

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

Twentieth 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.



20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

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

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August 16, 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.

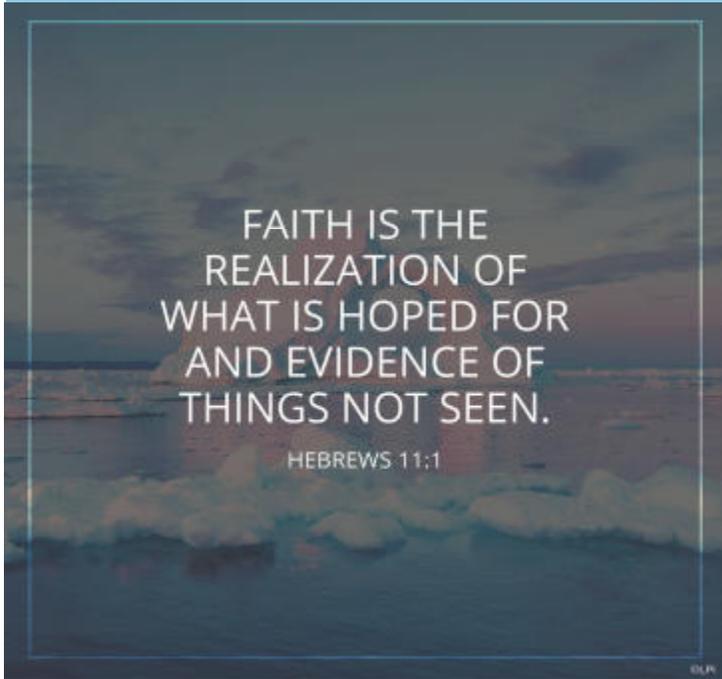
Pure Virgin, full of grace then and now, your whole being was raised Heavenly in full glory, to be elevated above all the hosts within the Kingdom of God.

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.



FAITH IS THE
REALIZATION OF
WHAT IS HOPED FOR
AND EVIDENCE OF
THINGS NOT SEEN.

HEBREWS 11:1

Reflection

The **First Reading** is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (56:1, 6-7). The Lord reveals his salvation to all.

The **Responsorial Psalm** (67:2-3, 5-6, 8) All the nations will praise God.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (11:13-15, 29-32). God's favor to Israel is irrevocable.

The **Gospel Reading** is from the Gospel of Matthew (15:21-28). We are hardwired for wholeness and crave it. When something is broken, we want it fixed. If a part of our body is not working properly, we want it healed. How often do we find ourselves saying, "I'm tired of struggling with this cold, I can't wait for my surgery to heal, or I want my treatments to make me better." Wholeness and healing restore our relationships and make us free to love as we desire. We know very well how our limitations, imperfections, and brokenness really limit us. They can easily prevent us from being and doing what we want to do.

Our physical and emotional wounds and maladies are easier to identify. If my back hurts, I feel it and know what part of my body needs attention. If I am feeling intense anger, I can identify the emotion and take necessary steps to uncover its cause. Being persistent often brings greater and quicker results. But will pursuing and even achieving our physical and emotional healings really be enough? We forget that there is a deeper healing that we seek and desperately need. As we look around at humanity, there are some physical and emotional wounds and scars that cannot be made whole. They are limitations that must remain and, for one reason or another, cannot be rectified. Does this mean that the wholeness and healing that my being longs for is not possible for me? Must I settle with less than what God promises?

The answer is no. Ultimately, there is a desire that goes deeper than the physical and emotional. It is a desire that resides in our soul. What we really seek and thirst for is healing and wholeness for our soul. Inner strength, conviction, focus, grounding, love, hope, faith, courage, determination, peace, and connectedness are all words that center us on eternity. They direct us to a presence we discover in our core, which is none other than the presence of God. In God, we are healed. When we are persistent in reaching out to and establishing our relationship with God, real healing and wholeness begin to happen.

There are some limitations and some of our brokenness with which we may simply have to live. This does not mean that we have to abandon our journey to wholeness and healing. If we have done our inner soul work, we have worked toward and acquired what and who we ultimately need and desire.

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Readings

Monday

Ez 24:15-24; (Ps) Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday

Ez 28:1-10; (Ps) Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35c-36b; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday ~ St. John Eudes, Priest

Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday ~ **St. Bernard, Abbot, Doctor of the Church**

Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14 see 625:
Sir 15:1-6; Jn 17:20-26

Friday ~ **St. Pius X, Pope**

Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40 see 626: *1 Thes 2:2b-8; Jn 21:15-17*

Saturday ~ **The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12 see 627: *Is 9:1-6; Lk 1:26-38*

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

Patron of the Week

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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, August 15

4:00 PM **Dushore** *Lillian Borsa by Mary Finan*

Sunday, August 16

7:30 AM **Mildred** *James E. Spence by Emery & Lisa Smith*

9:30 AM **Dushore** *Frances Mackiewicz by Mr. & Mrs. Chris Mackiewicz & daughters*

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

2:30 PM **Sugar Ridge** *John McCormick by Grace McCormick*

Monday, August 17

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Bernard Walsh by Jane Kerstetter & Delores Barsavage*

Tuesday, August 18

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Catherine Lambert by Jack & Delma Bagley*

Wednesday, August 19

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Joseph Obert by Phil & Jackie Johnson*

Thursday, August 20

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Frank Farrell by Mike & Nancy McMahon*

Friday, August 21

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Randy & Nathan Weaver by Sylvia Richlin*

Saturday, August 22

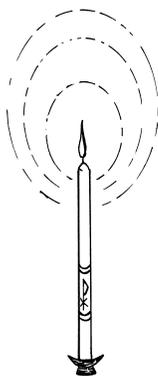
4:00 PM **Dushore** *Patrick Woodruff by Woodruff Family*

Sunday, August 23

7:30 AM **Mildred** *Jean Doyle by Mary Finan*

9:30 AM **Dushore** *Ann Marie Stabryla by Theresa Weaver & Teri Klem*

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



The altar candles in St. Basil's Church are burning in memory of Thomas Sick by Jerry & Dolly Sick & family.

Our Weekly Parish Offertory Collection

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

August 8 & 9, 2020

\$5,234.00

Please mail your offering to the parish office if possible.

Thank you!

Thank you for your generosity!

Storm Damage Fund Total

\$136,935.41

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

Total Offertory

\$290,231.75

Total Expenses

\$352,606.84

Storm Damage

\$78,913.70

Arrears (Debt)

\$20,164.00

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

Total Offertory

\$35,879.00

Total Expenses

\$32,971.75

Storm Damage

\$4,945.00

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.

The Challenge of Stewardship

Every day we are called by Christ to respond in some way. The more practice we have at giving of ourselves freely and living in His presence, the easier it is to discern that call. Once we hear the call, the choice is ours: will we respond with yes or no? We could say that we are not required to say yes because God has given us free will. However, our response speaks much to where we are in our maturity of faith. When we were children, the word “no” used to be one of our favorites. If we continue to say that as we get older, well, that says something about where we are in our walk with the Lord. If we truly are disciples of Jesus Christ and are serious about growing in our faith, we will say “yes.” We are not required to say yes, but we say yes because that is who we have become.

This is the challenge of a stewardship way of life. Have we matured enough to say yes when God calls, regardless of how much our answer may cost us? What matters more to us: what it will cost us or our relationship with Jesus? Some days we will easily be able to say yes. The grace and love he gives us will be plenty to see us through whatever situation in which we find ourselves. However, we are imperfect beings and there will be days when we are more into ourselves than him. It is on those days that we find ourselves at a true crossroads of a challenge. The choice is always ours. Hopefully, our faith will be strong enough. His call is never for his own sake. He calls us because the world he created and the Church he instituted need us. They wait just as he does for our response.

- Tracy Earl Welliver

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The Religious Education Program needs a 3rd grade teacher for the upcoming year. It is a small class of 5 children. If you would like to share the Catholic faith with these children, please call the Director of Religious Education, Kathleen Clark, at 570-928-8952 for more information.

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.

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.

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 Mass will be held on September 6th at 2:30 PM.

Parish Finance Report

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021 budget
collections	\$ 263,925.00	\$ 274,359.00	\$ 281,057.00	\$ 277,000.00
religious ed	\$ 700.00	\$ 743.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 900.00
fund raising and developm	\$ 129,124.00	\$ 50,884.00	\$ 38,190.00	\$ 8,000.00
other income	\$ 47,548.00	\$ 13,583.00	\$ 12,748.00	\$ 36,377.00
total	\$ 441,297.00	\$ 339,569.00	\$ 332,955.00	\$ 322,277.00
non-operating income	\$ 44,009.00	\$ 129,910.00	\$ 164,282.00	\$ (3,944.00)
total income	\$ 485,306.00	\$ 469,479.00	\$ 497,237.00	\$ 318,333.00
administration	\$ 229,116.00	\$ 177,911.00	\$ 161,413.00	\$ 161,808.00
rectory	\$ 28,212.00	\$ 13,033.00	\$ 4,879.00	\$ 16,360.00
liturgy	\$ 46,152.00	\$ 32,828.00	\$ 27,662.00	\$ 28,632.00
religious ed	\$ 4,534.00	\$ 2,155.00	\$ 7,166.00	\$ 8,989.00
social justice		\$ 315.00		
plant mainenance	\$ 95,436.00	\$ 84,760.00	\$ 60,192.00	\$ 61,999.00
fixed expense	\$ 503.00	\$ 9,190.00	\$ 22,690.00	\$ 23,534.00
debt service				
capital outlay	\$ 26,339.00	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 108,317.00	\$ 126,740.00
total	\$ 430,292.00	\$ 349,192.00	\$ 392,319.00	\$ 428,062.00
non-operating expense	\$ 43,067.00	\$ 31,388.00	\$ 41,140.00	\$ 32,082.00
total expense	\$ 473,359.00	\$ 380,580.00	\$ 433,459.00	\$ 460,144.00
income - expense	\$ 11,947.00	\$ 88,899.00	\$ 63,778.00	\$ (141,811.00)
debt	\$ 139,440.00	\$ 22,165.00	\$ 18,350.00	

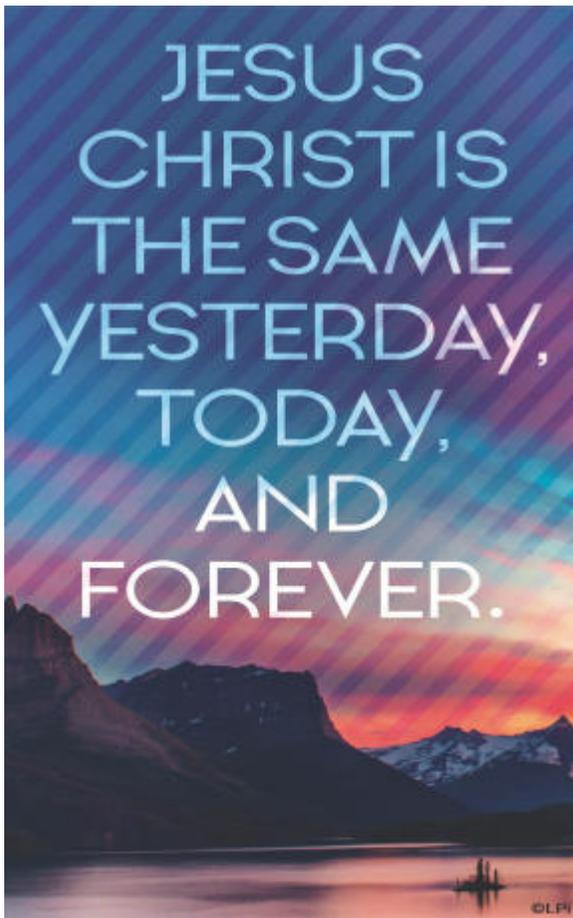
Dear Friends, we have just completed our fiscal year and I wish to give you our financial report. In the past our parish has relied heavily on fund raising and major donations to meet its financial obligations. Because of Corona Virus, our fund raising activity has come to halt. It is never good for a parish to rely on fund raising activities for the general operation of a parish, and this year (and in the future) we learned that.

Our budget for 2020-2021 includes the payment for the roof (our share is \$103,000.00.) We raised the money in the last fiscal year and that is reflected in the non-operating income of the parish. The building projects that we have completed (remember this all started with a new furnace for the school building) is reflected as capital outlay. That is why you see a large surplus in 2018-2019 and a large deficit in 2020-2021.

The debt listed at the bottom of the page is for unpaid insurance premiums and school assessments. It reflects the amount owed as of June of its corresponding years.

The building and storm damage fund has been used for a lot of repairs. A new furnace and oil tanks in the school, new hot water heaters in St. Basil's hall and church, new hot water heater and furnace in St. Francis rectory and masonry work on St. Basil's church chimney have all been emergency replacements. The steeple at a cost of over \$200,000.00 and half of the new roof on St. Basil's Church were paid for by insurance. Projects that remain undone are the rectory fascia and gutters destroyed by the storm, replacement of the furnace in St. Francis hall along with the outdoor carpeting at the doors and steps of St. Francis Church. We will say a prayer that the left over funds from the roof will pay for these projects, and that there are no more emergency building repairs.

To meet our budget goals, without relying on fund raising, we need a weekly offertory of \$6,300.00. I thank you for your extreme generosity in your support of the parish. This virus has taken its toll on our lives and church. Have faith, says Jesus to his disciples at the last supper, and St. Paul tells us all things work for the good, for those who love God. Trust in the Lord.



This year the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish has received a Social Justice Parish Grant from the Diocese of Scranton in the amount of \$5,000 which will go towards our local food pantry. This grant will address an identifiable need in regard to serving our parishioners and neighbors. The Diocese of Scranton was able to offer 38 parish grants this year, observing that many parishes expressed direct impact on increased need due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Diocese of Scranton was able to respond generously to most of the grant applications due to the generosity of donors to the Diocesan Annual Appeal.



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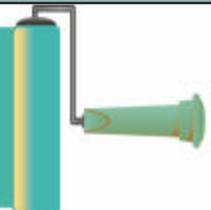


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you in the womb,
I knew you.

GOD

Jeremiah 1:5



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