

**MASS INTENTIONS**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2016

5:00 PM + Msgr. Robert Gribbin  
8:00 PM – People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016

10:00 AM + Ann Wainwright

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2016

NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2016

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2016

9:00 AM – Special Intention of Julia Melhorn Strong

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2016

9:00 AM + James Drummer

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2016

9:00 AM + John Potocki

SATURDAY, DEC. 31, 2016 –

5:00 PM + Mary Bushey

SUNDAY JANUARY 1, 2017 –

8:15 AM – People of the Parish  
11:15 AM + James & Jimmy Drummer  
+indicates - deceased

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**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

Isaiah 62:11-12 / Titus 3:4-7  
Luke 2:15-20

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**FAMILY PERSPECTIVE** - This Christmas remember your task as a parent is the same as Mary's: We must not let our doubts, fears and unfulfilled expectations get in the way of our loving ACCEPTANCE of our children.  
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**SICK OF THE PARISH** – Please keep our members in your thoughtful prayers.

Susan Goughnour, Fred & Yvonne Staub, Kenneth Williams, Don & Roxey Myers, Helen & Laverne Lawrence, Keira Slonaker, Polly Renaut, John Feiser, Dorothy Schlaline, Doris Pohlman, Marilyn Drummer, Maria Maxwell, Louise Snoots, Norma Woerner, Theron Menges, Bob Kline, Alice Williams, Kathleen Krepps, Carl Ramskow, Brenda Freed, Micheline Starcher, Louise Peters, Amanda Hucks, Shannon Duff, Joyce Topper and Ken Jacoby.  
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**IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS**, please pray for the repose of the soul of James Slagle, Jr., father of James Slagle III of our parish, who died this week.  
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***OFFICE CLOSED***

*The Parish Office will be closed Monday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas and New Year Holiday.*

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**

On this day, the Feast of Christmas, we are given the details of Christ's birth as found in the Gospel of Luke. Here we learn about the census that brings Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where Jesus is born. We also hear from the angel's announcement of this good news to the shepherds. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is born as one of the poor. Laid in a manger in a stable, because there was no room at the inn, he comes into the world through obscure and surprising means. Yet, as the angel proclaims the good news to the shepherds, this infant is announced as the Messiah and Lord. In the song of the angels, all are invited to give glory to God for this miraculous birth, in which God comes to share our humanity.

**FAMILY CONNECTION**

Christmas has come to be associated as a season of peace. This association and our familiarity with the Christmas story sometimes makes us forget about the difficult circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth. As a family, gather around your nativity and carefully read Luke's story of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1-14). Conclude by praying for people in today's world who may experience circumstances like those found in the story of Jesus' birth. Pray for those who are far from home, those who live in fear, and those who live in need.  
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**PARISH WEBSITE HAS MORE PARISH INFORMATION, CALENDAR AND ACTIVITIES. VISIT [WWW.IHMPARADISE.ORG](http://WWW.IHMPARADISE.ORG).**

**MISSION FOR LITURGY AND WORSHIP**

**ALTAR SERVERS** for Sat/Sun Dec. 31-Jan. 1  
**5:00 PM Mass:** Hannah Fletcher, Liam Miriello, Audrey Sell

**8:15 AM Mass:** Mary & Joseph Murphy, Kayla Bream  
**11:15 AM Mass:** Anastasia, Sophia & Madelyn Galysh  
Coordinator is Lori Kuhn.

**LECTORS** for Sat/Sun Dec. 31-Jan. 1  
**5 PM MASS** – Joe Schwar  
**8:15 AM MASS** – Midge Stokes  
**11:15 AM MASS** – Wendy Behr  
Coordinator is Dianne Giampietro.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC)** for Sat/Sun Dec. 31-Jan. 1  
**5:00 PM:** Donna Cassatt, Sharon Hare, Bertie Kuhn, Steve Signorello, Sam Spiese  
**8:15 AM:** Bill Bowker, Kevin Heilman, Margie & Sam Leese, Carol Stroud  
**11:15 AM:** Carmelita Garcia, Joyce Menges, Lorrie Nagy, John Schlaline, Jr., Pat Spiridonoff  
Coordinator is Claire Wentz.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### Christmas – the Nativity of the Lord

1. On behalf of the parish staff, a very merry and blessed Christmas to you, your family, and your loved ones. **Please see the insert in today's bulletin** as a special gift to you.
2. **THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS** is actually a catechism song. Between the years of 1558-1829, English Catholics were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Without regular Mass, sacraments, or catechism lessons from the priest, it was difficult for parents to help children learn and remember their faith. This song was created to keep the "Catholic faith in their lives. Instead of referring to a suitor, the "true love" mentioned in the song refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the presents symbolizes every baptized person. "A partridge in a pear tree" is Jesus Christ. A mother partridge will feign injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings. And so, the children would understand the parallel between the acts of the mother bird and the sacrifice of Christ. The other symbols continue the symbolism:  
2 Turtledoves – the Old and New Testaments;  
3 French hens – faith, hope and charity (the Theological virtues);  
4 Calling birds – the four Gospels;  
5 Golden rings – the first five books of the Old Testament (the Torah);  
6 Geese-a-laying – the six days of creation;  
7 Swans-a-swimming – the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit  
8 Maids-a-milking – the eight beatitudes;  
9 Ladies dancing – the nine choirs of angels;  
10 Lords-a-leaping – the Ten Commandments  
11 Pipers piping – the eleven faithful Apostles  
12 Drummers drumming – the twelve points of Belief in the Apostles Creed.
3. A very special thank you to Sr. Rosanne, Dan Seymore, and all those who assisted them in **decorating our church** for the Christmas season. Our beautiful church looks even more beautiful with all the wonderful flowers and decorations. Thank you to those of you also who contributed in the Christmas flower envelopes in memory of loved ones.
4. Please remember that IHM parish will be joining together with our local Knights of Columbus in sponsoring a **bus to the March for Life** in Washington, DC on Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>. I will be joining in for this very important event. To reserve your seat for **ONLY \$10** (which also includes a boxed lunch), please contact the parish office ASAP at 259-0611.
5. Please note the usual schedule of Masses for **Dec. 31 and Jan. 1** – that is Saturday evening at 5 PM and Sunday morning at 8:15AM and 11:15AM.
6. **EWTN GLOBAL CATHOLIC NETWORK** – Would you like to see more Christ-centered, family television, radio and online services? If so, EWTN Global Catholic Network can be an answer to your prayers! EWTN's vast array of programming includes Daily Mass, devotionals, global Catholic news, powerful documentaries, music specials,

exclusive teaching series, live call-in talk shows, young adult & children's programming and Church and Papal events. EWTN television is on channel number 15 on Comcast and also available on both Dish Network Channel 261 and DIRECTV Channel 370. EWTN Global Catholic Radio can be heard locally on WHYF (Holy Family Radio) at AM720 or on Sirius XM Satellite Radio Channel 130. To learn more, visit [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com).

God bless you and your week – Fr. Marcoe

**LOST AND FOUND** – Our lost and found bin will be emptied out as of Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have lost any articles, please check our lost and found bin located on the window sill in the Sacristy and claim your items. Anything unclaimed will be disposed of.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS NEEDED** - Our Parish is in need of several more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, **especially for the 8:15 AM Mass**. This ministry plays an important role assisting Father in distributing Holy Communion to our parishioners at Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation. Please call Father if you feel God is calling you for this ministry. You must 18 years of age or older, a practicing Catholic and a member of our parish.

**MASS FOR HOMESCHOOLING FAMILIES – Bishop Gainer will be celebrating Mass for Homeschooling Families in Room 103 of the Diocesan Center the evening of Friday, Jan. 6, 2017 at 6:30 PM.** The Sacrament of Penance will be available before Mass from 5:30-6:15 PM. After Mass, there will be a light reception with cookies, coffee, and punch in the lobby. If you plan to attend, please RSVP Jim Gontis at the Diocesan Religious Education Office by Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> at [jgontis@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:jgontis@hbgdiocese.org), letting us know the number of people from your family planning to attend. The Diocesan Center is located at 4800 Union Deposit Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17111.

**KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE** – St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School invites your family to our Kindergarten Open House on Sunday, Jan. 8, 2017 from 9 AM until 12 PM. The Open House will be held at our K-3 campus, located at 55 Basilica Dr., Hanover PA 17331. For more information, please call 632-8715 or 637-3135. You may also email Mrs. Hoffman at [principalhoffman@stck8school.org](mailto:principalhoffman@stck8school.org) or Mrs. Foltz at [principalfoltz@stck8school.org](mailto:principalfoltz@stck8school.org).

THANKS TO

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**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** – We warmly invite women from around the Diocese to join us as we gather at the Diocesan Center for our third Prayer Shawl Retreat on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. The program, hosted by the Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Organization Commission, will include Mass, prayer, knitting/crocheting, fellowship and lunch. You are welcome to attend even if you are a beginner and would like to be part of this time of fellowship and sharing. While the program is free, advance registration is required so that we can arrange a comfortable work area and plan for lunch. Please call Kathy Kokoski at 717-448-8899 or Deb Black at 717-514-8815 or email at [kakoko120@comcast.net](mailto:kakoko120@comcast.net) or [mydb01@verison.net](mailto:mydb01@verison.net). Please register early as space is limited. **Deadline is Friday, Jan. 6, 2017.**

**SAVE THE DATE!** All women of the parish are invited to attend the District Council of Catholic Women's Annual Lenten Retreat on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church on 5125 Grandview Rd., Hanover. The presenter will be Father Ryan Fischer. The retreat is from 12 Noon to 3 PM with a half hour break for refreshments and fellowship. This event is offered at no charge but a freewill offering is welcome. **NO PRE-REGISTRATION** is necessary. Please put this Lenten event on your calendar now and invite your friends to join in. We look forward to seeing you!

**GROCERY CERTIFICATES** – Please know how VERY GRATEFUL we are to all of you who support our Grocery Certificate Program and ultimately our Religious Education Program. During the week of Dec. 18, 2016 we sold \$4650 for a profit of \$232.50.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS** – “He gave power to become children of God.” If you think you may be called to share the Father's love as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, call Father Brian Wayne at (717)657-4804 ext. 282 or email [frbwayne@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:frbwayne@hbgdiocese.org).

**PILGRIMAGE TO ROME** – Travel with Father Timothy Marcoe on Proximo Travel's Rome, Assisi, Padre Pio & Shrines of Italy pilgrimage. Where: Rome, Orvieto, Assisi, Lancia, Loreto, San Giovanni Rotondo, Pietrelcina, Monte Cassino. Trip Dates: Sept. 9, 2017 through Sept. 19, 2017. Cost is \$4000.00 airfare and ALL included. To register, please contact 855-842-8001 or 508-340-9370. You can also register online at [www.proximotravel.com](http://www.proximotravel.com).

**ABBOTTSTOWN/EAST BERLIN FOOD BANK** – the food pantry held on Nov. 2nd served 90 families which included 261 individuals. The link to the Time to Sign Up page for the food pantry on Wednesday, Dec. 7th is <https://www.volunteersignup.org/QDXAB>. Please remember to drop off health/beauty aid items, such as soaps, toothbrushes, diapers, laundry detergent, etc. and place them in the food pantry barrels.

**MARCH FOR LIFE BUS** – Put the date, **JANUARY 27, 2017** aside to MARCH FOR LIFE. Join us to fill a bus and join in a peaceful March for Life in Washington, DC. Cost is \$10 per seat, includes a box lunch. Pickup at IHM at 7 am. We have the bus, and you wanted to go last year! Here is your chance to March for Life. We need you to sign up, we need to have the seats sold by the end of December. If you can't go, please consider to donate a seat with a contribution. Many young Catholics would be able to go. There are forms on the ledge behind the last pew. Please fill out the form and enclose your check and drop it in the collection basket. Any questions, please contact Steve Signorello at 253-5924 or John Schlaline at 699-4534.

**OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT –**

<b>Monthly Budget</b>	<b>\$ 42,000.00</b>
<b>Income for Oct. 2</b>	<b>9,515.35</b>
<b>Oct. 9</b>	<b>7,930.25</b>
<b>Oct. 16</b>	<b>8,468.55</b>
<b>Oct. 23</b>	<b>7,251.25</b>
<b>Oct. 30</b>	<b>10,355.50</b>

**TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME                    \$ 43,520.90**

**SECOND COLLECTIONS:**

<b>Capital Improvements</b>	<b>1,386.50</b>
<b>Mission Collection</b>	<b>1,570.77</b>

**FLOWERS** – Looking for a way to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion? A beautiful way would be to order flowers on the altar. Most weekends are available from now through the end of the year. **Please call Anita in the parish office** to make arrangements.

**MASS INTENTIONS** – Mass intentions are a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion, remember those who have died or are sick and in need of our prayers. Please consider this as a “gift” for someone. Call Anita in the Parish Office to arrange your Mass intentions.

**GET THE APP** – Holy Family Radio now has its very own app! For iPhone or Android users, simply go to your app store in your phone, search “Holy Family Radio AM 720” then click download! Holy Family Radio operates the only Catholic Radio Station in our Diocese. They broadcast on AM 720 from dawn to dusk. They are live 24/7 on line at [www.720whyf.com](http://www.720whyf.com) or on their App!

**WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS** – We are happy to welcome the following new parishioners to IHM Parish:  
    Michael & Keegan Woods, Abbottstown  
    Jessica & Marcelo Sanchez & family, Spring Grove

**AERO ENERGY PLAN** – For each parishioner who is or becomes an Aero customer, IHM receives up to 3 cents per gallon of oil or propane. This is an excellent way to help your parish! If you are not already registered with Aero Energy for this program, please call Aero Energy at 888-480-1271 and sign up for the House of Worship Program. Any questions, please call Anita in the parish office.

**CHILDREN’S CHOIR**

It’s that time again when we are looking for our children (ages 4 and up) to participate in our Children’s Choir at the 5:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve. Practices will be held on the following Sunday afternoons from 3:00-4:15 PM --- December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>. If your

child/children are interested, please call or email Sister Rosanne by Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**MEDICAL EQUIPMENT** – We here at IHM have several pieces of medical equipment for parishioners to borrow when needed. They include: crutches, walkers, commode boosters, shower chairs, a cane and a wheelchair. Also, a parishioner has items that are no longer needed and if someone would like to have them, please contact the parish office for more information. They include 16” wheelchair, walker, SpOx fingertip meter, toilet seat side rails, toilet seat lifts, automatic blood pressure meter, shower chairs, bathtub handrail, short bedrail, women’s depends L. There are also two items for sell; a bathtub lift and a Go-Go electric scooter. Call Anita in the parish office at 259-0611, ext. 5.

**HIPPA LAWS** – Please note that HIPPA (health care privacy laws) prevent hospitals from automatically notifying the parish office when you are in the hospital. Therefore, we ask you to please give consent (permission) for the parish office to be notified. If you would like Fr. Marcoe to know of your hospitalization, please inform the parish office before going into the hospital OR once hospitalized, ask the nurse or hospital chaplain/pastoral care staff person to notify the parish.