

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

First Sunday of Advent

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

Saturday 3:15 PM
or by appointment

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



1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because
your redemption is at hand."
- Lk 21:27-28

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

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November 28, 2021

FORMED

The parish has an account with Formed. Formed is a website that contains a variety of religious materials. It has books that can be downloaded, videos and documentaries, Bible studies, information on Sacraments, and much more. Parishioners can access this vast amount of information and entertainment by going to formed.org, select sign up, click sign up as a parishioner, type in Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (make sure it is the Dushore location) underneath Find your Parish, click Next, type in your name and email address. You should then have access to the Formed website!

As a beloved member of our parish, please accept our free gift to you... Full access to hundreds of streaming movies, videos, audio books and more! Like NetFlix, but entirely Catholic, Formed.org is packed with something for all ages! It's easy to gain access. Here's how:

1. Visit <https://formed.org/signup>
 2. In the search field type "Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish" Dushore
 3. Enter your name and email, and click "Sign Up"
- That's it, you're all set to start watching!

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.

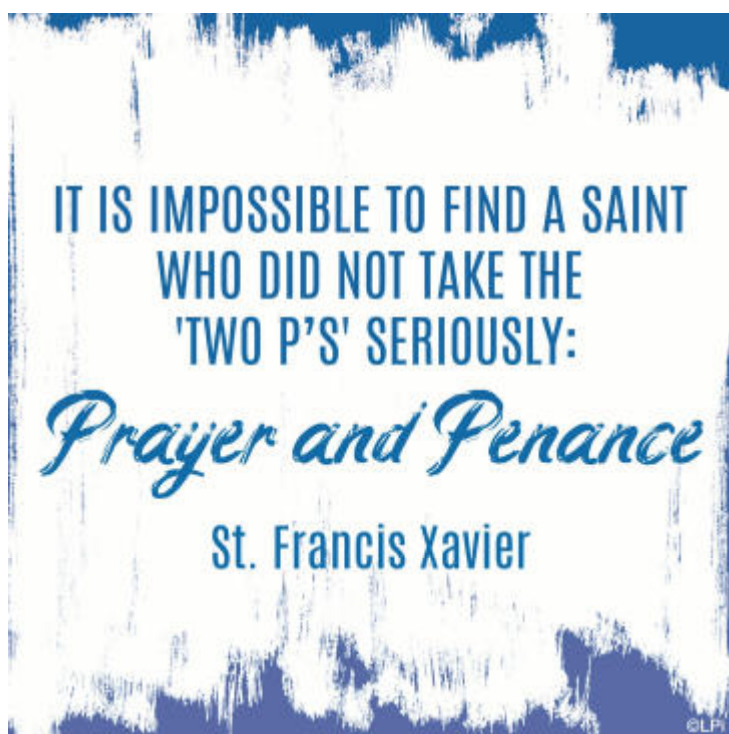
Pure Virgin, full of grace then and now, your whole being was raised Heavenly in full glory, to be elevated above all the hosts within the Kingdom of God.

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 Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (33:14-16). The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah.

The **Responsorial Psalm** (25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14) The Lord will teach us his paths.

The **Second Reading** is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians (3:12—4:2). Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

The **Gospel Reading** is from the Gospel of Luke (21:25-28, 34-36). Staying awake can often be a challenge, especially when we are exhausted. Life's demands have a way of zapping every last bit of energy out of us. When we are tired it affects us not only physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. All of our senses are dulled and diminished. We can overlook details, become disinterested, lethargic and apathetic, and detached. Getting sufficient physical rest only helps so much. We need to be rejuvenated, refreshed, and reenergized in other ways. If we are psychologically exhausted, we need to understand what is draining our emotions and taxing our relationships. If we are spiritually tired, we need to find the necessary "shot in the arm" to put us back in touch with God. Unfortunately, exhaustion is seldom limited to just one part of who we are. When we lack energy and zeal it is usually the case that everything suffers. We not only are affected physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. In short, when we run out of gas the engine stops.

And yet, our Lord's directive is clear, "Be vigilant at all times." Even Jesus knew what "the anxieties of daily life" can do to us. One day pours into another and time quickly flies by. Any one of us can take a moment and reflect on how many wonderful, creative opportunities we miss because there is always so much "stuff" to do and so little time to do it. Usually these are missed moments of love, and if we are missing love encounters we are also missing God. Sleepwalking through life, we check the boxes next to our list of "must and have to dos" and justify it all by convincing ourselves that tomorrow is another day and there'll be more time. It may surprise us, but tomorrow is here, and time is running out. While we may like to believe that we have an "eternity" of time to do all those things that require the focus, energy, and desire we do not currently have, we don't. We're on a limited ride and time is short.

Jesus is also clear on another point. "That day [will] catch you by surprise like a trap." If we are going to be judged on love and so easily justify not having all that much time to do so, then it seems we must shift focus a bit. St. Teresa of Calcutta tells us, "We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." Getting to this place doesn't "just happen." It requires vigilance and discipline both with a knowledge of what is really of importance and what really needs to be the focus of our energy and time. Pray, starting now and not tomorrow, that we can stay alert, be strengthened in our faith, and prepared for whatever will come. Don't miss another opportunity to love.

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Readings

Monday

Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday ~ St. Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 199-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday ~ St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31 see 685: 1
Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 16:15-20

Saturday ~ St. John Damascus, Priest, Doctor of the Church

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6



The Star Tree is back this year in our parish! In the back of each church is a tree with star ornaments on it. Please take an ornament and

purchase an appropriate gift to match the tag, return the unwrapped gift to the back of either church with the ornament attached to it. *Rolls of wrapping paper are not necessary to provide this year! The ornaments contain ALL of the information that I have been provided with.* The Star Tree provides for the less fortunate people in our community. 'Tis the season for giving and sharing! If you have any questions, please call Anne McDonough at (570)721-0200.

PLEASE RETURN ALL STAR TREE GIFTS TO EITHER CHURCH by December 12!!

Weekly Liturgical Celebrations

Saturday, November 27

4:00 PM **Dushore** *Bill Saxe by Ellen & Nathan Chase*

Sunday, November 28

7:30 AM **Mildred** *Mass for the People*

9:30 AM **Dushore** *Arthur & Catherine McMahon by James & Patricia Kearney*

Monday, November 29

9:00 AM **Dushore** *James Richlin by Bob & Mary Getz & family*

Tuesday, November 30

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Jean Holcombe Gottas by Paulie Saxe*

Wednesday, December 1

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Raymond Silla by John & Anne Silla*

Thursday, December 2

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Frances Mackiewicz by Marge Janosik*

Friday, December 3

9:00 AM **Dushore** *Jim Bahl by Overton Cemetery Association*

Saturday, December 4

4:00 PM **Dushore** *Regina Coyle by Paulie Saxe*

Sunday, December 5

7:30 AM **Mildred** *Mass for the People*

9:30 AM **Dushore** *George Underwood by Maureen Cosgrove*

Our Weekly Parish Offertory Collection

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

November 13 & 14, 2021

\$4,392.00

The bulletin was sent in before the collection was counted. That collection will be included in the bulletin for December 5th.

*Please mail your offering to the parish office if possible.
Thank you!*

Thank you for your generosity!

Fiscal Year (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)

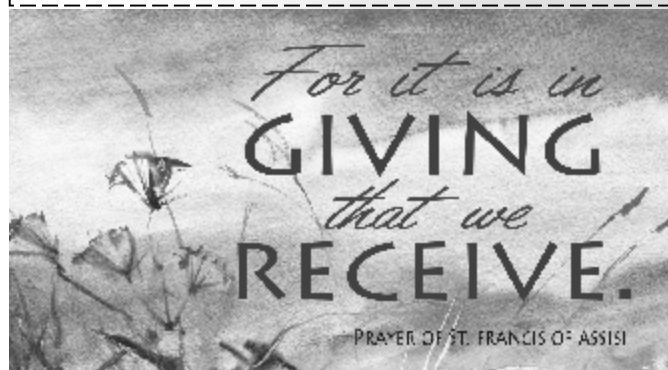
Total Offertory

\$119,364.00

Total Expenses

\$146,629.80

We are bringing communion to our homebound parishioners on Thursday mornings. If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion, please call the rectory.



IHM Parish Bazaar Raffle

Bazaar Raffle Winners

Week 15

1st ~ \$200 Mary Elizabeth Hembury

2nd ~ \$150 Jackie Battin

3rd ~ \$100 Steve Farrell

4th ~ \$75 Ed & Mary Moll

5th ~ \$50 Josie Silverstrim

6th ~ \$50 P. Dean Homer

7th ~ \$25 V. Barker

8th ~ \$25 Martha Burgman

9th ~ \$25 Calen Wylie

10th ~ \$25 Carole Kilgus

11th ~ \$25 Flora Arenda

12th ~ \$25 Michael Gregori

13th ~ \$25 Francis Yonkin

14th ~ \$25 Ed & Mary Moll

15th ~ \$25 Donald Johnson

16th ~ \$25 Kevin Rohe

Buyer's Appreciation Drawing

\$50 ~ Jackie Bogovich

*Thank you to everyone who
purchased tickets and helped to make
our Parish Bazaar Raffle a success! Your
support is greatly appreciated!
Congratulations to all of the winners!*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Preparing the Manger

Where do you fall in the "Christmas-songs-in-November" debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There's no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it's not everyone's cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It's hard to miss that point — Lent doesn't even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It's harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — "advent" — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, "so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap."

So let us not forget — our master's advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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LIGHT UP FOR CHRIST

ST. BASIL'S CHURCH

Welcome the warmth and spirit of this Christmas Season at our Christmas Tree Celebration to be held on Wednesday, December 8th after the 7 o'clock Mass.

Join us on the front lawn of Saint Basil's Church for an evening of *caroling* and refreshments to be capped off with the *blessing* and *lighting* of our beautifully decorated Christmas tree.



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4. You'll **automatically be entered into DAILY drawings** for \$25 gift cards. Your name will stay in the drawings from the day you give, so the earlier you give the more your chances to win. Your gift also automatically will enter you into a drawing for 14 larger prizes, such as a YETI cooler, a Blackstone griddle and a patio heater, all of which will be awarded on Dec. 1. On Giving Tuesday, Nov. 30, you'll additionally be entered to win prizes donated by Diocesan parishes and supporters, including a NEPA'rogi gift card, Nemetz pot pies, frozen pierogies, parish-chef-made meatballs and sauce, two gourmet Great Expectations takeout dinners, Knoebel's passes and more! If you've already made an Appeal gift, a bonus \$20 donation will give you **DOUBLE** the chances to win!

Like this page for prize updates, winners' lists and more:

<https://www.facebook.com/iGiveCatholicDioceseofScranton>

Every donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal page will help our parish compete for **four \$1,000 parish bonus prizes** awarded by the Diocese of Scranton! **If #iGiveCatholic helps us exceed our Appeal goal, we'll use our 75 percent rebate to directly support our parish priority projects!**

Questions? Need help? E-mail Sandra Snyder at Sandra-Snyder@dioceseofscranton.org or call 570-591-5004.



Advent Penance Services

Confessions will be heard on **Sunday, December 12th, 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. Michael's Church, Canton

Sunday, December 5th, 2:00 PM

Sts Peter & Paul, Towanda

Sunday, December 5th, 4:00 PM

St. Mary's Church, Wyalusing

Sunday, December 12th, 2:00 PM

Epiphany, Sayre

Sunday, December 19th, 3:00 PM

Patron of the Week

Dushore Agway

Please support our patrons!

SPAGHETTI DINNER

There will be a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, November 28th in St. Francis Hall in Mildred from 4 pm—7 pm.

Cost: Adults: \$10

Children: \$6

Sponsored by and benefits Pack 48 & Troop 48.



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

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