain of still-grieving families and all who lost loved ones in this tragedy. Give them strength to continue their lives with courage and hope."

~ Pope Francis, "Prayer of Remembrance"
Ground Zero Memorial, New York, September 25, 2015

Patron of the Week

Complete Cleaning Service

Please support our patrons on the back of the bulletin.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet

Sunday, September 18th, 2016

St. Basil's Hall, Dushore

8:00 to 11:00 AM

Roast Beef Dinner

Friday, October 7th, 2016

St. Basil's Hall, Dushore

4:00 – 7:00 PM

Come on out and let the Knights do the cooking!

Liturgical Ministers for September 17th & 18th

Special Ministers of Communion

4:00 PM Dushore D. Homer, Jody Lambert, R. Tourscher
7:30 AM Mildred H. Clark, J. Doyle
9:30 AM Dushore J. Hawke, P. Minnier, D. Fite

Lectors

4:00 PM Dushore J. Shoemaker
7:30 AM Mildred R. Gumble
9:30 AM Dushore J. Fite, S. Wilcox

Altar Servers

4:00 PM Dushore
7:30 AM Mildred R. Thomas
9:30 AM Dushore Z. & S. Pedro

Greeters

4:00 PM Dushore J. & E. Richlin
7:30 AM Mildred R. Hope
9:30 AM Dushore M. & K. Evangelisti, T. Karaban

A Prayer for our Military

God our Father, walk through my house and take away all my worries; and please watch over and heal my family. Heavenly Father, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in this, our time of need. These things I humbly ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Please pray for:

Darrin J. Denmon

PMB 155; P O Box 30800, Honolulu, HI 96820

PVT Stephen MacElhaney

"Punisher" 5th Platoon 1-7bFABN

P O Box 35524, Wainwright, Alaska 99703

Natalie Dymond

9030 Moccasin Lake, San Antonio, TX 78245

Matthew J. Dailey

114 East Cochran Ave, Unit 110

Clovis, NM 88101

Air Force Captain Shawn M. McDonald

145 Kings Highway; Apt 307

Dover, DE 19901

Airforce SSGT Amber Adams

**2016 Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish
Bazaar Raffle**

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Bazaar Raffle tickets are now available. The tickets are \$15.00 and include 101 cash prizes. There will also be a "Bonanza Drawing" on October 9th, and a "Seller's Appreciation Drawing" will be on the night of the Bazaar, November 6th. A special thanks to Debbie Hill who organized and chaired the Raffle - for more information contact Debbie, 928-8730, or Linda at 928-8408. First drawing will be September 18th. Please return any unpurchased tickets to the rectory so that they may be sold. The Bazaar will be held on Sunday, November 8th in St. Francis of Assisi Hall.

Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G., at (570-207-2269).

Know Someone Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

These lazy and often hazy days of summer afford each of us the opportunity to contact those persons whom we know have shown interest in learning about the Catholic faith. **By reason of our baptism into Christ, each of us is obligated to reach out in God's name.**

Help awaken the seed of faith in others! Encourage them to become part of The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish RCIA Program (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). It is a **process** designed for adults who have heard God's word and seek to enter more deeply into the way of faith of the Catholic Church.

For more information please contact Donn Tourscher at 928-9361 or the parish office at 928-8865.

Altar & Rosary Society News

Our Bake Sale on August 13th was a huge success! Everything was sold out by 1 PM and we made \$375.00! Thanks to all who purchased and made donations as well. Our next meeting will be **September 13th at St. Francis of Assisi Rectory Office in Mildred at 6:00 PM.**

JOIN THE CHOIR, SEPT 8, 6:30P.M. MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

Fall is in the air! And so is the sound of PRAISE! Choir rehearsal will resume Thursday, September 8, 6:30 P.M. Already a member? Ask a friend to come sing with you! If you are not a member, but you like to sing -- do people regular turn to you after Mass and complement your singing? Do you remember your high school choir with fondness? Were you in the parish choir in the past? There is room for you! Please consider the ministry of music as your offering and participation in the Mass and call me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing our returning members soon! Blessings and peace in the Lord, Deb Rojas, Director of Liturgical Music, 617-633-6084

Religious Ed Teachers/Aide Needed

The IHM Religious Education Program needs to fill the following positions for the 2016-2017 school year:

Kindergarten Teacher (every other week)

First Grade Teacher

Sixth Grade Teacher

If you are interested in sharing the faith with children, please contact Kathleen Clark, DRE at hayes.clark@frontiernet.net or Diane Fowler at the Parish Office, 570-928-8865.

2016 DIOCESAN CONGRESS "REVOLUTION OF TENDERNESS"



Revolution of Tenderness

DIOCESAN CONGRESS 2016: "REVOLUTION OF TENDERNESS"

'Year of Mercy' Concert with Dan Schutte
Friday, October 7th 7:30PM-9:00PM
Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton

Congress Celebration: Worship, Workshops and more!
Saturday, October 8th 9:00-5:00PM
University of Scranton

It is time, again, to register for the Diocesan Congress!
Look for full program description and details for registration with check or credit card online at www.dioceseofscranton.org, or call the Diocesan Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213 for more information. We'll see you there!



"The great gift of mercy lies at the heart of all we do as a

Church, and it also lies at the heart of the support we received for the Diocesan Annual Appeal." ~Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

You are invited to join with parishioners across the Diocese as they practice *Living Faith, Serving with Mercy* by supporting the 2016 Annual Appeal. Pope Francis called this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy to direct our actions "on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's actions in our lives ..." "God is love" (1 Jn 4:8,16). This love has now been made visible and tangible in Jesus' entire life ... The signs he works, especially in favor of sinners, the poor, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering, are all meant to teach mercy. Everything in him speaks of mercy ..."

As presented by Bishop Bambera, Pope Francis offered his hope for the Church: that every man and woman, every child would find in the Church a place of welcome, would experience in the Church the love, the Mercy, the forgiveness, and the grace of a welcoming God. The great gift of Mercy that is also available to all of us during this wonderful Jubilee Year also calls us as faithful souls to be merciful as our Father in Heaven is merciful. It reflects the heart and substance of who we are as a local Church as we seek to reflect, in our own lives, the leadership of Jesus in service to his brothers and sisters.

"When we work together in the unity of the Holy Spirit, sharing the gifts our heavenly Father has given us, and "serve with Mercy," we are truly "living faith." None of us can do this alone, but across the 120 parishes of our Diocese, however, we have enormous power to be the presence of Christ in the world." This is the mission and purpose of the vital ministries made possible by the Diocesan Appeal throughout the 11 counties of our Diocese.

Religious Education classes will begin today, Sunday, September 11th in St. Basil's Hall from 8:00 to 9:15 AM. Kindergarten registration is now open. Parents can print a registration form from the website or contact Kathleen Clark at [570-928-8952](tel:570-928-8952) for more information.

Confirmation Classes will be held every other Sunday evening from 5:00 to 6:30 PM in St. Francis of Assisi Rectory. The first class will be on **Sunday, September 18th**.

Collection for flooding victims in Louisiana

The recent storms in Louisiana may not have a name, but the names of those suffering in the wake of the worst flooding since Hurricane Katrina are our sisters and brothers. As a people of God, let us come to their aid. Our prayer and material support is urgently needed to help rebuild lives.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has called for an **emergency collection on the weekend of September 17th & 18th** to support the humanitarian efforts of Catholic Charities USA and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted Catholic dioceses. Join the Church in being a visible witness to the healing presence of Jesus alive in the world. Please give generously!

Attention: *This weekend, September 10th & 11th, we will return to our regular weekend Mass Schedule, which is as follows:*

*Saturday
4:00 PM, St. Basil's Church, Dushore
Sunday
7:30 AM St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mildred
9:30 AM St. Basil's Church, Dushore*

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Council # 12406**



Meets
3rd Tuesday
of the Month
7:00P.M.

Call Rectory **928-8865**



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Box 32 Main St, Laceyville, PA 570-869-1232
155 Church St, Wyalusing, PA 570-746-1012
Benjamin B. Sheldon, Funeral Director, Owner
Gabriel B. Sheldon, Funeral Director

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