Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

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PASTOR Rev. Chrysogonus Nwele, Ph.D. Deacon Luke Konantz PAROCHIAL VICAR Fr. Selvanathan
Deacon Leo Truscott



Immaculate Heart of Mary Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday Masses: 7:30 am, 10:00 am & 6:00 pm

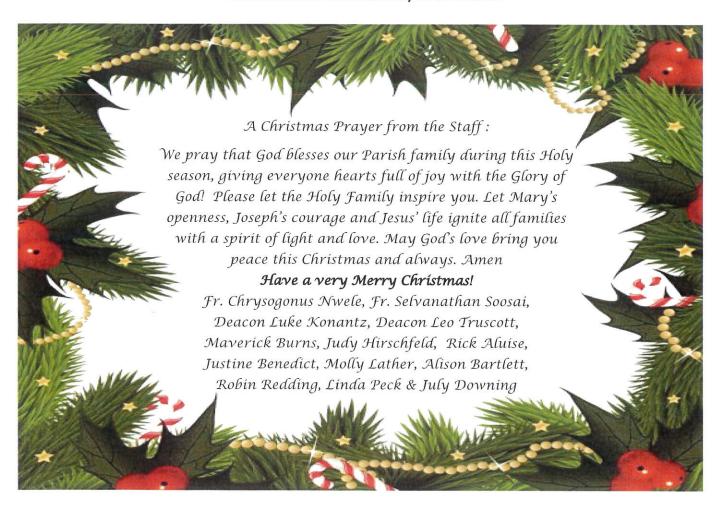
Monday-Saturday: 8:00 am
Holy Days: Anticipated Mass, 6:00 pm
Holy Day Masses 8:00 am & 6:00 pm
Reconciliation: Saturday: 2:00 pm — 3:30 pm or

by appointment

Adoration: Every Friday of the Month Office hours: M-F 9:00 am -

5:00 pm

St. Ann, Palisade Sunday Mass: 9:15 am Holy Days: TBD 10:30 am Mass each Tuesday of the month



MERRY CHRISTMAS



Pastor

Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele, Ph.D. (970) 242-6121 ext. 205 cnwele@ihmgjt.org

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Selvanathan (970) 242-6121 ext.208 pvicar@ihmgjt.org

Pastoral Assistant

Alison Bartlett
Funerals, Baptisms,
Columbarium, Marriage &
Homebound Ministry
(970) 242-6121 ext.206
pastoralassistant@ihmgjt.org

Parish Secretary

Judy Hirschfeld (970) 242-6121 ext. 201 jhirschfeld@ihmgjt.org

Maintenance

Maverick Burns (970) 242-6121 ext. 210 mburns@ihmgjt.org

Confessions Saturday 2:00-3:30

Parish Office Hours 9:00-5:00 M-F

Please call the office to schedule a home or hospital visit.

Emergency Anointing (970) 242-6121 — press 9



Bookkeeper Robin Redding 970-242-6121 ext.211 bookkeeper@ihmght.org

Financial/ Business Manager

Parish Part Time Staff

Rick Aluise (970) 242-6121 ext.214 raluise@ihmgjt.org

Music & Liturgy

Molly Lather (970) 242-6121 ext. 212 musicdirector@ihmgjt.org

Religious Education Faith Formation K-12th

Justine Benedict 970-242-6121 ext. 204 faithformation@ihmgjt.org

Technology

Linda Peck 970-242-6121 ext. 207 Lpeck@ihmgjt.org

Deacon Luke Konantz 970-216-9670

Deacon Leo Truscott 970-640-4717



Please Pray For:

Dave McWilliams, Allison Lather, Laely Allons, Sue Burns, Choe Gasperini, Phyllis Shupak, Penny Olesky, Sofia Grasso, Lorita Perry, Kay Siegel, Thomas Gannon, Christian Grandon & Family, Nancy Boggus, Tiffany Hughes, Bernard Kochevar, Joan Burns, Emilie Stoddard, Joan Wasinger, Yvonne Beuerle, Veronica Cukro, Tia Hasley, Jonathon Aluise, Beverly Wacker, Jack, Rich Jurewicz, Mike Beaudoin,

Penney Barger, Karen Hernandez, Alice Bristol, Chris Love, Diane Gigliotti, Gerry Lemarr, Dolores K., Fr. Carlos Gallardo, Theresa Brandorff, Lee Byram, Juli, Alex & Ashlynn Kirstatter, Chuck Rosa, Bob Ferencsik, Richard Hopkins, Olivia, Stephanie Lane, Marty Olesky, Tom Graves, Charles Chisholm, Tim Allons, Nikki Allons, Kim B. and for all those written in the Red Book of Prayer.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Mass 2 Schedule

We would like to welcome you to Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish! 4:00 pm on Saturday, 7:30 & 10:00 am and 6:00 pm Sunday St. Ann's in Palisade 9:15 am Sunday



"The Chosen" will be shown on Thursday's in the IHM Friendship room beginning January 12 after the daily

Mass. This multi-season television drama is about the beginning of Jesus Christ's public ministry. Each episode runs approximately 45 minutes. Come re-acquaint yourself with Jesus' ministry and meet his Apostles. It is amazing!

Grab a cup of coffee and join us. Questions call Bob Bianchi 970-822-1147



MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS A: DECEMBER: 25

"GOD IS WITH US."

(ls: 52:7-10; Heb: 1:1-6; Jn: 1:1-18)

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

First of all I wish you all, A VERY HAPPY AND MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. I am very happy to see you all through this Homily.

"Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders."

Today is Christmas day, the day we have long awaited and prepared for. Christmas is a milestone in the history of our salvation. It is wonderful to know that "God is With Us."

Today, God has proved the depth of his love by fulfilling his promise. The Word of God is no longer just the message spoken by prophets. It is now, a human person. The Word has become flesh through the Blessed Virgin Mary. The central message of today's celebration is the incarnation and the fullness of God's divine revelation in Christ.

Our first reading from Isaiah finds its sphere of accomplishment in the birth of Jesus Christ, and in His life and ministry. Isaiah proclaims: "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the one who brings Good News." In deed the Good News Himself is among us. It is the Good News of love, peace, charity, and happiness. Above all, it is a Good News of life and salvation.

Therefore, we, who have waited faithfully, patiently, and vigilantly during the season of Advent, must raise our voices and shout for joy, because the Lord our God is now with us. The call of the prophet today is a call to celebrate Emmanuel, God with us. It is a call to be joyful.

In our second reading, the letter to the Hebrews captures, and presents what God did for us today in a spectacular manner: "God Spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time...he has spoken to us through the son he appointed to inherit everything...He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature...."

The letter to the Hebrews simply means that God has fulfilled the promise he made through the prophet in the past. This is by revealing the hidden mystery of our salvation. Now, we are the favored ones. That is, as many of us as have received the new born baby into our hearts. Revelation has reached its apogee today and the hidden mystery of the old covenant has been fully revealed in Jesus Christ. Therefore, we need no more public revelation.

The gospel of John also gives us a synopsis of what happened today. That is, the divine incarnation of God: The Word was made flesh, He lived among us, and we saw His glory." The Word which was with the Father as Spirit is now with us both as flesh as well as spirit. Hence, while not losing His divinity, God through Christ his son, has condescended to become like us. What a great love that God has shown to us his people!

Therefore, today we celebrate Sacrifice. So, we too must be ready to sacrifice something for the good of our brothers and sisters as Christ did by coming to share in our nature. We celebrate today Humility. So, we must learn to be humble from Christ who in spite of being God took our nature. We celebrate the reign of peace. That is, peace not as the world gives it, but as God promised to offer it to those who believe in him (Jn 14:21). Also, we celebrate the accomplishment of hope in Jesus Christ.

Finally, today is a day of joy. Once again, I wish all of you my dear Brothers and Sisters a wonderful and fun filled celebration of this joyful season. Let the New Born child bring you and your family and friends **Peace**, **Joy, Love and Happiness**. Therefore, let us: "Sing psalms to the Lord with harps. With the sound of trumpets and the sound of the horn let us acclaim the King, the Lord" who is with us. Merry Christmas!

To conclude this Reflection, the Hymn came to my mind from Bernadette Farrell

"Christ be Our Light"
Christ, be our light! Shine our hearts. Shine in our darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church, gathered today.

Have a Lovely and Blessed Sunday to you all. Fr. Selva.



We Greet Your Coming, a Prayer

We greet your coming, God with wonder: You come to be with us; yet you remain far greater than we can imagine. You are near; yet your wisdom sets you apart from us. You appear among us; yet we cannot describe your glory.

We greet your coming, God with repentance: We are satisfied with ourselves; but your presence exposes our sin and failure.

We are self-confident; but you challenge our confidence in ourselves. We are proud of our understanding;

but you show us that we do not know everything.

We greet your coming, God, with joy: We had no true idea of what you are like; but you have shown us yourself in Jesus Christ. We felt our human life could be of no importance to you; but you have shown its value by appearing among us as a man. We are aware of the gulf between us and you; but you have bridged it with love.

God, we greet your coming in Jesus Christ our Lord!

Contemporary Prayers

Chili Supper

IHM's PAC group is planning the **Annual Chili Supper** Saturday January 14, After the 4:00 pm Mass



IHM Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday of the month we will have Adoration in the Chapel following the 8 am mass until 5:00 pm. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex.



Healing Masses

We will be having Healing Masses, starting in January. We will need volunteer Lectors, EM's, Altar Servers, and Hospitality Ministers. If you would like to volunteer for any of these dates, please sign up in the narthex, call Alison in the parish office at 970-242-6121

The dates for the whole year are as follows:

January 11, 2023 12:00 noon May 10, 2023 6:00 p.m. September 13, 2023 12:00 Noon October 11, 2023 6:00 p.m.



A memorial mass for Catholic Daughter, Pat Hurley, will be on Dec. 30 at 8:00 am at Immaculate Heart of Mary



"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Experience God's grace and peace on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on:

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weekend early.

For more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter, please visit www.wwme.org.

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Minister Schedule for Dec. 31/Jan. 1 2023 All who are on this schedule have chosen to serve.

8:00 am Dec. 31 Mass (†) Michael Ensworth by Family

Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

4:00 pm Dec. 31 Mass (†) Bob Hollingsworth by Kathleen Hollingsworth

Presider: Fr. Selvanathan

Eucharistic: E. Hoy, M. Meyers, K. Sassano & 5 Vol.

Hospitality: R. Bertrand & 3 Vol.

Servers: 2 Volunteers Lectors: B. Kline

7:30 am Jan. 1 Mass (†) James Boni by Family

Presider: Fr. Selvanathan

Eucharistic: M. Kiser, J. Snoddy, C. Ulman, D. Ulman & 4 Vol.

Hospitality: L. Duncan, G. Watts & 2 Vol.

Servers: M. Pierce Lectors: J. Bennett

9:15 am Jan. 1 Mass at Palisade St. Ann's

Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

10:00 am Jan. 1 Mass (†) Deborah Stepisnik by Teri & Mike

Born

Presider: Fr. Selvanathan

Eucharistic: J. Peugh, D. Peugh & 6 Vol. **Hospitality:** J. Nasalroad & 3 Vol.

Servers: 2 Vol. Lectors: K. Coomer

6:00 pm Jan. 1 (I) Charles Olesky by Charles Olesky

Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

Eucharistic: M. Calderone, A. Rubalcaba, R. Thibault-Lloyd & 5 Vol.

Hospitality: B. Mills & 3 Vol.

Servers: 2 Volunteers Lectors: P. Hall & N. Hall



Prayer Opportunities:

Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday 7:30am in the Sanctuary Morning Mass: Monday-Saturday 8:00am in the Sanctuary

Readings for the Week of December 25, 2022

Sunday: IS 52:7-10 HEB 1:1-6 JN 1:1-18

Monday: ACTS 6:8-10, 7:54-59 MT 10:17-22

Tuesday: 1JN 1:1-4 JN 20:1a & 2-8

Wednesday: 1JN 1:5-2:2 MT 2:13-18

Thursday: 1JN 2:3-11 LK 2:22-35

Friday: SIR 3:2-6, 12-14 MT 2:13-15, 19-23

Saturday: 1JN 2:18-21 JN 1:1-18

Calendar of Events Week of Dec. 25, 2022

Sunday, Dec. 25

10:00 am Mass NO CLASSES 6:00 pm Mass

Monday, Dec. 26

8:00 am OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, Dec. 27

8:00 am Mass 6-9 Knights

7:00 pm Centering Prayer

Wednesday, Dec. 28

8:00 am Mass NO CLASSES

Thursday, Dec. 29

8:00 am Mass

Friday, Dec. 30

8:00 am Mass

9 am - 5 pm Friday Adoration in Chapel 5:30 - 9:00 pm IHM Christmas Party

Saturday, Dec. 31

8:00 am Mass

2:00-3:30 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass



Mass Intentions

Sunday Dec. 25, 2022

10:00 am - (†) Pro Populo

6:00 pm- (†) Pro Populo

Monday Dec. 26, 2022

8:00 am - (I) Pavetti & Petrafeso Families by Nancy Fallis

Tuesday Dec. 27, 2022

8:00 am - (I) Indie O'Leary by Deirdre McLoughlin

Wednesday Dec. 28, 2022

8:00 am- (I) All refugees of war conflicts, victims, oppressed & persecuted by Anonymous

Thursday Dec. 29, 2022

8:00 am- (†) Cyril & Marita Pipan by Justine Tilger

Friday Dec. 30, 2022

8:00 am- (†) Ryan Philip by Sarah Carlson

8:00 am - (†) Pat Hurley by Catholic Daughters

Saturday Dec. 31, 2022

8:00 am - (†) Michael Ensworth by Family

4:00 pm- (†) Bob Hollingsworth by Kathleen Hollingsworth



Veneration of the Altar

Continued from Last week...

The importance of the Altar

Among all the signs and symbols in the church, the altar occupies an important visible space. The altar is the heart and center of every church. Size, style, design and denomination notwithstanding, every church has a sanctuary and an altar. During the dedication of a Church, the altar is the center of the celebration. It is anointed with Chrism and is made a symbol of Christ, who before all others, is called The Anointed One (ODCA 11: 16a). The altar is Christ. The altar is the perpetual sign of Christ in the Church. It is the visible sign of he who is "The source of the churches unity and of fraternal harmony". (ODCA 1V 48)

Why Venerate the Altar Salutatio Altaris

Reverence and venerate are the words used when the altar is revered with a bow, venerated with a kiss and or when the altar is incensed. The altar is venerated because it is the symbol of Christ. Second, the altar embodies all the people of God whom the priest represents. The priest brings the people of God and their offerings to the altar to offer them up to God. Even as the people of God do not physically encircle the altar, they are <u>enumerated</u> among the circle of offerings. This is why the altar is venerated with a kiss after it is reverenced with a profound bow when the entrance procession reaches the sanctuary... Even when Mass is not celebrated the altar may still be revered with a kiss during the liturgy of the Word outside the Mass or during liturgy of the hours. Kissing the altar is an act of veneration proper to the nature and importance of the altar. Kissing the altar can be interpreted as an act of adoration towards Christ himself. Pope Benedict, drawing from the word adoration: *ad-oration* meaning: mouth to mouth, a kiss, an embrace, ultimately love. Therefore, *Salutation Altraris* is an act of entering into ultimate love and embracing relationships with Christ before and after undertaking a liturgical action on behalf of Christ and his Church.

Therefore, when the Priest enters the sanctuary (since the tabernacle is aligned directly to the altar) he may take a bow or a genuflection. He then, with the concelebrants and the liturgical Deacons, venerates the altar with a kiss. After the Mass, the principal celebrant with the liturgical deacons go back and venerate the altar with a kiss. If these are a few concelebrants, they may join the principal celebrant in the kissing of the Altar. If there are many co-celebrants, they may stand in their place and revere the altar with a bow or a genuflection.

Any Other Reason

The altar is revered because it gained its importance from the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass which is celebrated upon it. The altar is consecrated with the Chrism oil, for the single purpose of making it sacred. It is set apart for the sacrifice of the Mass. The consecration of the altar during the dedication of a church is similar to the Baptism of a new Christian. When the prayer of consecration and the altar is anointed with Chrism, the Bishop then vests it with a white garment, just as a new Baptized person is vested. Second, the altar bears the relics of a saint, or a martyr who died defending the faith. Historically, priests kissed the altar before blessing the faithful. This symbolizes that the blessing comes from God, not from the priest. Christ the cornerstone of our faith, is central to the consecration of the Holy Eucharist (Eph.2:20)

By Father Chrysogonus Nwele

Bernadette Hendrickson & Shirley Petroff

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Kids Corner- Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Word-Find

B E T H L E H E M D
M N J E S P O O R O
O I M C J E S U S N
T G A H O X E N T K
H H N R S C U M A E
E T G I E O B A B Y
R S E S P L D R L W
B I R T H D A Y E A
O N N A Z A R E T H
R N S T A Y K S B O
N W R A P P E D R N



BABY BETHLEHEM BIRTHDAY BORN CHRIST COLD DARK DONKEY
INN
JESUS
JOSEPH
MANGER
MARY
MOTHER

NAZARETH NIGHT OXEN POOR STABLE STAY WRAPPED

Why is Christmas so special? Because



Christmas Table Prayer

Lord God of Life,

Together with the beautiful traditions of decorating the Christmas tree, of singing carols and giving gifts. This Christmas dinner is an important part of our celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Come, Lord our God, and surround our feast day table as we delight in this joyous season of Christmas. Gift us in this meal with the taste of happiness as we savor this coming together of family and friends. As sparkling stars and singing angels rejoiced at the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem, so may we take great joy in this our Christmas dinner celebration.

May You, our God, bless it and us in Your holy name. Amen "A Handbook for Worship in the Home"





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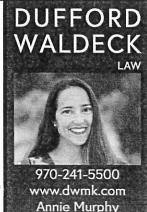
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