

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

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Parish Office - 1 St. Francis Drive,
Mildred, PA 18632
(570) 928-8865

Email - ihmparish@ptd.net

Website - ihmdushore.com

Reverend Thomas J. Major ~ Pastor

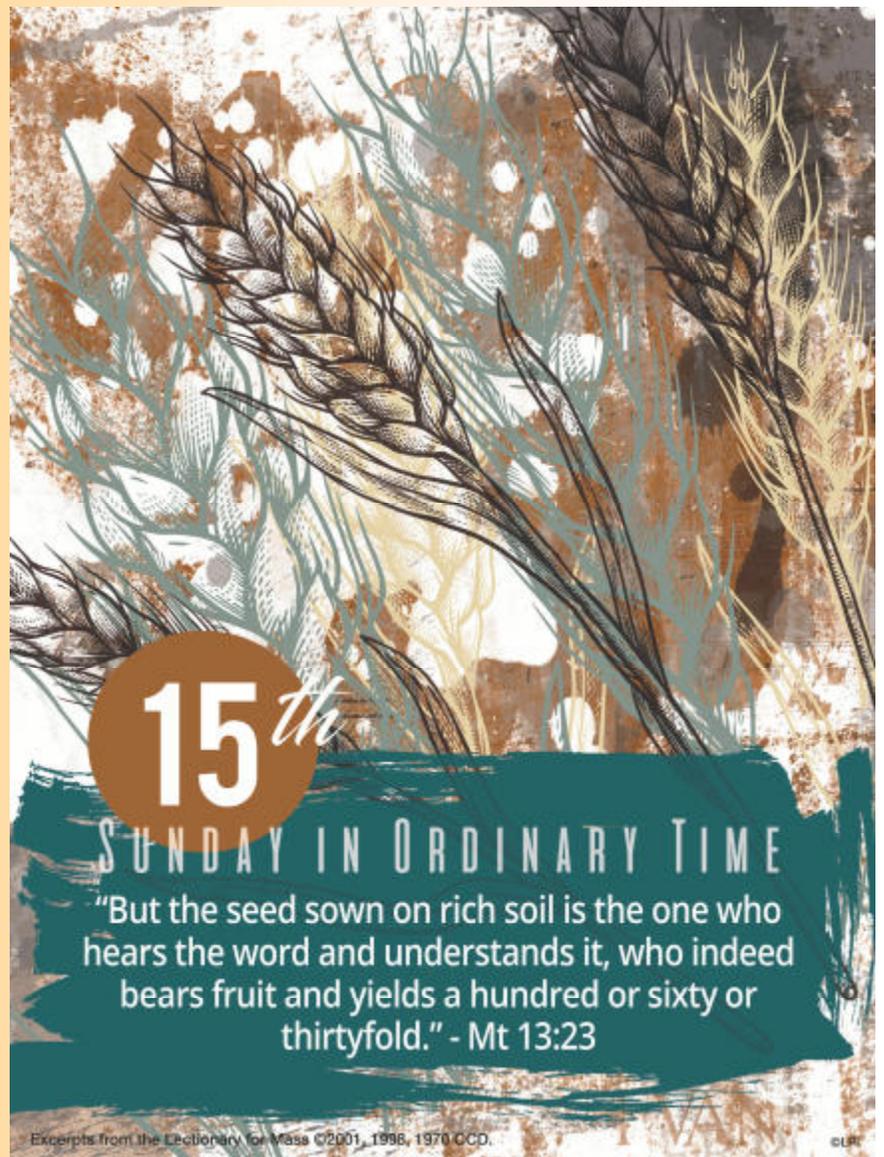
OFFICE HOURS

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.



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

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July 12, 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.

“
The
things that
we love
tell us what
we are.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Reflection

The **First Reading** is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (55:10-11). The Word of the Lord shall achieve its purpose.

The **Responsorial Psalm** (65:10-14) A prayer of praise to God for his abundance.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (8:18-23). Together with all of creation, we await God's redemption.

The **Gospel Reading** is from the Gospel of Matthew (13:1-23). Using the best seeds doesn't always guarantee the best plants. An older Italian gentleman straight from Italy gave me these amazing tomato seeds that he claimed produced the best tomatoes ever grown. Without doubt, the fruit he shared with me was a testament to that fact. These tomatoes were amazing! I couldn't wait until the next growing season to plant these seeds and harvest my own tomatoes. The whole experiment ended up a failure. I did everything the gentleman said, but my fruit didn't even come close. What happened? At first I was perplexed, then some years later the light dawned. The problem wasn't the seeds, it was the soil!

You cannot sow seeds in any old place and in a haphazard way and expect them to be at their best. It doesn't work that way. Planting the seeds is the easiest part. Preparing the soil is the challenge. Tilling, mulching, enriching, and building up the nutrients are all required for good fruit. Then after the seeds are planted, more care is required in order to maintain that healthy, nutrient rich environment for those seeds to sprout, grow, and flourish. God happily sows the seeds of his Word. What do we do with them?

If we expect to be a passive bystander and have good fruit magically grow, we are mistaken. Bearing the good fruit of God's Word requires preparation and work. We have to cultivate the soil of our lives so that those seeds can find a proper home. This one thing alone takes a great deal of patience, time, and effort. What kind of preparation have we put into our lives so that we can be a recipient of God's seed? It takes a great deal of soul-searching and ego-checking to properly prepare. God is the ever faithful and persistent sower. If the seeds do not bear fruit the first time, God will come back time and time again, giving it another try.

If we have created a suitable bed for sowing, then once the seed is sown, we must properly maintain them. What is our maintenance plan for the seeds of God's Word? We need not only a source for water but a watering schedule. We need to weed, aerate the soil, nurture the young plants, protect them, and provide proper nutrients. What does our spiritual maintenance plan look like? If we have done all things well, imagine what the seeds of God's Word could produce in us!

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Readings

Monday ~ St. Henry

Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16b-17, 21, 23; Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday ~ St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24 see 599A [731-736]

Wednesday ~ St. Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27 see 600: Eph 3:14-19; Mt 23:8-12

Thursday ~ Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14b, 15-21; Mt 11:28-30

Friday

Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; (Ps) Is 38:10-12, 16; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday ~ St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

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, July 11

4:00 PM **Dushore** *Bob Rainey by the Albertini family*

Sunday, July 12

7:30 AM **Mildred** *Ted Christini by Jerry, Dolly, & family*

9:30 AM **Dushore** *Jim Bahl by Jim & Melanie Lambert*

11:00 AM **Eagles Mere** *Mass for the People*

Monday, July 13

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Agnes Thall by Mike Getz & family*

Tuesday, July 14

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Frances Ann Ciccarelli by Linda & Gary Kisner & Sharon Norconk*

Wednesday, July 15

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Randy Weaver by Melinda Fitzgerald & Family*

Thursday, July 16

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Jessica Soden Pedro by Geneieve Leet*

Friday, July 17

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Pasquale DelGaone by Darrin, Dane, & Dustin Denmon*

Saturday, July 18

4:00 PM **Dushore** *Mass for the People*

Sunday, July 19

7:30 AM **Mildred** *John W. Evangelisti by Jack & Yvonne Snyder*

9:30 AM **Dushore** *Catherine Gainer Ryan by Mike Ryan*

11:00 AM **Eagles Mere** *Frances Kelly by the Albertini family*

If you would like to attend Mass, please call the parish office at 570-928-8865 to register. Face masks must be worn, and social distancing followed. The dispensation from Sunday Mass attendance continues.

Our Weekly Parish Offertory Collection

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

June 27 & 28, 2020

\$4,041.00

July 4 & 5, 2020

\$8,387.00

Please mail your offering to the parish office if possible.

Thank you!

Thank you for your generosity!

Storm Damage Fund Total

\$131,990.41

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

Total Offertory

\$290,231.75

Total Expenses

\$352,606.85

Storm Damage

\$78,913.70

Arrears (Debt)

\$20,164.00

Fiscal Year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

Total Offertory

\$8,450.00

Total Expenses

\$3,183.00

If you would like to attend Mass, please call the parish office at 570-928-8865 to register. Face masks must be worn, and social distancing followed. The dispensation from Sunday Mass attendance continues.



Summer Mass Schedule

The Summer Mass schedule will run from July 4—September 6 and will be 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

11:00 AM ~ The David A. DeWire Center, Eagles Mere

St. John Neumann Shrine, Sugar Ridge Masses will be held on August 2nd and September 6th at 2:30 PM.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Focus on the Good

When I was a child, my mother had a set of sculptures resembling three human heads. One head had hands over the ears, one had hands over the eyes, and one had hands over the mouth. Of course, they depicted the phrase, "Hear no evil; see no evil; speak no evil." I have seen these images repeated many times since then, usually as the monkey heads from a Japanese proverb, which would have probably seemed a little less creepy to me when I was a small child. Apparently, there is no consensus about the full meaning or certain origin of these three images nor the phrase. At the very least, it causes us to reflect on the need to avoid evil and look for the good in things.

As I have lived my life, I have come to believe there are more people who lives their lives in a contrary manner to these images. It is not that they seek evil, but it is as if they "see no good, hear no good, and speak no good." Gossiping is the way they pass the time, and they always seem to find the negative in people and situations. Being a good steward certainly means that we do not seek evil, but more than that, it means that we see the abundance of good things all around us. These gifts of God are big and little, profound and ordinary. By seeing the world in this way, we begin to change our personalities and our overall disposition. We always need to follow a new proverb: see all the good, hear all the good, and speak about the good. Amen.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Why Do Catholics Baptize Babies?

Question:

Why do Catholics baptize babies?

Answer:

For adults who want to be baptized, the celebration only takes place after a long, guided, and thoughtful process through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is also true for many Protestant Christians, who are baptized later in life, often after a personal, transforming religious experience. So, it seems fair to ask why our Catholic tradition includes infant baptism. After all, if we make adults who want to become Catholic wait months and even years as they grow in their understanding of Christ and his teachings, why should babies — who “do nothing” — be baptized?

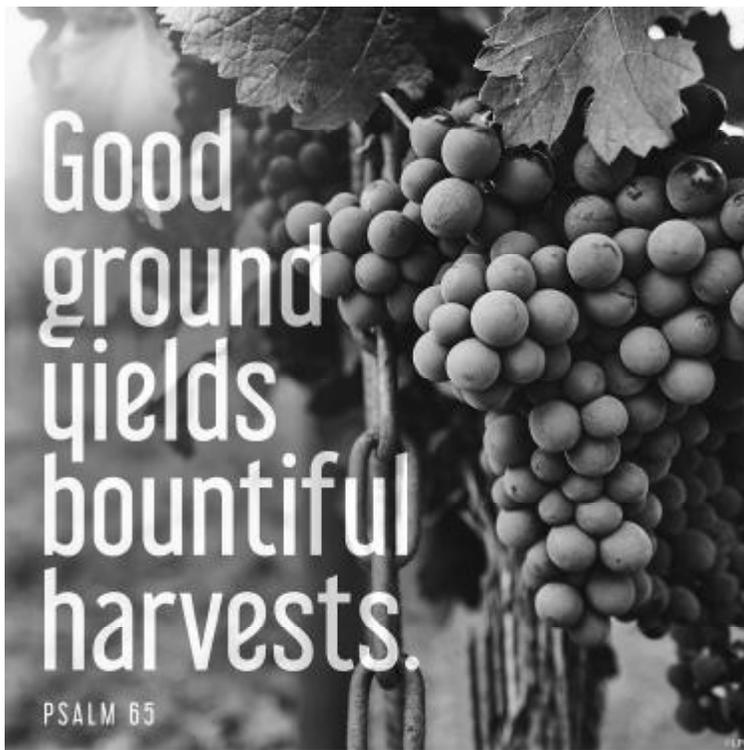
Our custom of infant baptism dates back to the earliest days of the Church, when St. Paul baptized entire households, including, we presume, children (see Acts 16:15, 33; 18:8). That had become common practice by the second century. When Christianity was legalized 200 years later, infant baptism became the normal practice throughout the Church.

We recognize that in Baptism, we are given the grace to overcome original sin — the human tendency to choose ourselves and our own wills over God — and to become members of the Church. This is the gift we give to infants in Baptism.

In its essence, the baptism of infants also reminds us adult Christians that the gift of salvation and membership in the Church (i.e., the Body of Christ) is God’s initiative. It is freely offered to us, regardless of where we might be in life’s journey. Salvation isn’t something we earn. Instead, we see that Baptism is the beginning of a lifelong process of growing into the kind of disciples that Jesus wants us to be.

To learn more, see the “Catechism of the Catholic Church” (no. 1250-1252 and 1262-1270).

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Sunday Mass will be livestreamed on our parish Facebook page at The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish . You will also be able to access the Mass through our Facebook page after the livestream service.

Prayer During A Health Crisis

Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and give
them Your caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them Your
Spirit of wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and give
them Your comforting heart.
Wrap your arms around our world
and hold us in your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then
serve as instruments of that love to all we
meet.
We ask this in Your Name.
Amen.

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In the kindness of your prayers, please pray for the repose of the souls of Helen Burke, Anthony Waldron, Sidney Hatch, and William Hudzinski, Sr. As they shared in the suffering of Christ, so may they now share in the glory of the risen Savior in heaven.

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you in the womb,
I knew you.

GOD

Jeremiah 1:5



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