

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

Fourth 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—Friday: 9 AM-3 PM

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
By appointment

St. Basil's Church will be open
during daylight hours for
people to pray individually.



4th SUNDAY OF LENT

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he
found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"
- Jn 9:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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March 22, 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.



Reflection

The **First Reading** is from the first Book of Samuel (16:1b, 6-7). Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.

The **Responsorial Psalm** (23:1-6) The Lord is our shepherd.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-14). The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.

The **Gospel Reading** is from the Gospel of John (9:1-41). "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man "sees" as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture.

Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there. Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God's kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God's children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them?

Readings

Monday ~ St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday ~ **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday

Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday

Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12; Jn 7:40-53

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

Bible Study

Bible Study is cancelled until further notice.

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 21

*For health & healing for Helen Evangelisti by
Trish Taylor & Stephanie Chase*

Sunday, March 22

Mass for the People

Monday, March 23

Paul Brungo by John & Nancy Booterbaugh

Tuesday, March 24

Dot Schoch by Nathan & Ellen Chase & Family

Wednesday, March 25

Ann Marie Stabryla by Leonard Kratcoski

Thursday, March 26

Gordon & Marian Tubach by the Tubach family

Friday, March 27

Joseph Yarchak by Irene & Wayne Tubach

Saturday, March 28

*Bernadette & Nathan Weaver by Dee & Ron
Kulsicavage*

Sunday, March 29

Mass for the People

Our Weekly Parish Offertory Collection

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

March 14 & 15, 2020

\$3,374.00

Fuel Fund

\$1,335.00

Storm Damage Fund

\$915.00

March Second Collections

March 22 ~ Catholic Relief Services

March 29 ~ Storm Damage

Thank you for your generosity!

Storm Damage Fund Total

\$131,940.41

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

Total Offertory

\$208,963.57

Total Expenses

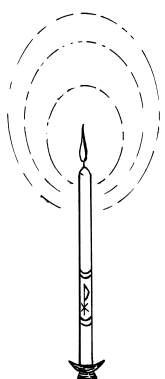
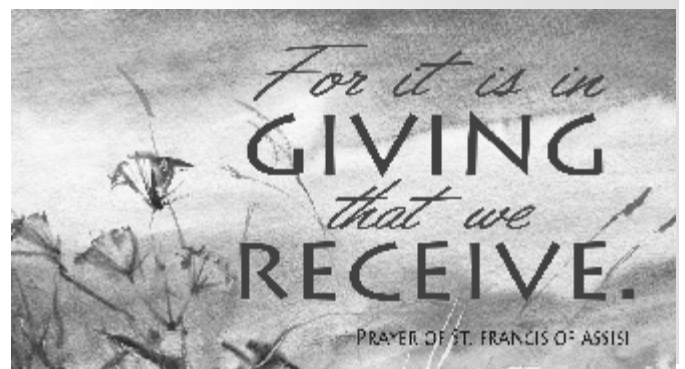
\$264,292.80

Storm Damage

\$78,863.70

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

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!

IHM Parish Picnic Meeting

The picnic meeting has been cancelled!

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.

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. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. 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. 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).

COMMUNITY LENTEN EVENTS

Lenten Penance Services

Lenten Penance Services for the deanery are cancelled this year. Please contact your parish priest to schedule a private confession.

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, April 3rd

TENTATIVELY

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

See you there!

Desserts are needed!!!



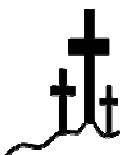
The Light Is On For You

The Light Is On For You is cancelled. You may contact the priest to schedule a private confession.

LENTEN CELEBRATIONS & SERVICES

Lenten Community Worship Service

Lenten Community Worship Services are cancelled.



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are cancelled.

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.

Chrism Mass

All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

At this Mass, priests from throughout the Diocese will renew their priestly promises before the Bishop, and the oils to be used for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Orders will be blessed.

Participation in the Chrism Mass is a beautiful way to pray and support the priests of the Diocese.

For reserved seating, please call David Baloga in the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213 ext.

1158 or email

David-Baloga @dioceseofscranton.org.

TENTATIVE

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

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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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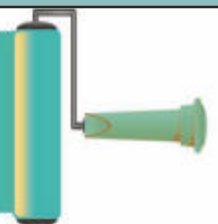
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you in the womb,
I knew you.*
GOD
Jeremiah 1:5



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