

THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH



St. Basil the Great Church
Dushore, PA



St. Francis of Assisi Church
Mildred, PA



St. John Neumann Shrine
Sugar Ridge, PA



St. Francis of Assisi Chapel
Eagles Mere, PA

Third Sunday of Lent

Mailing Address - P O Box 307,
Dushore, PA 18614

Parish Office - 1 St. Francis Drive,
Mildred, PA 18632

(570) 928-8865

Email - ihmparish@frontier.com

Website - ihmdushore.com

Reverend Thomas J. Major - Pastor

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Noon—2 PM

Friday: 10 AM—2 PM

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 - 7:00 – 7:15 AM

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mildred

Or by appointment



3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2005, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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March 15, 2020

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 relocating to a new parish, please notify the office before you move.) 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.

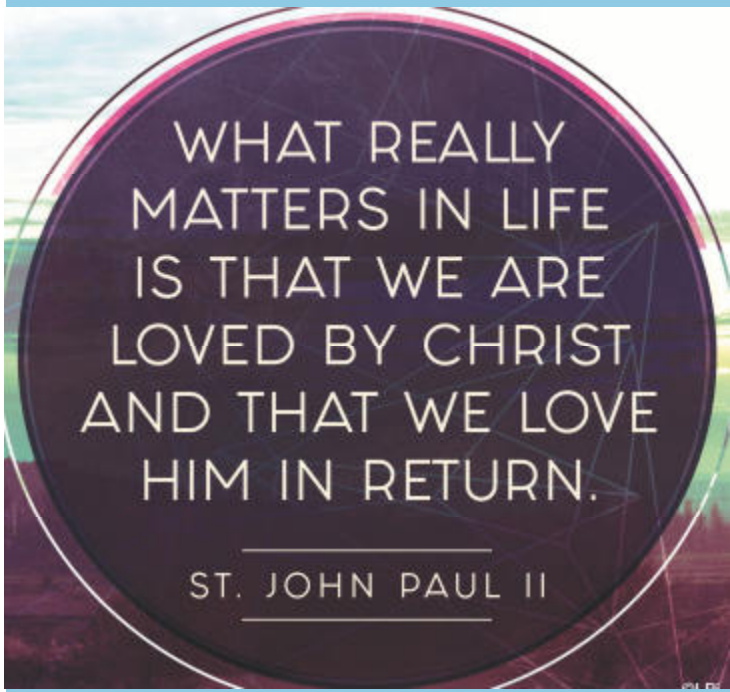
Pure Virgin, full of grace then and now, your whole being was raised Heavenly in full glory, to be elevated above all the hosts within the Kingdom of God.

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.



WHAT REALLY
MATTERS IN LIFE
IS THAT WE ARE
LOVED BY CHRIST
AND THAT WE LOVE
HIM IN RETURN.

ST. JOHN PAUL II

Reflection

The **First Reading** is from the Book of Exodus (17:3-7). God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.

The **Responsorial Psalm** (95:1-2, 6-9) Sing joyfully in the presence of the Lord.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (5:1-2, 5-8). Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The **Gospel Reading** is from the Gospel of John (4:5-42). We give the definition of ourselves over to so many things. We allow our society, friends, family, work, social groups, ethnicity, and even institutions define, classify, and color how we perceive ourselves. When we listen predominantly to the voices of others, we lose touch with what is happening within our own inner voice. If we listen carefully within, we can easily discover that we are in want and need. We know our incompleteness and also know that loneliness, sadness, and self-images can propel us outward in attempts to fill those gaps. We can become not only victims of our own prejudices but can find ourselves overly self-indulgent in things that can only satisfy for a short time, if at all.

It is no wonder that money and power are things that are so fervently sought after. As long as we can keep a steady supply going, the illusion of fulfillment and satisfaction can falsely persuade us as craftily as a master magician's act. We live with illusions not truth. It is no wonder, then, that some of the wealthiest folks are also really the unhappiest. Whether we admit it, the lies we live and pursue will ultimately expose our superficiality. We all have to wrestle with who we are and what gives our lives purpose and meaning. Learn to listen more deeply, not to what others are saying about you, but to what God is echoing in your heart.

We can easily get confused and misunderstand, not only about who we are but who God is. Even the disciples and the Samaritan woman at the well missed the point Jesus was trying to make. There is only one Person who can satisfy the deepest yearnings and longings of our hearts — Jesus the Messiah. It is not the work of corporate America that will lead us to happiness or greatness but the work of the soul. We continue to resist acknowledging this and are happier in our world of misunderstanding and illusion. The life-giving water we truly need doesn't come from the source of a well but from the Source of Life. Only God can reveal the truth of our sinfulness, the superficiality of our pursuits, and the illusions we hold so dear. Only Jesus can save us from ourselves and give us what we really need. If only our heads can catch up with where our hearts know they need to be, then will we find real contentment and life!

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Readings

Monday

2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday ~ St. Patrick, Bishop

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday ~ St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday ~ ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Friday

Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday

Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b; Lk 18:9-14

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Bible Study on Monday nights

Father will be having Bible Study weekly on Monday nights at 6:00 pm in St. Francis Rectory. It will be a video series about the Gospel of Matthew.

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

LtG Matthew C. McCandless

MH 605 Sea Hawk Combat Squadron
USS Abraham Lincoln (Carrier)

Steve and Natalie Dymond Caezza

PCS 817 Box 1806
FPO, AE. 09622

Lt. Col Bradley S. Pennella

155 Saint Mary's Lane
Stafford, VA 22556

Weekly Liturgical Celebrations

Saturday, March 14

3:15 - 3:45 PM **Dushore** Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:00 PM **Dushore** *Mass for the People*

Sunday, March 15

7:00 - 7:15 AM **Mildred** Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:30 AM **Mildred** *Edward Chrzanowski by Rick,
Dee Ann, Mitchell & Kara*
9:30 AM **Dushore** *Mike Conway by Mary,
Ashley, & Bentley*

Monday, March 16

9:00 AM **Mildred** *Alice Kaier by Suzanne Kaier*

Tuesday, March 17

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Catherine McMahon by Phil &
Marty Denmon*

Wednesday, March 18

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

Thursday, March 19

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Clem & Marion Ciccarelli by
their daughter*

Friday, March 20

9:00 AM **Mildred** *Agnes Thall by Dave Getz &
family*

Saturday, March 21

3:15 - 3:45 PM **Dushore** Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:00 PM **Dushore** *For health & healing for Helen
Evangelisti by Trish Taylor & Stephanie
Chase*

Sunday, March 22

7:00 - 7:15 AM **Mildred** Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:30 AM **Mildred** *Mass for the People*
9:30 AM **Dushore** *Paul Brungo by John & Nancy
Booterbaugh*

Our Weekly Parish Offertory Collection

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

March 7 & 8, 2020

\$4,920.00

Storm Damage Fund

\$1,083.00

March Second Collections

March 15 ~ Fuel Fund

March 22 ~ Catholic Relief Services

March 29 ~ Storm Damage

Thank you for your generosity!

Storm Damage Fund Total

\$131,025.41

**Fiscal Year (July 1, 2019 – June 30,
2020)**

Total Offertory

\$199,334.57

Total Expenses

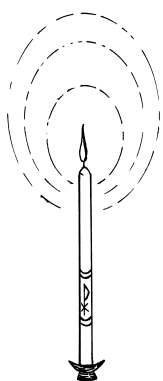
\$258,535.99

Storm Damage

\$77,948.70

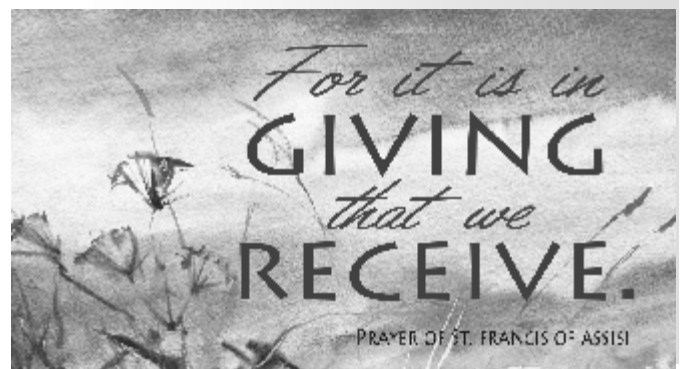
Arrears (Debt)

\$20,164.00



The sanctuary candles in St. Francis of Assisi Church and St. Basil's Church are burning in memory of Bernadette & Nathan Weaver by Ron & Dee Kulsicavage.

The altar candles in St. Basil's Church are burning in loving memory of Grace Bohensky by Bob & Mary Getz & family.



Liturgical Ministers for March 21-22

Special Ministers of Communion

4:00 PM Dushore D. Homer
7:30 AM Mildred K. Bohensky
9:30 AM Dushore D. McDonough

Lectors

4:00 PM Dushore J.A. Shoemaker, N. Henne
7:30 AM Mildred R. Gumble, S. Moyer
9:30 AM Dushore J. Bogart, Jen Lambert

Altar Servers

4:00 PM Dushore
7:30 AM Mildred H. Clark
9:30 AM Dushore

Attention, Liturgical Ministers!

If you have a preference of services that you can (or cannot) attend during the Easter Triduum, please let the office know as soon as possible. Please also contact the office if there are certain dates in April through June that you are not available. Thank you!

Year of Saint Joseph

This year marks the 150th Anniversary of Pope Pius IX's decree naming Saint Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster-father of Jesus, as the Patron of the Universal Church. In commemoration of this anniversary and recognizing the fitting time for the Church to invoke the intercession of this guardian, His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has declared this year as a "Year of Saint Joseph" to be observed in the Diocese of Scranton from March 19, 2020 to March 19, 2021. Bishop Bambera states, "Just as Saint Joseph watched over and protected the Lord Jesus while he was on earth, we need Saint Joseph to watch over and provide for the Church today. His intercession on behalf of the Universal Church is vital as the world faces so much upheaval and pain, and particularly as it confronts the uncertainty and pain of the coronavirus epidemic."

Bishop Bambera invites all of the faithful to renew their devotion to Saint Joseph during this commemorative year, and to seek his powerful intercession to safely guard the Church from all evils, just as he protected the Holy Family from harm. Please look for future opportunities and resources to celebrate this year in your parish.

Directives from the Office of the Bishop

- The distribution of the Precious Blood via the Chalice is temporarily suspended.
- The Sign of Peace will now be exchanged without physical contact.
- Priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should practice good hygiene, washing their hands before Mass begins or even using an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution before and after distributing Holy Communion.
- Parishioners are also reminded that if they are sick, especially with flu-like symptoms, they should stay home for their own well-being and that of others. If parishioners are sick or suspect they are sick with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation.
- The faithful are strongly encouraged at this time to receive the Body of Christ (via the Sacred Host) in the hand.
- The faithful should refrain from the use of holy water upon entering and exiting our churches.
- Elderly parishioners who are not sick but are concerned about being in crowded spaces are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation.

IHM Parish Picnic Meeting

There will be a Parish Picnic meeting on Monday, March 23rd at 3:00 PM at St. Francis rectory in Mildred.

COMMUNITY LENTEN EVENTS

Lenten Penance Services

Confessions will be heard on **Sunday, March 22nd, at 4:00 PM in St. Basil's Church, Dushore.** Guest confessors will assist. Come and experience God's gentle compassion and forgiveness.

Additional Area Lenten Penance Services

St. Mary's Church, Wyalusing

Sunday, March 22nd, 2:00 PM

St. Michael's Church, Canton

Sunday, March 29th, 2:00 PM

Sts Peter & Paul, Towanda

Sunday, March 29th, 4:00 PM

Epiphany, Sayre

Sunday, April 5th, 3:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Once again, the Knights of Columbus will be having their famous Fish Dinners during the season of Lent from 4:00 to 7:00 pm in **St.**

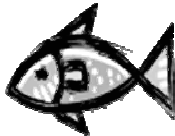
Basil's Hall. This year, the dates are:

Friday, March 20th
and Friday, April 3rd

4:00 to 7:00 in St. Basil's Hall

See you there!

Desserts are needed!!!



The Light Is On For You

One of the greatest opportunities given by the Church to assist us in our response to the Lord's invitation to conversion is found in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Once again, the Diocese of Scranton is participating in "*The Light Is On for You.*" Beginning on the first Monday of Lent, March 2, and continuing through Monday of the last full week of Lent, March 30, confessions will be heard in St. Francis of Assisi Church in Mildred from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

LENTEN CELEBRATIONS & SERVICES

Lenten Community Worship Service

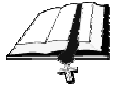
Redeemer Church, Dushore

Wednesdays during Lent

6:00 PM Soup and Sandwich

7:00 PM Community Worship

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Stations of the Cross



Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Fridays during Lent at 7:00 PM in St. Basil's Church.

The Disciplines of Lent

Traditionally, Lent has been marked by three disciplines. The first of these is prayer. We will all be encouraged to try our best at setting aside more time for prayer than we are accustomed to doing. We are encouraged to journey into the Lenten desert through meditation, reflection, and contemplation.

The second discipline is fasting and abstinence. **Those between the ages of 18 and 60 are obligated to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together do not equal to a full meal.** If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.

Abstinence is an obligation for the faithful (especially those from age 14 and above) to refrain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays of Lent. In addition, many people will abstain from desserts, sweets and other treats during Lent.

The third discipline of Lent is almsgiving and works of charity. This reminds us that Lent is primarily a season of doing and through a deeper awareness of the concerns of those around us, particularly the poor and the needy, we may more closely conform our lives to Christ.

Upcoming Events

March 20: Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner from 4-7 PM

April 3: Knights of Columbus Fish Dinner from 4-7 PM

April 20: Confirmation at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Towanda at 6:30 PM with Bishop Bambera

May 3: First Holy Communion

Patron of the Week

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ST. AGNES SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration is NOW OPEN for the 2020-2021 school year for St. Agnes School in Towanda!

- ◇ Limited spots are available in Pre-K3 & Pre-K4
- ◇ Financial aid is available; deadline to apply is April 15th
- ◇ Register prior to March 28th for a reduced tuition rate



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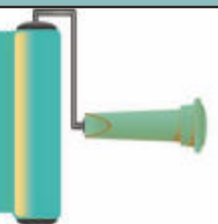


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you in the womb,
I knew you.*

GOD

Jeremiah 1:5



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